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IUD Warns Carter Policy Is Blueprint for Recession

Oil Union Rejects 7% Wage Lid

Denver—The Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers pressed negotiations for new contracts with the oil industry as old agreements covering approximately 60,000 workers were set to expire at midnight Jan. 7.

The union, which has been highly critical of the Carter Administration's anti-inflation program, announced that it would not accept the plan's proposed wage limits of 7 to 7.2 percent and has authorized a strike following the expiration of the contracts if a satisfactory settlement is not reached.

While the union has not spelled out a precise wage goal, its national oil bargaining policy committee is calling for a "substantial across-the-board cents per hour wage increase" in each year of a two-year contract.

The bargaining committee has already rejected an offer by Gulf Oil Corp., Texaco, Inc., and Shell Oil Co., for 7 percent the first year and 6 percent the second.

The Carter program is "unfair to workers," OCAW President A. F. Grospiron declared in a statement. "We intend to bargain as usual with the oil companies."

Noting that the rate of inflation is currently about 10 percent, Grospiron sharply attacked the wage-price guidelines as "ineffective in controlling prices," and said they constituted "interference with the collective bargaining process."

"Our needs are the same now, if not greater, than before," he declared. "Anytime wages do not keep up with the cost of living there is deterioration in the pension benefit, medical plan, and living standard of workers.

"We're fighting for the free collective bargaining process, for justice and for human dignity. Jimmy Carter has said he won't get involved in the collective bargaining process. Yet top government officials are urging employers to hold down the pay of workers, which is clearly involvement in collective bargaining."

Oil workers, and workers generally cannot be blamed for inflation, the union stressed. The wages of refinery workers account for only 88/100 of a cent of the price of a gallon of gasoline, the OCAW Research & Education Dept. noted in a fact sheet.

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Consumer Price Climb Slows Pace

Retail prices rose less in November than in the three preceding months but were still nearly 9 percent above the year-earlier level, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

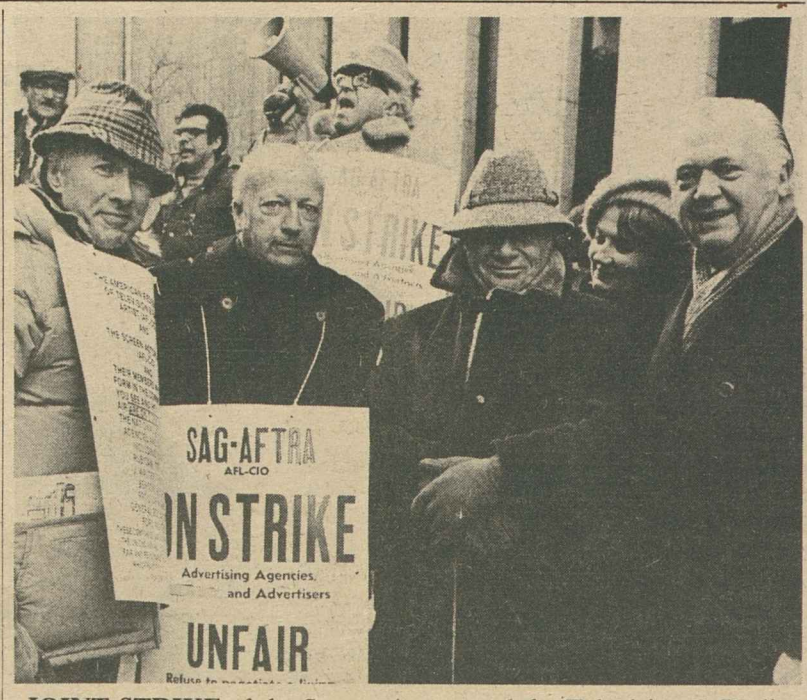
Real spendable earnings, or take-home pay stripped of the impact of inflation since 1967, rose three-tenths of 1 percent from October but were still 3.4 percent below November 1977. BLS attributed the decline in real earnings over the year to a reduction in the average number of work hours per week and large increases in consumer prices.

The government's consumer price index rose five-tenths of 1 percent in November, compared to eight-tenths of 1 percent in October and an average monthly rise of seven-tenths of 1 percent in the three preceding months. Major factors behind the moderation were lower food prices and a reduced rate of increase in home mortgage costs.

Food prices were up a modest three-tenths of 1 percent for November, about a third as much as in October. The big question in the months ahead will be whether food prices will rise or continue to moderate. The Agriculture Dept. estimates a 6 to 10 percent rise in such prices during 1979.

Large increases were reported for transportation costs, including both new and used cars and gaso-

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JOINT-STRIKE of the Screen Actors and the Television & Radio Artists against TV and radio commercial producers brings performers out on the picket line in New York. The unions struck Dec. 19 over regressive contract demands by the producers. More than 100 advertising agencies and production firms have since signed interim agreements. Assembling for picket line duty are, from left, performers Richard Kiley, Bob Elliott of the Bob & Ray team and Martin Balsam, in addition to Executive Sec. Ken Groot of AFTRA's New York chapter.

Slowdown Proposals Denounced

The Carter Administration's "slow-growth" economic policy is a blueprint for recession and won't curb inflation, the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. warned.

Administration policies carry the seed of "a recession of unpredictable dimensions," the IUD Executive Council said in a statement.

While high interest rates have been defended as a means of diminishing inflationary pressures, a study commissioned by the IUD showed the opposite. It found that forcing interest rates higher also "pushed up the prices of the nation's entire range of goods and services."

As an alternative to a deliberate economic slowdown, the IUD council called for:

- An energy program that would promote conservation, reduce reliance on oil imports and expand use of alternative fuels such as solar and geothermal energy.
- A trade policy that would curb manipulations of multinational corporations and stop exporting U.S. jobs, technology and capital to other nations.
- A consumer-oriented pricing policy and enactment of "an overall national health insurance program that is, in the long run, the only certain way to curb the deadly rise in the cost of medical care."

Despite wage increases, the IUD said, the buying power of workers' paychecks is no greater than it was a decade ago. Instead of fighting the "phantom threat" of wage and salary increases, it urged, Administration policymakers should strive for a "healthy economy of growth and productivity."

The IUD study, prepared by the economic consulting firm of Ruttenberg, Freidman, Kilgallon, Gut-

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Worker-Related Laws:

Limited Gains Won In State Legislatures

By James M. Shevis

While the 1978 sessions of state legislatures produced changes in worker-related laws in 38 states, progress was hampered by conservative, right-wing elements.

This is the main conclusion of reports from AFL-CIO state central bodies, reinforced by a Bureau of National Affairs survey of state legislatures.

Thus, the Delaware State AFL-CIO said its chief accomplishment last year was blocking legislation harmful to the labor movement.

Organized labor's gains during the year generally were limited to the traditional areas of wage rates, job safety, job discrimination, and modification of the basic relationship between employers and their workers.

Twenty-two states either raised their minimum wage rate, acted to protect workers' pay from unjust assignments and garnishment, or approved measures modifying the frequency and methods of wage payment and extending relief to workers who suffer when their employers fail to pay them.

Connecticut, Hawaii, Kentucky, New York, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont, and Virginia increased their minimum hourly wage rates to equal the federal level. On the other hand, Idaho, Maryland, Michigan, and Minnesota limited the categories of workers covered under their minimum wage laws.

Nine states—Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Oklahoma, Vermont, and Virginia—limited the amounts that may be withheld from an employee's wage to satisfy court-ordered support payments, assignments, and garnishment.

In the area of workers' compensation, 31 state legislatures ap-

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Sharp Increases Reported In Top Executive Salaries

A survey of nearly 1,500 companies found that the pay of top executives rose sharply over the last two years, with base salaries increasing between 16 and 20 percent.

Median compensation—salary plus bonus—was $241,000 for chief executives in manufacturing in 1978, the Conference Board reported on the basis of its survey. The Conference Board is a business-oriented research group.

It reported compensation for chief executives in other industry groups as $184,000 in retail trade, $125,000 in utilities, $120,000 in construction, $105,000 in insurance and $100,000 in commercial banking.

The base salary of the typical chief executive officer in manufacturing rose by 20 percent over the last two years, the study showed. The second highest-paid executive generally earned between 76 and 82 percent of the chief executive's pay, depending on the type of business. The third highest-paid officer received 55 to 63 percent of the top executive's pay.

The study also found that about 82 percent of the manufacturing and construction companies paid year-end bonuses to their top officers, along with 74 percent of the retailing firms, 43 percent of the banks and 40 percent of the insurance companies.

Court Urged to Uphold OSHA Benzene Limits

The Labor Dept. and the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. have joined in asking the Supreme Court to review a lower court ruling that blocked enforcement of the federal health standard reducing worker exposure to cancer-causing benzene.

Petitions filed by the government and the IUD point out that the decision of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals vacating the benzene regulation conflicts with other appellate court rulings that upheld federal exposure standards on asbestos, vinyl chloride and coke oven emissions.

The IUD petition further notes that the 5th Circuit decision ignores the language, history and purpose of the 1970 federal Occupational Safety & Health Act.

In vacating the standard, the court held that the Secretary of Labor did not fully show the relationship between benefits to workers' health and the cost of compliance for employers.

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration had pointed

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U.S. Economic Woes Mar Labor's Year

By David L. Perlman

It was not the worst of times. But for America's workers, 1978 certainly wasn't a vintage year.

Unemployment finally dipped below 6 percent, but the threat of a new recession loomed closer than the elusive goal of a full employment economy. And the Carter Administration moved from jawboning to sanction-enforced guidelines to combat an inflation fueled in part by its own high-interest policy and energy deregulation.

Labor law reform, the AFL-CIO's top legislative goal, was killed by a Senate filibuster. But in Missouri, an aroused trade union movement brought the defeat of a "right-to-work" amendment to the state constitution that would have banned the union shop.

On Election Day, most labor-supported candidates were winners. But several good friends lost out and the Senate clearly moved a few notches more conservative.

The good and the bad is summarized in this year-end roundup:

January

The new year brought a pay raise to 4.5 million of the nation's lowest-paid workers as the minimum wage rose from $2.30 to $2.65 an hour. Labor law reform, already passed by the House, won a 13-2 endorsement from the Senate Human Resources Committee as the second session of the 95th Congress opened.

President Carter called on unions and employers to hold down wages and prices. AFL-CIO President George Meany chided the Administration for indifference to the impact of high interest rates that "add to the cost of everything from a loaf of bread to servicing the national debt."

People: Hubert H. Humphrey died at 66. America's workers "trusted him, supported him and will miss him terribly," Meany said. Muriel Humphrey replaced him in the Senate and as co-sponsor of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment bill.

Musicians President Hal C. Davis, a vice president of the AFL-CIO, died at 63. And David L. Cole, dean of labor arbitrators and umpire for the AFL-CIO Internal Disputes Plan, died at 75.

February

An NLRB tally gave the Steelworkers a clearcut victory for a unit of 19,200 workers at the Newport News Shipbuilding Co. in Virginia, capping a 16-month organizing campaign.

The House killed a labor-supported bill to establish an Office of Consumer Representation. The Humphrey-Hawkins bill was endorsed by the House Labor Committee, and Senate hearings opened with testimony supporting the legislation from the AFL-CIO, UAW and the Full Employment Action Council.

The Supreme Court refused to consider an appeal by J. P. Stevens & Co. from a contempt of court ruling that lashed the company for "flaunting its disobedience" of the law.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council asked an economic stimulus program to create 2 million additional jobs, urged a rollback of the social security payroll tax rate and use of general revenue funds to replace future scheduled increases. Meany asked central bodies in key states to push ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. And a small union that along with A. Philip Randolph played a giant role in the early civil rights movement, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, voted to affiliate with the Railway & Airline Clerks.

People: Fred J. Kroll, president of the Railway & Airline Clerks, was elected to the AFL-CIO Executive Council. Chester A. Sample, president-emeritus of the Molders, died at 95. Muriel Humphrey became the new leader of the labor law reform coalition, Americans for Justice on the Job, succeeding her husband.

March

The House passed the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment bill, 257-152, rejecting damaging amendments by closer votes. In House testimony, the AFL-CIO backed individual income tax cuts and endorsed most of President Carter's start toward tax reform. But it opposed "huge and permanent business tax cuts" that wouldn't add to employment. The federation launched a nationwide collection of food, money and clothing for striking members of the United Mine Workers.

Congress gave final approval to legislation barring mandatory retirement before age 70 in most private industry jobs and dropping the age ceiling in federal employment entirely.

People: Daniel E. Conway resigned as president of the Bakery & Confectionery Workers; John DeConcini succeeded him. William Foley was named secretary-treasurer of United Textile Workers on the retirement of Philip Salem.

April

All five members of the Federal Employes Pay Council resigned to protest Carter's decision to scrap findings of the annual comparability survey and impose a 5.5 percent ceiling on salary increases for government workers.

A federal appellate court rejected the steel industry's attempt to block new OSHA standards reducing worker exposure to cancer-causing coke oven emissions. The Supreme Court ruled, as the AFL-CIO and UAW had urged in a joint brief, that pension plans can't require higher contributions from women workers because their life expectancy is higher than that of men.

Postal workers won a record backpay settlement of their overtime law suit. The House Democratic caucus called for a roll-back of the social security tax rise, but the Ways & Means Committee failed to follow through. Meany hailed Senate ratification of the Panama Canal treaties. And 3,000 delegates to the building trades legislative conference brought a "pass labor law reform" message to Capitol Hill.

People: Jacob F. Friedrick, patriarch of Wisconsin's labor movement, died at 86.

May

To head off an injunction. J. P. Stevens promised in a settlement with the NLRB to offer reinstatement to 11 workers fired for union activities and to rescind other disciplinary actions. The Clothing & Textile Workers said the ineffectiveness of the remedy pointed up the need for labor law reform.

The Supreme Court, in a 5-3 vote, struck down a key section of the job safety law that allowed OSHA inspectors to enter workplaces "at reasonable times" without having to obtain a warrant.

The annual Union-Industries show in Los Angeles drew more than 200,000 visitors. Unaffiliated unions representing 9,500 store employees in Michigan and 4,700 bank employees in Washington state voted to join the Retail Clerks.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council, after meeting with Carter, warned that "American business is deliberately raising prices in anticipation of a controls program" and said it could not commit the trade union movement to any predetermined wage figure that "would stultify the give-and-take of collective bargaining."

People: Entertainer Danny Kaye was presented the AFL-CIO's Murray-Green Award for his humanitarian contributions, especially to the children of the world through UNICEF.

June

Fifty-eight of the 100 senators voted to halt the filibuster against labor law reform, just under the 60 required by Senate rules. The bill was sent back to the Human Resources Committee for an effort to shape an acceptable compromise. But opponents were adamant and the legislation died with the adjournment of Congress.

President Carter vetoed a bill to reduce the workweek for firefighters at federal installations from 72 to 56 hours, breaking a campaign promise. The Senate amended an appropriations bill to impose a 5.5 percent pay raise ceiling on blue-collar as well as salaried government workers. The Supreme Court upheld the NLRB and reinforced the right of unions to distribute leaflets or newsletters under conditions that do not interfere with production. And California voters opened a Pandora's box by approving the tax-limiting Proposition 13.

People: Joe Bingel was elected president of the Typographical Union in a referendum vote.

July

Three postal unions reached tentative agreement on a three-year contract retaining a key no-layoff job security guarantee, but the modest pay raise signalled ratification problems. A House committee strengthened collective bargaining features of Administration's civil service reform bill, as unions had urged. The Service Employees won an election for a unit of 7,200 non-teaching employees of the Los Angeles school system, on top of a previous victory for a unit of 11,000 educational aides.

People: Ole M. Berge was elected president of the Maintenance of Way Employees after the retirement of Harold C. Crotty. Meany declined to serve as honorary labor chairman for the U.S. Olympics Committee because of the human rights violations of the host Soviet government.

August

Meany joined Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and other backers of health security legislation at a news conference to express disappointment in the Carter Administration's token program. The House approved extension of the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. The Senate adopted a Small Business Act amendment sharply curtailing OSHA coverage. The House Commerce Committee killed the no-fault auto insurance bill.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council called for increased reliance on progressive income taxes and reform of property taxes as the answer to legitimate taxpayer discontent and an alternative to heavy budget cuts. The House passed a tax bill labor termed "grossly unfair" with the biggest cuts going to wealthy individuals and profitable corporations.

The Tobacco Workers, with 32,000 members, merged with the 140,000-member Bakery & Confectionery Workers. The Northwest Airlines strike was settled after 109 days; the Pilots blamed the duration on Mutual Aid Pact payments by other airlines. The Railway Clerks said a similar strike insurance plan thwarted the Norfolk & Western settlement effort. All three postal unions rejected the tentative contracts with the Postal Service. The Industrial Union Dept. held a two-day national conference on the right-wing danger. Meany asked state federations to support ratification of the constitutional amendment giving voting representation in Congress to the District of Columbia.

People: Deaths included C. L. Dennis, 70, retired president of Railway & Airline Clerks, and Paul Montemayor, 60, former director of the Labor Council for Latin-American Advancement. Retail Clerks President William H. Wynn was elected president of Food & Beverage Trades Dept. George H. R. Taylor was named director of the new AFL-CIO Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health.

September

The three-day AFL-CIO National Conference on Occupational Safety & Health drew 1,200 delegates and sounded an alarm on attempts to gut the federal job safety and health law. Later in the month, a major concern of the conference was averted when House-Senate conferees scrapped a Senate amendment that would have denied OSHA protection to more than 9 million workers in smaller establishments. But on another bill, the Senate voted to delay enforcement of cotton dust standards intended to protect textile workers from brown lung disease.

The House voted 299-98 to outlaw the airline industry's strikebreaking Mutual Aid Pact. A presidential emergency board was set up in the Norfolk & Western railroad strike. The Steelworkers convention adopted a constitutional amendment prohibiting outside contributions to USWA election campaigns. Final terms of a revised postal contract were set by a special mediator under procedures agreed to by all parties. It included lifetime job security for more than half-a-million workers and stronger cost-of-living protection.

People: Gregory Oskoian, secretary-treasurer of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers, died at 51; Rene Dondou of Montreal, who had been president of the Tobacco Workers before the two unions merged, was named to succeed him.

October

The 95th Congress adjourned with a mixed record. Final weeks saw enactment of a help-the-rich tax bill, a price-boosting energy measure and a pale shadow of the original Humphrey-Hawkins employment bill. It also saw a four-year extension of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act, strong union rights as part of civil service reform, enactment of pregnancy disability rights, outlawing of the airline Mutual Aid Pact in its present form, and extension of the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The unaffiliated International Mailers Union voted to join the Typographical Union. Meany and UAW President Douglas Fraser outlined principles of a revised national health insurance plan at hearings called by Sen. Edward Kennedy.

Carter announced "voluntary" wage-price guidelines, to be backed by government sanctions. The AFL-CIO termed the plan "inequitable" and called on Congress to enact mandatory controls covering all segments of the economy, including profits, dividends, rents and interest rates. The Federal Reserve Board pushed interest rates to record highs.

People: Vincent R. Sombretto won election as president of the Letter Carriers, succeeding J. Joseph Vacca. Wayne E. Glenn, acting president of the Paperworkers since the indictment of Joseph Tonelli, was named president of the union. Deaths included Douglas MacMahon, 71, retired secretary-treasurer of the Transport Workers.

November

Most labor-endorsed candidates for Congress were elected, and Missouri voters decisively rejected a union-busting attempt to add a "right-to-work" amendment to the state's constitution. A massive get-out-the-vote drive by Missouri unions proved decisive.

The American Federation of Teachers regained bargaining rights for 8,500 teachers and school personnel in Baltimore, ousting an unaffiliated association. The Retail Clerks and Meat Cutters reported progress in merger talks and agreement on major issues. Corporate profits and employer chiseling on wage-hour law were both up.

People: Karl F. Anderson was elected executive vice president and secretary-treasurer of the Flight Engineers. AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller announced his intent to retire in January; Kenneth Young was designated to succeed him.

December

Meany charged that President Carter has reneged on his campaign promises and abandoned liberal principles to embrace recession-breeding economic policies. A sharp rise in wholesale prices foreshadowed a new squeeze on worker buying power. The Building & Construction Trades Dept. scored the government's General Accounting Office for lining up with anti-union contractors in a new attack on the Davis-Bacon Act.

And as the year ended, a unanimous National Labor Relations Board backed up the findings of an administrative law judge one year earlier that J. P. Stevens & Co. was guilty of bad-faith bargaining at seven Roanoke Rapids, N.C., textile plants where workers who voted for union representation in 1974 are still without a contract.

People: AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland resigned from two presidential boards after newspapers reported Carter had vetoed reappointment of Meany to the board of directors of the Communications Satellite Corp. Former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir was mourned on her death as "American labor's warm friend."

In Court Order:

OSHA Told to Set Standard for States

A federal district court has ordered the Occupational Safety & Health Administration to establish definitive benchmarks for states that operate their own job safety plans to insure a "fully effective enforcement program."

The ruling by U.S. District Court Judge John Lewis Smith, Jr., of the District of Columbia is the result of a challenge the AFL-CIO and the Industrial Union Dept. initiated in 1974 because of concerns over the quality of state safety plans approved by OSHA.

After an appellate court upheld the grounds for the suit, Judge Smith directed the Secretary of Labor to set benchmarks and timetables for new and existing state plans on the staffing of inspectors and industrial hygienists and criteria for needed funds to effectively operate the programs.

The order calls for federal officials to utilize "the best information and techniques currently available" in determining the number of hygienists states need to run an effective workplace safety program.

It gives OSHA 90 days to come up with a program for establishment of the benchmarks and to determine by next May 1 which states are deficient in meeting the goals of the 1970 federal job safety and health law.

The order lays down a five-year timetable in which states must fully meet funding and staffing levels to bring their plans to par with the federal enforcement program. The improvements must come in annual increments of 20 percent each, the court said.

George H. R. Taylor, the AFL-CIO's occupational safety and health director, said that Judge Smith's ruling was a welcome development in labor's efforts to improve the quality of sub-standard state programs.

He noted there is a strong possibility the ruling would prompt a number of below-par state plans to be abandoned in favor of more effective federal enforcement.

OSHA has the authority to crack down on state plans that fail to meet the standards of operation laid down by the federal safety law, Taylor noted, but thus far its actions have come mainly in threats to lift the safety agency's approval.

OSHA recently rejected an AFL-CIO petition calling on the agency to vacate the South Carolina plan on the ground that it has been ineffective. However, OSHA said the state has made substantial improvements in its safety program as a result of the federation's challenge.

hire eight qualified hygienists each year to fully meet the quota over the next five years.

By next June 5, the court stipulated, OSHA must revise staffing and funding regulations and require each state to commit itself to the benchmarks to retain the approval of its plan from OSHA.

States that submit plans for future approval must provide similar assurances, the court said.

Currently, 24 states operate OSHA-approved plans, which under certain conditions pre-empt federal jurisdiction on enforcement of the 1970 job safety law.

The court said that in establishing the benchmarks, OSHA must consider in each state:

- The number of employers and workers.
- The number and type of health hazards.
- The number of general inspections that should be conducted annually to provide proper coverage.
- The anticipated number of health-related complaints and accident inspections.
- The number of health inspections an industrial hygienist can be reasonably expected to perform.

Therefore, if OSHA determines that a state needs 50 industrial hygienists to meet proper staffing levels but only has 10, it would be required beginning next May 1 to

Sheldon Samuels, IUD job safety director, also expressed gratification that the ruling will bring states into closer conformity with the federal occupational safety law. He cited problems with a Washington state plan which puts much of the responsibility for workplace safety on workers rather than on employers.

In other job safety developments, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall announced that OSHA has drastically simplified and streamlined its rules protecting workers against fire hazards. Marshall said the proposal for new fire safety standards would eliminate the need for employers to comply with 2,400 national consensus standards covering 400 pages of regulations.

He said the vacated standards relate more to property protection than to worker safety.



NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN for justice for J. P. Stevens workers drew a heavy turnout of trade union supporters at Atlanta's Central City Park. Rally participants included, from left, Joan Heidt, Communications Workers; Nick Bonanno, regional director of the Ladies' Garment Workers; Cindy Burns, CWA; James Sala, AFL-CIO regional director; Brenda Pickerton, Office & Professional Employees, and Sheila Baines, CWA.

Brown Lung Screening Aids Stevens Workers

Greenville, S.C.—Workers at the J. P. Stevens textile plants here are receiving medical help and legal assistance after they were diagnosed as having severe breathing problems in a brown lung screening clinic co-sponsored by the Clothing & Textile Workers Union and the Carolina Brown Lung Association.

Several of the workers learned for the first time at the union clinic that their lung capacity was far below normal. The company had performed similar tests a few months ago, but refused to release the results to the workers, ACTWU reported.

"If I had just known before, I might have done something about it," said Ruth Young, who learned at the clinic that her ability to move air in and out of her lungs is 68 percent of the average for a person of her height and weight. She is worse off than the majority of Greenville workers who registered somewhere between 70 percent and 85 percent.

The union said the chances are that many of the Stevens workers who came to the clinic will eventually be diagnosed as suffering from brown lung, the respiratory disease that afflicts 100,000 textile workers nationwide, 27,000 in South Carolina alone.

Ruth Young and other workers like her would have had the right to use a respirator under new rules adopted by the federal Occupational Safety & Health Administration. If a doctor said that she could not use a respirator, she would have had the right to transfer to an available clean job under the new rules. Organized labor helped get the rules passed, but several textile companies filed a lawsuit and a federal judge postponed putting them into effect for several months.

Under the terms of the new cotton dust standard, companies are required to clean up the mills by 1983; to test employees annually for breathing problems, and to educate them on the regulation of the standard, including respirator use and the danger of cotton dust.

Retired Stevens worker James Wilson came all the way from Great Falls, 100 miles from Greenville, to be tested. He is only 57, but his stooped carriage and wheezing voice make him appear much older. He retired from Great Falls three years ago, after seven years in the weave room and 21 years in the card room (areas where cotton dust concentration is highest). He had never been tested before and his score of 14 percent came as a shock, even though he knew he had breathing problems.

ACTWU representatives point out that if the rate of deterioration for workers who have lost 20 percent of their breathing capacity after 14 years continues at the present rate, they will have lost 40 percent in another 14 years.

The union is urging workers with breathing problems to demand air flow respirators and it is scheduling follow-up appointments for them at the clinic. It is also meeting with lawyers to investigate the possibility of partial compensation for still active workers whose breathing is impaired.



BREATHING CAPACITY TEST is given to J. P. Stevens worker Geneva Deese in Greenville, S.C., under a program co-sponsored by the Clothing & Textile Workers and the Carolina Brown Lung Association. Page McCullough of the Brown Lung staff administers the test.

SIU Vice President Earl Shepard Dies

Baltimore—Earl G. Shepard, a vice president of the Seafarers since 1960, died Dec. 19 at University Hospital following open heart surgery. He was 65.

Shepard had been a member of the SIU since its founding in 1938. He worked as a U.S. merchant seaman from 1936 to 1944 when he became an organizer for the SIU. He later served as the union's port agent in New Orleans, New York and Baltimore. Shepard also was an executive board member of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO.

IUD Scores Carter Policy On Economy

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chess & Associates, found that wages have not been "a factor of consequence" in the nation's inflation.

It showed that the steepest price increases came in "the cost of the necessities of life" and it found that President Carter's policies are "surely taking the country toward slower growth, perhaps even a recession, and more unemployment."

The IUD said its study raised "some far-reaching questions about the pricing policies of America's big corporations."

It found clear evidence that "corporations can set their prices to make money, and at a good rate of return, irrespective of the condition of the market. The failure of prices to soften when the nation has not only large-scale unemployment but also a distinct weakening in purchasing power and substantial unused productive capacity is a major source of the inflationary pressures on the American economy."

As for the Administration's wage-price guidelines, the IUD found it "absurd" to think that employers will engage in good faith collective bargaining instead of using government threats of contract cancellations to hold down wages.

And it is "simply naive to think that price guidelines will have any meaningful impact on curtailing price increases," the IUD said.

11-Month Trade Deficit Tops High for Full Year

The nation's trade deficit grew by $1.95 billion in November to push the red ink total for the first 11 months of 1978 to $26.74 billion, topping the previous record for a full year.

The Commerce Dept. said that overall U.S. exports during the month rose 1.9 percent to a seasonally adjusted $13.26 billion while imports rose five-tenths of 1 percent to a record $15.21 billion.

The deficit for the first 11 months of 1978 exceeded the deficit of $24.08 billion in the like period of 1977, as well as the record $26.50 billion total for all of 1977. With one month still to be counted, the U.S. trade deficit for 1978 probably will total nearly $29 billion, assuming a deficit of about $2 billion for December.

The November deficit was the 30th monthly deficit in a row. The continuing string of deficits is a prime cause of the dollar's weakness in international currency markets. A weak dollar in turn fuels domestic inflation since imports become more costly to American consumers.

By comparison, the nation's deficit in October was $2.13 billion; in September, $1.69 billion, and in November 1977, $2.93 billion. November marked only the fourth month all year that the deficit fell below the $2 billion level.

Petroleum imports in November rose 2.3 percent to an adjusted $3.58 billion, after declining by 3.5 percent the month before to $3.5 billion.

A Free Ride for Prices

ORGANIZED LABOR objects that wage controls are not voluntary, but mandatory. There is an enforcement mechanism for wages because every employer will be willing to enforce the wage guideline of 7 percent. On the other hand the program provides for a half-percent deceleration from the rate of price increase that took place in 1976-1977—which says that those who raised prices the most in those years can do so again, and those who were most socially responsible can do less now. That hardly seems equitable.

There is not really a mechanism for controlling prices: there is no manpower to do it, the consumer does not know what an appropriate price increase is, and no other source of income is controlled except wages. It is for this reason that the labor movement has asked for mandatory controls, established by legislation, effectively enforced and applying to all segments of the economy, not just to wage-earners.

This is really a controls program put into effect on the wage side without any legal basis. This is not the way such matters should be handled. There should be an appropriate body with sufficient manpower to hear cases. There should be a legal basis for punishing those who do not conform—not just vague threats without legal basis, or attempts to use laws for purposes other than those for which they were designed.

If we are going to have controls or guidelines, then we should do it right—by law and equitably. The President has indicated that he will use government procurement, the Export-Import Bank, and other programs to enforce his guidelines. Those programs were all established for other purposes.

Monetary and fiscal policy will not address the problems of food price increases, will not directly address sectoral problems. To say that cosmetic wage-price guidelines, along with a strong monetary and fiscal program, will take care of our inflation is to neglect the pressures in different segments of the economy.

THERE ARE CERTAIN sectoral problems that can be addressed that are not directly wage-related. And, in general, wage changes have not really been pushing prices up in the last three years. Rather what we have seen have been substantial attempts to raise wages to catch up with prices.

Our neighbors in Canada have had three years of controls and, while there were initial decreases in prices and while wages have been held down, prices have accelerated in the last year—even though, I repeat, there has been no acceleration in wages. There has not been a close wage-price relationship in all changes in wages and prices, and we cannot pick one particular situation to justify saying, "By holding down wages, we're going to resolve our inflation problem."

Inflation is a social problem, but many of the proposals for cutbacks in the federal budget would be a social catastrophe. The cutbacks seem to be aimed precisely at those groups that are weakest and need the most help—the people who need jobs, people who need help in housing, people who are on the bottom of the income scale. That is where the impact of cutbacks will be.

—From comments by AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald at an American Enterprise Institute TV roundtable on the Administration's anti-inflation program.

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'And There's Something Ticking!'



Rewards for Idle Rich:

New Tax Schemes Would Shift More of Burden to Workers

By Gus Tyler

IF WE FAVOR THE WORK ETHIC, we should encourage the industrious over the idle. But both present and proposed tax policies are doing just the opposite: rewarding those who draw income from the ownership of property rather than those who live by the sweat of their brow.

Buzzing around Washington as prelude to the opening of Congress are two proposals that will shift the tax burden from the richest to those below them. The first of these would eliminate all taxes on capital gains; the other would institute a national sales tax.

To exempt capital gains from any tax would be to grant an additional advantage to an economic elite that already enjoys tremendous tax advantages. The proposal would show favor for leisure income over labor earnings.

At present, income from capital gains—for instance, the sale of stocks, bonds, properties—is not taxed in the same way as income from wages and salaries.

If you work for your money, you pay a tax on the basis of your full income; but if you get your income from the sale of a stock, you pay a tax on the basis of only half your income.

As if this bonus to no-sweat income were not enough, the new notion in gestation is to exempt some capital gains from all taxation. The "some" who will be totally excused from paying any tax are those who "reinvest" their leisurely gains.

This proviso skews the advantage for the richest, for they are the people who can most easily allow their money to be ploughed back into investments. The middle-income family that sells a stock may need the money to stay abreast of inflated costs; such a family would not enjoy the immunity of the truly wealthy who don't need the money for meeting the daily bills.

The second proposal, offered by Sen. Russell B. Long (D-La.), top legislator in the making of America's tax laws, would institute a "Value Added Tax" (VAT). Long explains that this is a "hidden sales tax."

Actually a VAT is more than a sales tax, as we commonly experience it. The Long tax would be levied at several points: when the raw material is sold for processing, when the processed material is sold for manufacture, when the manufactured product is sold on the market. The consumer will then have to pick up the tax for the pyramided taxes—a sort of super-sales tax.

Who will pay the tax? Every consumer, of course. But the heaviest burden falls on Middle America, because the typical wage and salaried worker spends a far greater proportion of his or her earnings on consumer items than do the economic elite, who use a smaller proportion for buying goods and services and a much larger proportion for investing.

In sum, the capital gains and valued added proposals are double devices to ease taxes on those who live on investments and to increase taxes on those who live by working.

It seems that indolence is immoral if you are poor, but the same indolence is a public virtue if you are rich.

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Economic Slowdown No Inflation Remedy

The labor movement must view with considerable dismay the apparent readiness by analysts and policymakers in and out of government to pursue an anti-inflation program that would curtail the nation's economic growth and, in so doing, add to the level of unemployment, which is already too high.

It views with equal dismay the attacks from the same sources on America's workers who, because of their efforts to keep their wages and salaries abreast of rising prices, are being cast as the villains.

There are a number of reasons for the nation's current inflation, but increases in workers' wages and salaries are not one of them. Wages and salaries have been chasing prices.

The policymakers . . . may not concede that the nation is headed into another engineered recession. But they leave no doubt that their intention is to orchestrate a slowing down, even while the nation is already suffering from large-scale unemployment. And no matter how it is packaged, both no-growth and slow-growth mean more unemployment.

—From economic study issued by the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

4 Million Workers Affected:

Pay Standards Cloud Outlook For 1979 Contract Bargaining

REPRESENTATIVES OF NEARLY four million workers will be sitting down with employers this year to participate in what for most of them is a triennial exercise—the negotiation of new contracts or the reopening of wage provisions. This time, however, there will be an uninvited guest at the negotiating table.

The guest will be in the form of a 45-page document titled "Wage & Price Standards." It contains regulations drawn up by the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability. The standards ask, in essence, that workers limit wage and fringe benefit increases to about 7 percent. Their reward for this moderation, says CWPS, would be a voluntary moderation of price increases by employers. CWPS says the lowering of prices would come either through price "deceleration" or compliance with guidelines that would limit future price markups.

Living costs have been rising at an annual rate of 9 percent to 10 percent, and few union negotiators are supporting a plan that would limit pay raises to 7 percent. The AFL-CIO Executive Council unanimously rejected the overall anti-inflation program as unfair, unworkable and anti-wage-earner. Two large unaffiliated unions, the Teamsters and the UAW declared they would examine the success or failure of the price control plan before they set bargaining goals for this year's negotiations.

With contract expirations or wage reopeners facing nearly four million workers in major collective bargaining units, 1979 is a major negotiating year—nearly twice as big as last year.

The first "test" of the "voluntary" wage guidelines is scheduled this month when 60,000 members of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, and several thousand more workers represented by other unions, face expiration of their contracts with the major oil companies.

OCAW President A. F. Grospiron has said his union will "bargain as usual." Declared the OCAW executive board: "We can do no less than to respond to our needs of today."

Every union makes its own decision on what it will seek at the bargaining table, so whatever settlement is eventually worked out by the OCAW —guidelines or no guidelines—will not automatically set a "pattern" for other unions to follow. But the OCAW talks represent the first major bargaining since the CWPS guidelines were laid down, and major attention will be focused on the talks.

The oil negotiations may be the first of the year, but they are by no means the last or the largest. The 1979 bargaining calendar for major contracts includes the following:

- In March, agreements for 300,000 local and 100,000 over-the-road drivers represented by the Teamsters are up for renewal.
- In April, the Rubber Workers' contracts with the major tire companies expire. Some 67,500 workers are covered by the agreements. Several other URW contracts expire later in the year.
- In May, the Ladies' Garment Workers' contracts with sportswear and coat and suit manufacturers are up for renewal. The contracts cover 145,000 ILGWU members.
- In June, about 87,000 employees of General Electric, represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers, and several other unions face contract expirations. The unions usually coordinate their bargaining.
- In July, many of the same unions will be bargaining for more than 50,000 Westinghouse Electric employees.
- In August, the Meat Cutters will be bargaining for about 24,000 members employed by the big meat packers.
- In September, the UAW faces contract expirations for 650,000 employees of the Big Three automakers and more than 90,000 employees of the largest farm and construction equipment companies.
- And in December, the IUE and IBEW will be back at the table again, working toward a new contract (or, in IUE's case, reopening wage talks on a continuing contract) for some 20,000 RCA Corp. employees.

THROUGHOUT THE COURSE of the year, in addition, more than 200,000 building trades workers employed by general construction contractors will either be negotiating new contracts or reopening existing agreements to bargain on pay raises. Similarly, the Air Line Pilots will be bargaining with 11 major airlines and the IBEW with more than two dozen gas and utility companies. Hundreds of thousands of state and local workers also face contract expirations over the year.

This list is by no means complete. It details only the major contract negotiations and omits the bargaining on a range of issues by hundreds of unions for smaller groups of workers employed in thousands of shops, mills, factories, offices and stores throughout the nation.

This is the mosaic of collective bargaining in America and it indicates the difficulty of trying to apply a simple yardstick to measure an intricate pattern (PAI).

11 Million Families Double Up:

Deep Housing Shortage Feared As Carter Plans Subsidy Slash

PRESIDENT CARTER'S plan to slash public housing subsidies would put new inflationary pressures on the short-supply housing market, which is already hit hard by near-record interest rates, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry Schechter warned.

With vacancy rates at historically low levels and about half of those units unsuitable for families with children, the "tremendous expansion of the age group which forms households" is forcing a rapid rise of both the rental and sales indexes, Schechter stressed. He said that the combination of high cost and short supply has forced nearly 11 million American families and individuals to double up in sub-families, living within another household, generally with relatives.

"They don't live in the streets," Schechter said, "but they are definitely reducing the standard of living by living with other people, and as those units become overcrowded, the wear and tear leads to greater deterioration of the housing stock."

Schechter said on Labor News Conference that the Administration is taking a step in the wrong direction by emphasizing the use of existing housing—"helping people pay rent for existing units—and putting less emphasis on new construction." Noting that the Nixon Administration had tried the same course, Schechter said that such a move now would aggravate an already bad situation in the housing industry.

"For every unit reduction of residential construction, we're likely to have lost about 1.5 man years of work," which can "mount rapidly into a significant unemployment problem," he asserted.

Schechter urged steps toward allocating credit, to put more of the money supply into such productive areas as housing construction and less into non-productive areas like corporate takeovers, which are draining off large chunks of available credit. He called for implementation of the Credit Control Act of 1969 and the selective regulation of credit that it provides.

Emphasizing the importance of a vigorous housing industry in overall economic performance, Schechter said that "those who are wishfully thinking about a 'soft landing' of the economy are mixing their prayers with their prognostications."

Reporters questioning Schechter were Byron Fielding of Community Development Digest and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

MORE THAN FIVE MILLION American workers received a belated Christmas gift Jan. 1 when the new federal minimum wage took effect. The new minimum became $2.90 an hour, up from the $2.65 an hour of a year ago.

Some Scrooges weren't happy about this year's increase, claiming the $10 a week raise would fuel the fires of inflation.

They all expressed the hope that maybe Congress would either forestall future increases scheduled for 1980 and 1981 or create a special "youth subminimum."

But President Carter, the man who would have to throw his weight behind alterations in the minimum wage for such changes to get anywhere, appears committed to keeping the minimum on track.

Carter told a meeting of top business leaders in mid-December that "there may be some considerations going on now in the economic planning group about slight modifications to the basic minimum wage law (the Fair Labor Standards Act), but to change it substantially is not in my present plans."

As to creating a special youth "subminimum," Carter said: "I have no plans for that."

Added the President: "I think the minimum wage ought to be kept at roughly that percentage (53 percent) of the average manufacturing wage in fairness to the low-paid employees."

So, if the President is to be taken at his word, the changes in the minimum approved by the 95th Congress will continue to take effect. In January 1980, the minimum will go to $3.10 an hour, and then to $3.35 an hour a year later.

Other changes in the law were approved by Congress as well.

- Under the 1977 FLSA amendments, people who depend on tips—waiters and waitresses, cabbies and others—will be getting their tips as well as 55 percent of the minimum wage. Until the amendments, they got only 50 percent. Next January, their basic wage will rise to 60 percent of the minimum.
- Another change is the repeal of the partial overtime exemption for employees of hotels, motels and restaurants. Beginning Jan. 1, these employees started earning overtime premium pay after their first 40 hours in a workweek. Only maids and custodial employees of hotels and motels had previously qualified for premium pay after 40 hours, and that was only since Jan. 1, 1977.

ONE NEGATIVE ASPECT of the changes in the minimum wage law was the approval by Congress of an upward adjustment in the amount of money a business can take in before it has to pay the minimum.

Until the 1977 amendments, a company doing less than $250,000 a year in business didn't have to pay the rate. Under the new plan, that exemption rose to $275,000 last July and goes to $325,000 this July and to $362,000 in December 1981. According to the Labor Dept., these changes will exempt up to 850,000 previously-covered workers from minimum wage benefits.

Still, according to the Labor Dept., nearly 5.3 million American workers were eligible for the Jan. 1, 1979, raise. Whether they all actually will get it, however, is another question.

The Labor Dept. found that during fiscal 1978 more than 600,000 workers protected by federal wage and hour laws—the bulk of them under FLSA—were illegally underpaid by almost $129 million. Some $40 million of the total involved minimum wage underpayments while nearly $52 million were attributed to unpaid overtime.

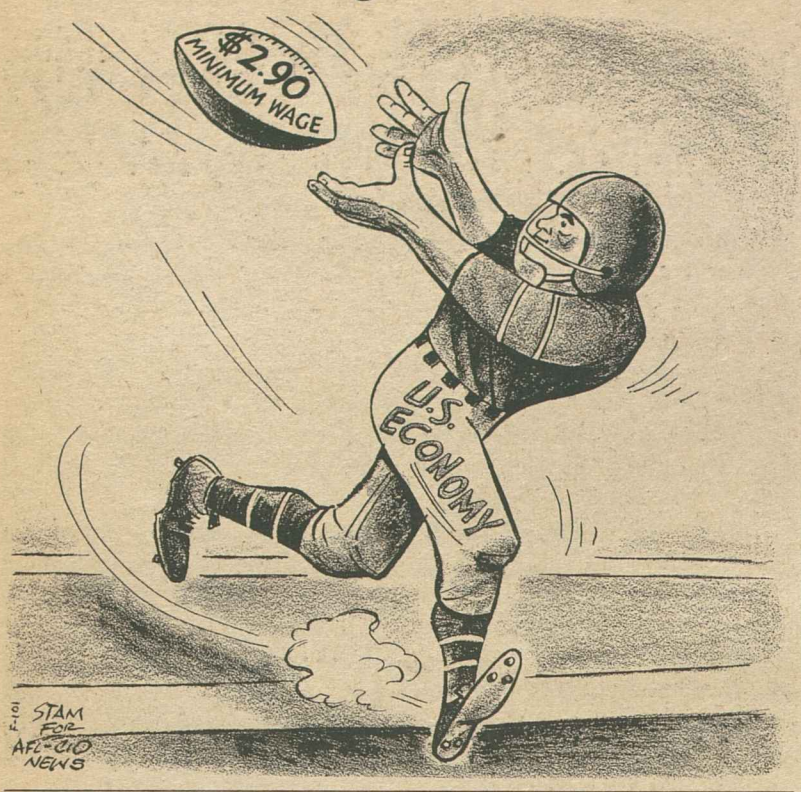
The Jan. 1 rise in the minimum wage would bring the full-time minimum wage earner's weekly paycheck to $116, or to $6,032 for a full year, before taxes. Given the government's own definition (as of October's consumer price index) that an urban family of four with an income of less than $6,847 is living in poverty, the minimum wage earner is unlikely to be overwhelmed by the largesse of the latest increase.

About the only solace is that it's better than last year.



PLANNED CUTS in public housing subsidies by the Carter Administration will worsen the nation's housing shortage and accelerate inflationary pressures, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry Schechter, center, said on Labor News Conference. He was interviewed by Byron Fielding, left, of Community Development Digest and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Long Gainer



Carter Shifts Position On Imported Nuts, Bolts

President Carter has agreed to raise import duties on industrial fasteners to help head off further damage suffered by U.S. producers and their workers.

Carter's decision reverses the position the White House had taken early in 1978 when it rejected the U.S. International Trade Commission's recommendation to raise import duties on fasteners to 20 percent.

The new import duties on nuts, bolts and screws will increase to 15 percent for a three-year period. Current duties on large screws range from 9.5 percent to 12.5 percent. Existing duties on bolts are 0.2 cents per pound and on nuts 0.1 cent per pound.

Under the ITC recommendation, the 20 percent duty would have remained in effect for two years, dropping to 15 percent in the third year and to 10 percent in the fourth and fifth years.

Robert Strauss, the President's special trade representative, acknowledged that the decision to raise duties was based on the deteriorating economic condition of the U.S. fastener industry.

But Strauss claimed that the 15 percent duty rate would have "substantially smaller inflationary impact" on the U.S. economy than the import relief recommended by the ITC.

The AFL-CIO had warned in a statement to the House Trade subcommittee last year that an increase in import duties would be only a partial answer to the problem. The federation said that while higher tariffs would be of some help to the U.S. fastener industry, a better remedy would be for the imposition of import quotas.

Citing findings of the ITC, the AFL-CIO noted that the fastener industry had experienced a substantial drop in sales and shipments in recent years, resulting in layoffs of thousands of workers and a number of plant shutdowns.

Strauss said the President agreed to the duty increase because industrial fastener imports reached record highs in 1978 while U.S. production and shipments dropped. He also noted that 4,000 workers in the fastener industry lost their jobs and that further layoffs were threatened unless import relief was provided.

Labor Dept. Lists 719 High Jobless Areas

The Labor Dept. has listed 719 "labor surplus" areas that will be given preference for government contracts because their unemployment rate over a 12-month period was at least 20 percent above the national average.

The new total is 57 more than in the previous quarter and 266 more than the Labor Dept. listed one year ago.

Procedures for classifying labor surplus areas are being revised and the changes will take effect May 1, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall said. The principal changes will be to revise the list annually rather than quarterly, to base the reference period on the average of the previous two years instead of one year, and to narrow the geographical boundaries to direct assistance to specific localities with high unemployment rates rather than large metropolitan areas.

In the current tabulation, the last under the old method, the reference period was the 12 months ending Sept. 30, 1978, when the national unemployment rate averaged 6.3 percent.

Thus, the labor market areas that qualified for contract preference were those that during that 12-month period had unemployment rates of 7.6 percent or higher.

Simplistic Approaches Scored:

Need for Tax Reforms Cited To Finance Basic Services

Simplistic tax cuts that trigger sharp reductions in essential public services by state and local governments will not relieve the frustrations of over-burdened taxpayers.

Two articles in the December issue of the American Federationist explore the problems of bringing tax equity through genuine tax reform—but both concur that drastic measures such as California's Proposition 13 are not the answer.

Arnold Cantor points out in one article that California homeowners will get less than one-third of the promised $7 billion in tax relief they voted for because the bulk of it will go to landlords and to industrial and commercial real estate holders.

Cantor, assistant research director of the AFL-CIO, warns that certain right wing groups are attempting to mislead voters by promoting tax cut schemes that really benefit wealthy persons and corporations.

"The rapid increases in state and local taxes, high levels of inflation and lack of progress toward tax reform have led to genuine injury and hardship, as well as anger and frustration," Cantor writes in the monthly AFL-CIO magazine.

In a related article, Michael Grace notes that a number of state legislatures are ready to take a hard look at tax structures and spending limitations in coming sessions early this year.

Grace, who is public relations director of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., suggests that state legislatures are a more reasonable arena for the discussion of tax questions than "yes" or "no" ballot issues.

He points out, however, that of the wide range of tax measures that appeared on ballots in 17 states last fall, voters rejected the kind of tax slashes that backers of Proposition 13 had promoted.

"Voters appeared to prefer a more cautious approach," Grace writes. "The message is a clear call for tax reform."

Citing recent findings of polling organizations, Grace observes that there is a consistent signal from the public: "People do not want less government. They are concerned about the way taxes are collected and spent. People want better government, providing more services, supported by a fairer tax system."

Cantor notes that the three major sources of revenue for state and local governments are property taxes, sales taxes and income taxes.

Property taxes, which are a dominant revenue producer for local governments, are the most widely maligned and least understood, he asserts.

Often, the property tax burden falls the hardest on individuals least able to pay, Cantor notes. But property taxes are the financial backbone of public school systems and other vital community services.

He points out that states have been responding to the call for property tax reform, particularly in attempting to ease the burden on low-income taxpayers, but that they still have a long way to go.

Sales taxes are the chief source of revenue for states, accounting for more than half of their incoming funds, Cantor observes. However, families of low and moderate income are hit harder by sales taxes than wealthier families. Several states have made progress toward eliminating inequities, but much unfairness remains for those who must spend virtually all their income on the necessities of life.

And although income taxes are used in 41 states, Cantor says that few states take advantage of the potential of income taxes for a fair and productive tax system.

He notes that most states have a mild progression formula, and families in the higher income ranges pay only slightly more than those of low and moderate income.

Cantor warns that without a sharp improvement in equity, taxpayer resistance will continue and public investment programs may be jeopardized.

"The tax that is the best revenue producer is also the fairest," Cantor observes. "So state and local governments must look more to progressive income taxes based on ability to pay and limit their present reliance on sales and property taxes.

"The state-local tax base would then grow with increases in employment, profits and personal income, and tax burdens would be shared more fairly."

Both Cantor and Grace stress the importance of restructuring the spending and service responsibilities among federal, state and local governments.

States with laws limiting spending increases are particularly hard-hit when federal funds are curtailed, Grace notes.

He cites as an example the impact on New Jersey after Congress failed to renew a multimillion-dollar aid program for states and localities with high unemployment. The result is massive layoffs and severe cutbacks in public services.

Navajo Center Shows Union Role in Training

Crownpoint, N.M.—A $5.9 million skill center opened on the Navajo Reservation here, and the dedication ceremonies spotlighted the continuing cooperation between building trades unions and the Navajo community.

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. said the Navajo Construction Industry Manpower Program has been successful because of "the link it provides between training and jobs." He said the tribe can confidently expect that the Navajo trainees "will have completion of their training."

The program is administered by the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute (HRDI), and Georgine noted that union involvement assures participants of the full benefits of collective bargaining.

"For too long," Georgine said, "Navajo construction workers were treated as second-class citizens."

Navajo Nation Chairman Peter J. MacDonald stressed the importance of the program's job development to the community. He said the unemployment rate on the reservation is close to 45 percent.

Assistant HRDI Director Mike Arnold said that over a three-year period "478 Navajo men and women have been served by the training program. Of these, 306 have successfully completed training and 255 have gone on to continue training in bona fide apprenticeship programs and to employment on construction jobs on or near the reservation."

Their average starting wage, he noted, has been $7 an hour.

The training program which has been conducted at several sites on the reservation will now be centered at the Crownpoint facility. In addition to construction, training at the center will include heavy equipment operation and repair, welding, pipefitting, water and sanitation work iron work and other skills.

The new skill center was financed through grants by the Economic Development Administration. Operating funds will be provided by the Dept. of Labor.

The complex has seven buildings for training and for the housing of trainees, all built by union labor. The first training session is expected to enroll 138 Navajo students.



NAVAJO SKILL CENTER is dedicated at Crownpoint, N.M., with an enthusiastic endorsement from AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. President Robert A. Georgine, center. With him at the dedication are Peter MacDonald, left, chairman of the Navajo Nation, and Leonard Arviso, director of the Navajo Office of Labor.

Modest Gains Won in State Legislatures

Progress Posted in '78 Sessions Despite Conservative Opposition

(Continued from Page 1)

proved various measures to upgrade coverage and benefits, improve administration, and tighten up on enforcement of existing laws. The categories of covered employees were expanded in 12 states.

Ten states—California, Connecticut, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin—amended their fair employment practice laws to expand the prohibition on discriminatory employment practices. In Georgia, for example, a comprehensive fair employment practice law was adopted to outlaw discrimination in public employment because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap or age.

In the public sector, statutes enacted by 13 states were mostly refinements of existing laws. Four of these states, however, approved measures producing major changes in the basic relationship between public employers and workers. These included:

- The enactment by Tennessee of the Education Professional Negotiations Act that extends organization, representation, and bargaining rights to public school teachers.
- The approval by Oklahoma of two measures providing secret balloting procedures for teachers in certain municipalities to choose an exclusive representative for bargaining with local school boards.
- The repeal by New York of a state statute defining the probationary status of a public employee found to have violated the no-strike provisions of the Taylor Act.
- The adoption by Wisconsin of a limited right-to-strike amendment to the state's bargaining law for municipal employees and teachers.

Occupational safety and health laws that were passed were aimed largely at meeting federal requirements. Adjustments were made by state legislatures in Michigan, New York, Oklahoma, and Oregon.

Eleven states eased restrictions on the employment of minors. Among other laws, Delaware increased the mandatory retirement age to 70, Michigan adopted a comprehensive law giving employees the right to review all records that may be used by their employers in personnel decisions, and California passed a law prohibiting an employer from using vocal stress analyzers to determine the truth or falsity of statements made by workers without their written consent.

Other legislative developments in a cross-section of the states included:

California—A new law established the California State Mediation & Conciliation Service to investigate and mediate labor disputes and to arbitrate or arrange for the selection of arbitration boards.

A new amendment to the 1975 Agricultural Labor Relations Act specifically provides that all employees of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board are to perform their duties in an objective and impartial manner toward any party subject to the board's jurisdiction.

Discrimination by an employer in denying promotion because of pregnancy, childbirth or related conditions was declared unlawful. Another new statute prohibits employers from firing or discriminating against workers for taking time off to serve as a juror or to appear in court as a witness.

Colorado — The definition of "employee" covered by the state's worker compensation law was broadened to include apprentices.

Connecticut—Of 16 bills supported by the Connecticut State Labor Council, 12 were adopted and four rejected. Most noteworthy was passage of a bill to extend collective bargaining rights to supervisors in municipal governments, a measure strongly opposed by the National Right to Work Committee.

The legislature adopted a measure increasing the maximum benefit rate under workers' compensation to 85 percent of the state's average production wage starting this month.

Delaware—State AFL-CIO President John A. Campanelli reports that while labor's efforts in the field of workers' and unemployment compensation were nonproductive, "we were instrumental in stopping action on a sales tax bill (and) in securing a raise for our state employees."

Florida — Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday on Jan. 15 and Susan B. Anthony's birthday on Feb. 15 were declared public holidays.

Georgia — New amendments to workers' compensation laws increase the maximum benefit on temporary total disability payments to $110 a week and raise the maximum for temporary partial disability payments to $80 a week.

Hawaii—The required period of work for completion of apprenticeship in a trade or craft was changed from not less than 4,000 hours to not less than 12 months or 2,000 hours of reasonably continuous employment.

Indiana — Cities, towns, and countries are permitted by a new law to establish local civil rights agencies.

Iowa—The state public employment relations law was amended to provide for binding arbitration upon request of either party to a labor dispute.

Kentucky—A new statute gives an employee the right of action against his employer for the full amount of wages due on each regular pay day. The formula for workers' compensation benefits was changed to two-thirds of an employee's average weekly wage, multiplied by the percentage of disability caused by the injury or occupational disease.

Maine—The name of the Industrial Accident Commission was changed to the Workers' Compensation Commission, and labor succeeded in amending the workers' compensation statutes to allow employees to file claims for occupational deafness within 30 days — instead of six months—after being separated from a noisy work area.

Mississippi — Teachers' salaries were somewhat improved, and a bill was passed limiting corporations and associations, including unions, to political contributions of $1,000 per candidate.

New Jersey—A bill providing an alternate test for unemployment compensation benefits, making it easier for jobless workers to receive maximum benefits, was approved and signed into law.

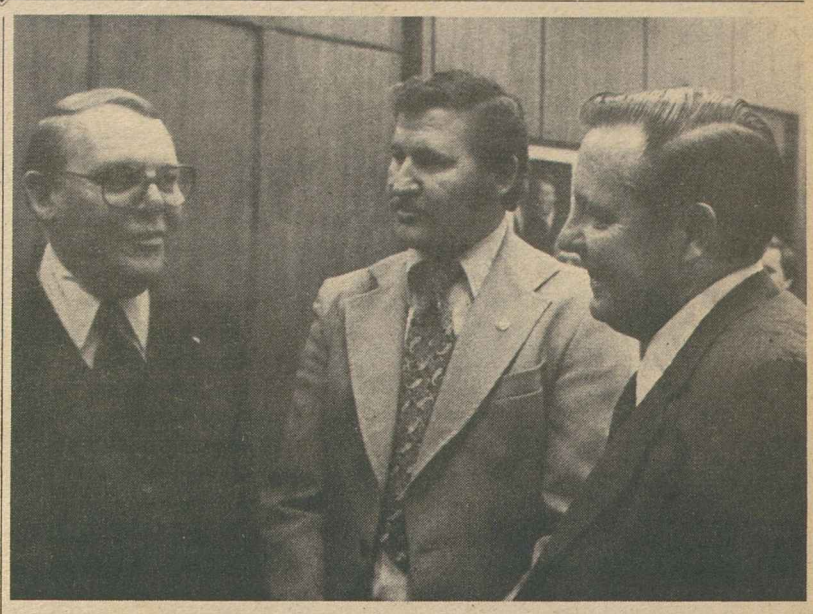
New York—A bill to eliminate voter registration by mail was defeated. Opposing it, the State AFL-CIO called the measure "a deliberate effort to disenfranchise voters who desperately need entry to the decision-making process."

Gov. Carey signed 32 bills endorsed by the state federation and vetoed one. He signed seven bills opposed by the State AFL-CIO. Social insurance benefit levels were substantially increased.

Tennessee—Unemployment compensation benefits were raised from a maximum of $87 to $95 a week.

West Virginia — The basis on which compensation payments for temporary total, permanent total, and partial disabilities are figured was increased to 70 percent of a worker's average wage.

Wisconsin—A new law makes it unlawful for an employer to make hiring, compensation, promotion or job assignment contingent upon the worker's consent to sexual contact or sexual intercourse.



A POSSIBLE STRIKE looms at the giant Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. unless the firm agrees to negotiate a contract with the Steelworkers as required by federal law, USWA Southern District Director Bruce Thrasher warned at a Washington news conference. Thrasher, left, addressed news reporters after meeting with Under Sec. of Labor Robert Brown, right. With Thrasher was Wayne Crosby, center, president of USWA Local 8888 in Newport News. The Tenneco, Inc., subsidiary has refused for nearly a year to bargain with the union after it won a representation election.

Cotton Dust Slide Show Scored for Distortions

New York—The Clothing & Textile Workers have demanded that the North Carolina Labor Dept. immediately withdraw from circulation a slide show containing serious inaccuracies and distortions regarding the dangers of brown lung disease.

The slide show purports to "educate" textile workers on provisions of a new federal cotton dust standard, as well as the potential for contracting byssinosis (brown lung disease) in the workplace, but the material is actually a "travesty" on the intent of the Occupational Safety & Health Act, the union charged.

The slide show falsely "minimizes the hazard of cotton dust" to workers and "offers them assurances that everything needed to protect their health is being done by their employer," George Perkel, ACTWU's OSHA director, declared.

"This is a travesty. Textile workers need to be informed of the truth about the risk of byssinosis," Perkel said in a letter to North Carolina Labor Commissioner John C. Brooks and R. A. Wendell, the U.S. Labor Dept.'s regional administrator for OSHA in Atlanta.

In his letter, Perkel noted that the "false message of the slide show is supported by a series of misstatements and distortions" that obscure the nature of the hazard.

"Byssinosis . . . is mentioned just once" and even then "it appears in the context of a discussion of the history of disease among flax and hemp workers," Perkel points out. "No mention is made of the signs or symptoms of the disease.

"The text presents the textile industry's propaganda concerning . . . byssinosis as if it were fact and ignores the available array of data compiled by independent scientists demonstrating the seriousness of the byssinosis risk in North Carolina mills."

Also, the union pointed out, the text neglects mention of the state's responsibility for enforcing the cotton dust standard, the law's provision for employee complaints to OSHA or the protection afforded to employees against discrimination.

Housing Slump Forecast As Mortgage Rates Soar

The AFL-CIO warned Congress that while new housing starts and building permits were relatively high in November, "experience and reason strongly suggest a decline in homebuilding activity in 1979."

New and existing home prices continue to rise at about a 14 percent annual level and effective mortgage interest rates are around 10 percent, Henry B. Schechter, director of the federation's Dept. of Urban Affairs, observed in a statement before the Senate Banking Committee. The panel was assessing the housing outlook for 1979.

Family income levels have not kept pace with home prices and mortgage interest rates, Schechter pointed out. Mortgage rates will climb higher as the cost of money to institutional lenders, particularly through money-market certificates, increases over the next few months, he added.

"Mortgage interest rates at the beginning of 1979 will generally be in a 10 to 11 percent range, about 1 to 1.5 percentage points higher than a year ago," he said.

Most of the forecasts for 1979 total housing starts are in the 1.5 to 1.7 million range, Schechter said.

"As the decline in residential construction activity progresses, measurable unemployment will develop among workers in construction trades with a relatively heavy concentration in housing, and among employees engaged in production and distribution of materials and components going into residential construction," he said.

A continued tight housing supply relative to needs would tend to keep home prices high, he added.

"The outlook, therefore, is for a recession, with no abatement of inflationary pressures stemming from a short housing supply," Schechter said.

While the credit cycle has already progressed far toward bringing about a sharp housing downturn, he said, "it might still be ameliorated through the exercise of selective credit regulation."

"If there were temporary prohibitions against the extension of credit for such purposes as large company takeovers, land acquisition and development for recreational use and second homes, gambling complexes and sports complexes, there would be less upward pressure on interest rates and downward pressure on housing demand," he pointed out.

Handicapped Get Back Pay In Bias Cases

Handicapped workers who were victims of illegal job discrimination were awarded more than $262,500 in back pay during the 1978 fiscal year, the Labor Dept. reported.

The payments went to 120 persons in settlements of cases brought under a 1973 law that prohibits federal contractors and subcontractors from employment discrimination against handicapped persons qualified to do the jobs that are available. The law also obligates contractors to take affirmative action to hire and promote handicapped workers.

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs in the Labor Dept.'s Employment Standards Administration, which enforces the law, said the number of complaints and back pay awards has grown each year.

During fiscal 1978, 2,682 complaints were filed with the agency—up from 2,000 the previous year.

Economic Indicators Turn Downward

The Commerce Dept. Index of Leading Economic Indicators, regarded as a guide to how the economy will perform in the period ahead, dropped six-tenths of 1 percent in November.

The department attributed the decline largely to the Federal Reserve Board's increase in its discount rate, which set off a chain of interest hikes for business and consumer borrowers.

Cruikshank Cites Rights:

Benefit Changes Hit On Social Security

Baltimore—Social security benefits are an earned right of America's workers and shouldn't be tampered with for budgetary reasons, Nelson A. Cruikshank said.

Cruikshank, now on the White House staff as Counselor to the President for Aging, formerly headed the National Council of Senior Citizens and for many years was director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security. He spoke at Social Security Administration headquarters in the Robert M. Ball lecture series that the agency's employees set up to honor their retired commissioner.

As he sees it, Cruikshank said, "the essential element of this system is the fact that the working people of the country have put their faith in the integrity of the government and its pledge to make good on the promises set forth in the benefit schedules of the social security program."

The principle, he warned, is "somewhat in jeopardy" because the consolidated budget that the government has used for the past decade invites tampering with the benefit structure "in order to reduce the deficit position of the federal budget."

"Those in both the Executive and Legislative Branches of the government must understand that expenditures from trust fund accounts are not among the discretionary expenditures," Cruikshank said. "They represent fixed obligations of the government."

To America's workers, he said the issue is simply, "Is Uncle Sam's word as good as his bond?"

Cruikshank made clear, however, that he considers a "fair share" contribution by the federal government fully consistent with the concept of social security benefits as an earned right.

If it were not for social security, he said, many more retired or disabled workers and their families would require public welfare assistance, which would be financed out of the general revenues of federal or state governments.

"Since the treasuries of the governments are relieved of this burden by the existence of the social security system, it is only right and proper that support should come to the system from these sources in addition to the support that comes from employer payroll taxes and the workers' contributions," he said.

Thus, Cruikshank said, it is feasible to have "a system in which the public at large, through government contributions, pays its fair share of the system from which it derives indirect benefits, and which at the same time preserves all of those essential values that derive from a contributory system."

Retail Price Climb Slows For Month

(Continued from Page 1)

line. Medical care costs rose 1.1 percent, with hospital rooms up 2 percent and professional services up eight-tenths of 1 percent. Continued modest increases were reported for apparel, entertainment, and other goods and services.

Prices for beef, pork, poultry, and eggs showed large increases in November, and prices for other foods such as cereal and bakery products, dairy products, and sugar and sweets also rose. These increases were partially offset, however, by sharp declines in fresh fruit and vegetable prices.

Home ownership costs rose seven-tenths of 1 percent over the month, compared with increases of 1.2 and 1.4 percent, respectively, in October and September.

Real spendable weekly earnings for a married worker with three dependents rose 24 cents to $92.16 from October to November but were still $3.23 less than the figure for November 1977.

Union Rejects Pay Lid As Oil Bargaining Opens

(Continued from Page 1)

"We would have to more than double wages—an unlikely event—to add even one cent to the price of a gallon of gas," Grospiron observed.

Besides wages, Grospiron said, this year's oil bargaining program would address the concerns of workers mainly in the areas of health care, age discrimination, and vacations. Most of the workers involved are employed at the nation's petroleum refineries.

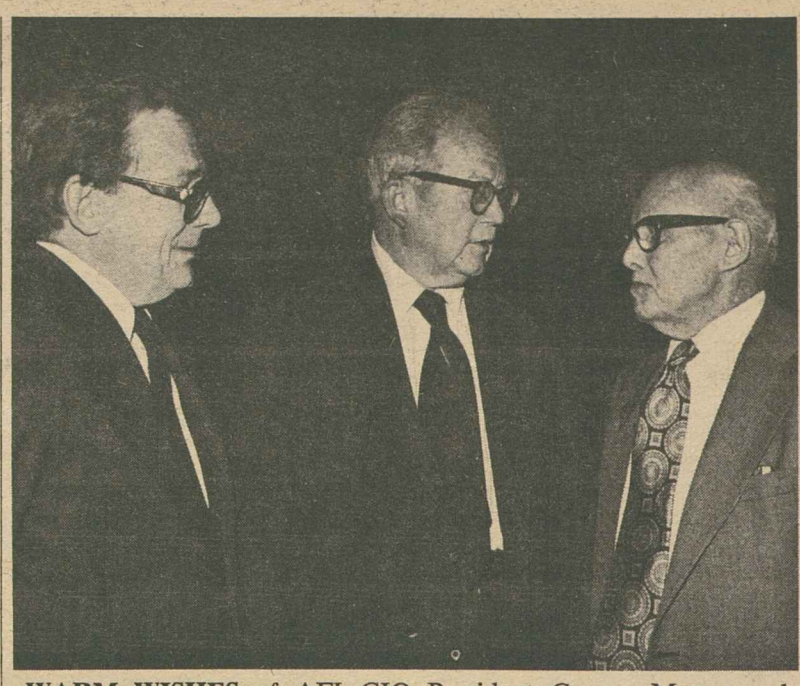
The union is negotiating the renewal of more than 400 local contracts. Bargaining takes place at numerous locations around the country, and no company offer can be considered accepted until it is approved by the OCAW oil policy bargaining committee here. Once a proposal is accepted, it becomes the new bargaining goal for all locals which have not reached agreement.

Of particular importance in the current round of talks is the health care issue. The union is asking the industry to pay the entire costs of a uniform health plan, including dental and prescription drug coverage, and to provide these benefits without cost to employees retiring after the start of the new contracts.

The union also wants a liberalized vacation schedule, providing for an expansion of vacations to seven weeks after 25 years of service from the current maximum of five weeks after 20 years.

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WARM WISHES of AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland go to Andrew J. Biemiller, center, on his retirement as the federation's legislative director and the American labor movement's chief spokesman on Capitol Hill.

Biemiller Recalls Fight For Civil Rights Laws

Andrew J. Biemiller considers the long and successful battle for civil rights legislation a high point of his 34-year career on Capitol Hill, most of it as the labor movement's chief legislative strategist.

In a Labor News Conference interview on the eve of his retirement as AFL-CIO legislative director, Biemiller spoke of the changes since he came to Washington after the 1944 elections as a new congressman from Wisconsin.

Then, he said, power was in the hands of "the old bulls"—the committee chairmen who ran the House subject only to pressure from the Speaker. Now, caucus reforms and a proliferation of subcommittees have diffused power to the extent that even relative newcomers have significant influence, he noted.

For both members of Congress and for lobbyists, it is much more work and much less play than in earlier years, Biemiller said. The volume of work has increased tremendously, he said.

In response to questions from Neil MacNeil of Time magazine and Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post, Biemiller spoke of the presidents and congressional figures he has worked with over the years. Harry Truman was "the strongest president. . . . I admired him greatly," he said. And on domestic issues, Lyndon Johnson was "very effective."

Biemiller spoke of how in the course of years Johnson had changed from an adversary to a powerful ally on civil rights "and this made a heck of a difference."

Of the alliance that proved so effective on civil rights, Biemiller said labor and the black organizations are still working closely through the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. But he expressed disappointment that "the New Deal spirit has pretty well petered out in the Democratic Party" and that retreat from liberal principles poses problems for labor's program in Congress.

He spoke of people he has especially admired in Congress, including such former figures as House Speaker Sam Rayburn and Senators Hubert Humphrey, Clinton Anderson, Pat McNamara and Lister Hill, as well as others still serving.

Their common character trait, he said, was "that they were willing to work and to work hard" and had a "very strong commitment."

Appalachia Council Presses Training

The AFL-CIO Appalachian Council will provide on-the-job training for about 770 economically disadvantaged persons under a renewed Labor Dept. contract for $1.3 million.

The council will promote job development and training opportunities with employers in the 12-state Appalachian region that have collective bargaining agreements with AFL-CIO local unions.

The renewed one-year program will operate in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

Since 1967, the council has been responsible for training and placing 25,400 persons under a series of Labor Dept. contracts totaling more than $12.5 million. The program is funded under the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act.

Court Urged To Back New Benzene Limit

(Continued from Page 1)

out in issuing the standard last February that benzene poses a serious health risk to more than 600,000 American workers—particularly those in the rubber, chemical and plastics industries.

Benzene, a highly toxic hydrocarbon, is a widely recognized cause of leukemia and other serious blood disorders.

The regulation, which was to take effect last Mar. 13, would have required employers to reduce workplace concentrations to one part benzene per 1 million parts air (1 ppm) from the current limit of 10 ppm over an eight-hour period. It also would prohibit eye and skin contact with liquid benzene and require employers to monitor exposure levels.

OSHA never had an opportunity to enforce the standard because it was immediately challenged by the American Petroleum Institute and a number of other employer groups, in addition to about a dozen oil, steel, rubber and plastics manufacturers. The New Orleans-based court issued a temporary stay on Mar. 14 and went on to strike down the standard Oct. 5.

Assistant Labor Sec. Eula Bingham said that the government's petition for review by the Supreme Court is consistent with OSHA's "continued effort to provide maximum safety for American workers."

Since medical experts are unable to determine a safe exposure level for carcinogens, OSHA said it has set worker exposure levels at the lowest feasible level.

This was the basis for regulating cancer-causing agents such as asbestos, vinyl chloride and coke oven emissions—the standards that had been upheld by other courts of appeal.

If the Supreme Court agrees to hear the benzene case, it will be the first OSHA standard to come before the justices.

Air Controllers Push For Greater Staffing

The Federal Aviation Administration's announced efforts to upgrade air safety will provide only a partial answer to the need to head off airline disasters unless staffing problems are resolved, President John F. Leyden of the Air Traffic Controllers declared.

The FAA said it would establish mandatory terminal controls in 44 additional locations, improve radar services at 80 airports and lower levels of direct air control to more realistic altitudes.

Leyden said that PATCO applauds the FAA decision, but questions the agency's failure to take the action sooner. San Diego's Lindbergh Field, where 144 lives were lost in an airliner collision Sept. 25, is included in the list of areas designated for upgrading.

He said that the increase in terminal control areas—a highly desirable feature of the program—will require far more air traffic controllers than the 350 mentioned by the FAA.

"We are now critically understaffed by between 2,000 and 3,000 controllers," Leyden said.

He warned that the staffing needs of the new safety program will further exacerbate the shortage of qualified air controllers.

"There will be disappointments and complaints and failures of expected service unless the FAA starts a massive program to train and hire new controllers immediately," Leyden said.

A key requirement, he noted, will be for the FAA to obtain approval from the Carter Administration's budget advisers to support the expanded safety program.

Leyden said the money for the program is available, citing $3.8 billion currently deposited in the Aviation Development Trust Fund.

He called on FAA Administrator Langhorne Bond to move quickly to make use of the funds to meet the need for more safety equipment and trained personnel.

Boycott Meeting Reslated to Jan. 15

AFL-CIO President George Meany announced that a meeting to coordinate boycotts of Chile, Nicaragua and Cuba originally scheduled for Jan. 8 in Washington has been postponed to Jan. 15 at the request of Chilean democratic trade union leaders.

The boycott has been proposed by the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers (ORIT) to protest the brutal suppression of human and trade union rights in the three countries.

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Oil Union Sets Terms For Accord

Denver—The Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers is keeping the door open to "reasonable" offers for new contract settlements even though its existing contracts with major companies have expired.

Following a meeting here, the union's national oil bargaining policy committee announced that it had in effect turned down all industry settlement proposals as inadequate and outlined the framework of what it would consider an acceptable proposal.

The committee said the union seeks an offer that would provide an unspecified cents-per-hour general wage increase, rather than a percentage increase; a fully paid, uniform health care package; improvements in vacation schedules and other fringe benefits, a wage reopener clause in the second year of the agreement with the right to strike.

The panel also unanimously rejected the concept—advanced by at least one major oil firm—of freezing wage rates for entry level jobs or any other classification in any proposal.

"This action was taken at this time in order to encourage the oil companies to take positions which would conform with the union's concept of an acceptable offer," the bargaining committee said in a statement.

"Our position is a responsible one and at present is a better alternative to widespread strike action. . . . The union does not want a strike and responsible companies in the oil industry do not want a strike.

"If the companies respond to our proposal in a reasonable manner, a general strike can be averted. The industry will have to decide if it wants an agreement or if it wants a strike."

OCAW's more than 400 contracts with the industry expired at midnight Jan. 7. Except for a strike by office workers at the Gulf Oil Corp.'s Port Arthur, Tex., refinery, union members have remained on the job.

Earlier, the bargaining policy committee had rejected wage increase proposals generally calling for 7 percent the first year and 6 percent the second from Gulf and other companies.

When the Standard Oil Co. of Indiana, known as Amoco, weighed in with an offer of a 73-cents-an-hour wage boost, the union sought clarification from the Council on Wage & Price Stability as to wheth-

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Labor Asks U.S. to Share Social Security Financing



TESTIFYING for the American Postal Workers at hearings of the federal Advisory Council on Social Security are, from left: Legislative Aide Edward L. Bowley, Legislative Director Patrick J. Nilan, APWU President Emmet Andrews and Economist Walter Froh. The union opposed any merger of the Civil Service Retirement System with social security.

3-Way Plan Would Ease Payroll Tax

The AFL-CIO urged a federal advisory council to recommend three-way funding of the social security system, with a government contribution from general revenues supplementing the payroll tax paid by workers and their employers.

Lawrence Smedley, associate director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, said the payroll tax will increasingly become an oppressive burden on moderate-income workers as the lowered birthrate of recent years leads to "a sizable increase in the number of retired workers relative to active workers."

A shift of part of the cost of social security to general revenues raised by progressive income taxes is "the most feasible solution," he testified at hearings of the Advisory Council on Social Security, a 13-member public body that will submit recommendations to Congress and to the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

But Smedley stressed labor's opposition to any proposal that would eliminate the contributory factor from the program, or from any part of it such as the disability and Medicare programs.

Elimination of any worker contribution "would undermine the social insurance principle of benefits as a matter of right," he cautioned. "It could in time lead to income and means tests. A major factor in social security's popularity is the absence of a welfare stigma. The public looks upon benefits as an earned right because workers have made contributions during their working lives."

In addition to general revenue supplements, Smedley said, the system's funding should be strengthened by taxing the full payroll of employers and not just the

(Continued on Page 8)

Railway Clerks' Accord:

Job Protections Won In N&W Settlement

The Railway Clerks signed a new agreement with the Norfolk & Western Railway, ending a dispute over automation and job security dating back to the summer of 1976.

BRAC President Fred J. Kroll said that the union was "very pleased" with the provisions of the contract, and credited the successful conclusion of the difficult negotiations to union solidarity.

"BRAC members will quickly realize that their courageous and spirited 82-day strike last summer was instrumental in bringing about conditions that had long been standard on many other railroads," Kroll said after signing the pact.

"It is also perfectly obvious that without the strike we could not have won this agreement or any agreement even faintly resembling it."

The union, which represents about 7,000 N&W clerks in 15 states, struck the railroad last July 10 in a disagreement over union jurisdiction and job protection. The strike affected 40 railroads nationwide after BRAC charged that N&W was receiving financial help from other carriers under a mutual aid pact and extended its picketing to those lines.

President Carter created a three-member emergency board to take over negotiations under provisions of the Railway Labor Act, and the workers returned to their jobs Sept. 29 after U.S. District Court Judge Aubrey Robinson barred the railroads from any retaliatory action against their employees.

The emergency board's recommendations, made on Dec. 15, were followed by a 30-day no-strike period, which was due to expire on Jan. 14.

Kroll said that the new agreement is "squarely within the spirit and the framework" of the panel's recommendations. He said the board played "a constructive role" in providing a basis for settling the issues and listed several major improvements for the union in the new agreement:

- N&W is prohibited from removing work from the coverage of the union contract.
- Nearly 400 non-union jobs in the hitherto "exempt" group will be moved into the bargaining unit and covered by the union contract.
- Over 400 positions that were

(Continued on Page 3)

$400 Million Savings Goal Of Drug Plan

The federal government moved to save consumers as much as $400 million a year on prescription drugs by proposing the substitution of cheaper generic drugs for higher-priced brand-name products.

The use of generic drugs has been long advocated by the AFL-CIO, which spelled out its policy in a resolution adopted at the federation's 1977 convention.

The major action was the Food & Drug Administration's release of a compendium of 2,400 prescription drugs listed by their generic names that the agency considers to be the medical equivalents of brand-name products. Later this year, the agency plans to release a list of 5,000 pharmaceutical products that make up about 75 percent of the total prescription market.

Brand-name products account for about 90 percent of the 15 billion drug prescriptions filled every year in the United States, as well

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Wholesale Price Rise Near 10% over Year

Wholesale prices rose a steep eight-tenths of 1 percent in December for the second month in a row, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

On an annual basis, the latest price rise translates to an increase of nearly 10 percent. For the full year 1978, wholesale prices rose 9.1 percent, the biggest yearly increase since an 18.3 percent spurt in 1974 when the nation was in the depths of its worst recession since the 1930s.

BLS said that its December producer price index for finished goods stood at 202.4 percent of its 1967 base, meaning that consumer-ready goods that cost $100 in 1967 were priced at $202.40 in December.

The eight-tenths of 1 percent increase in this key inflation barometer resulted from further rises in food costs and in a variety of non-food items as well. Wholesale price changes are felt at the retail level in a matter of weeks or months, depending on the particular item.

Among finished goods, prices for consumer foods rose nine-tenths of 1 percent in December, compared to advances of six-tenths of 1 percent in November and 1.7 percent in both September and October. Food prices at the wholesale level increased 11.9 percent for the year.

(Continued on Page 2)

State-County Hits Plans To Cut Public Services

A leadership conference of the State, County & Municipal Employees sounded a loud alarm at threatened cutbacks in public service programs and in federal assistance to local and state governments.

AFSCME President Jerry Wurf opened the three-day meeting with a grave warning that the budget the Carter Administration is scheduled to send to Congress later this month would lower the quality of life in America's communities without making a measurable dent in inflation.

"Maybe it's good public relations," he said of the federal budget decisions, "but it's bad presidential statemanship."

More than 30 percent of state and local government funds come from the federal government, and the 600 delegates to the AFSCME conference put the budget projections into back-home terms. They translated them into overcrowded hospitals, prisons and mental health clinics, dirtier and more danger-

(Continued on Page 3)



STANDING COMMITTEE on Education reviewed past activities and recommendations for future programs of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education. Federation Vice President Albert Shanker, center right, is committee chairman and Walter G. Davis, center left, is department director.

N.Y. Pregnancy Benefits Clear High Court Test

The Supreme Court has refused to consider an appeal by employers from a New York court's ruling that pregnancy is covered by the state's temporary disability law.

The effect was to make final a state appellate court decision two years ago that denial of benefits to women temporarily incapacitated because of pregnancy would violate the New York Human Rights Act's ban on sex discrimination.

Initially, employers had challenged the interpretation given by the State Division of Human Rights because its reasoning was contrary to the interpretation that the Supreme Court had given to the federal Civil Rights Act.

But the state court noted pointedly that the Supreme Court's interpretation of a federal law "is not binding on our court" in interpreting the intent of the New York legislature, even though the legislation involved was similar.

The Supreme Court's refusal to review the case left that interpretation unchallenged and also declined to consider a subsequent employer claim that the state law was preempted by the new federal law requiring employers to treat pregnancy and childbirth, but not necessarily abortions, the same as other causes of disability under fringe benefit plans.

New York state's law sets minimum standards of payments employers must make to workers temporarily unable to continue on the job because of a disability that is not work-related.

In another case, the Supreme Court did agree to review a 6th Circuit Court of Appeals decision involving union solicitations in areas of a hospital open to the public.

The appellate court had refused to enforce a ruling by the National Labor Relations Board ordering a Tennessee hospital to end its ban on union solicitation in specified non-work areas, including the hospital cafeteria. In a case decided last spring, the Supreme Court had unanimously voided an apparently similar ban imposed by a Boston hospital. But the Tennessee institution contends that there are sufficient differences for the court to reach a different opinion.

NLRB Reports Jump In Quarterly Caseload

The National Labor Relations Board handled a total of 13,730 cases of all types during the final quarter of the 1978 fiscal year. The total case intake was 1 percent greater than a year earlier.

The agency, which administers the basic federal labor laws, processed 10,273 charges of unfair labor practices, up from 10,059 in the July-September quarter of 1977. It also handled 3,457 petitions seeking various kinds of employee representation elections, compared with 3,549 in the like period a year earlier.

NLRB representatives conducted 1,931 secret-ballot employee elections during the quarter, with 88 percent of eligible employees voting. Workers chose unions as their bargaining agent in 50 percent of the elections.

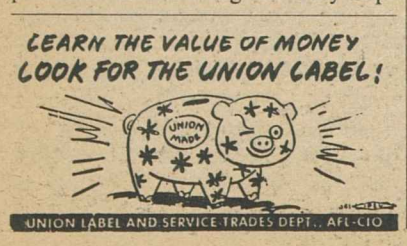
Of the 10,273 charges of unfair labor practices, 6,933 were brought against employers. AFL-CIO affiliated unions filed 2,722 of the charges, while 1,183 were filed by unaffiliated unions, 3,015 by individuals, and 13 by other employers.

Of the total number of election petitions filed during the July-September 1978 period, 2,883 were petitions for collective-bargaining elections and 384 were petitions to decertify unions.

The NLRB reported that in the 1,931 collective-bargaining elections held during the final quarter of 1978, 102,368, or 88 percent, of the 116,103 employees eligible to vote cast valid ballots. Unions won majority designation in 960 elections, or 50 percent of all that were conducted.

At the end of September, 674 cases were pending decision by board members, compared with 864 cases pending at the end of the second quarter and 700 at the end of the third quarter of 1977. Of the pending cases at the end of September, 495 involved unfair labor practices and 179 involved representation petitions, the NLRB said.

A total of 21,211 cases of all types were pending disposition at various procedural levels at the end of September, compared with 20,526 at the end of June and 19,999 at the end of March.



'78 Wholesale Price Climb Nearly 10%

(Continued from Page 1)

Wholesale prices at the intermediate level, where commodities require further processing before they become finished goods, rose six-tenths of 1 percent over the month, the smallest monthly increase since August. Food prices at the intermediate level, however, rose 1.2 percent after declining by three-tenths of 1 percent the previous month.

At the crude level, prices of wholsale products rose only four-tenths of 1 percent. The gain compares with huge increases of 1.5 percent in November and 3 percent in October. Crude wholesale food prices actually registered a decline of two-tenths of 1 percent in December.

BLS said that, among finished consumer goods, beef and veal prices went up last month after declining in November. Pork prices moved down after rising the month before. Prices were higher for processed poultry, fresh and dried fruits and vegetables, processed fruits and vegetables, vegetable oil and products, dairy products, and confectionery end products.

Substantial increases were registered over the month for gasoline and home heating oil, and prices were also higher for textile house furnishings, shoes, prescription drugs, and tires and tubes, BLS said.

Among consumer durables, some of the largest advances last month were for household glassware, mirrors, jewelry, household flatware, hearing aids, home electronic equipment, and floor coverings.

Capital equipment costs rose eight-tenths of 1 percent during December, somewhat less than the 1 percent rise in November but larger than the six-tenths of 1 percent average monthly increase during the first 10 months of 1978.

Prices for machine tools continued to rise sharply, trucks and commercial furniture rose substantially after several months of relatively small changes, and prices for several kinds of general purpose machinery increased more than in most recent months, the government reported.

The slowdown in intermediate price increases was most pronounced among construction materials and components — items such as plywood, lumber, building paper and board, and plastic construction products. But prices for non-ferrous mill shapes, wire and cable, and flat glass rose sharply.

Much of the deceleration in wholesale prices for crude materials was due to a two-tenths of 1 percent decrease in prices for foodstuffs and feedstuffs, which had risen rapidly in the preceding three months.

Stacked Against Unions:

Court Asked to Kill Arizona Farm Law

The AFL-CIO and its United Farm Workers affiliate have asked the Supreme Court to uphold a finding that Arizona's farm labor law is unconstitutional as well as unfairly stacked against unions.

A three-judge federal district court last spring unanimously struck down the law, and the state has appealed for a Supreme Court review.

The AFL-CIO brief focused on a section of the state law aimed at preventing consumer boycotts of farm products. Its loosely-worded prohibitions against "deceptive publicity" and "untruthful" statements strike at the heart of First Amendment protections of free speech, the AFL-CIO maintained.

"So long as members of the general public enjoy the freedom to buy what they want, where they want, public discussion criticizing a seller's business methods and urging consumers on the basis of that criticism not to buy enjoys the full measure of First Amendment protection," the federation said.

The AFL-CIO brief cited repeated Supreme Court decisions invalidating restrictions on free speech and communications much less blatant than Arizona sought to impose.

The Arizona law would even prohibit many true statements, the AFL-CIO noted, and suffers from the "additional constitutional infirmity" of being "entirely one-sided."

Thus, the brief notes, while unions and their supporters couldn't urge the public not to buy farm products because of the anti-labor policies of the growers, there would be no comparable restraint on employers.

"Producers and those economically or ideologically allied with them remain entirely free to proclaim that they deserve the public's support because of their labor policies," the AFL-CIO commented. "Yet it is forbidden to urge consumers and retailers not to buy because some or all of the produce was grown under substandard labor conditions."

Overall, the AFL-CIO said, the Arizona law in almost all its provisions places "the authority of the state on the side of the employers who are anti-union" and represents a "throwback to an era which we had thought long passed."

The law would have the effect of barring seasonal workers from voting for union representation, allowing growers to pick the time for an election, denying organizers access to the fields and subjecting a long list of union actions to criminal penalties. Among offenses for which fines and jail sentences could be imposed were efforts by a union to bargain on specified "management rights" issues.

Unions Assail Proposal To Shrink Rail Lines

The shrinking of America's railroad system to a few high-density main lines, as a goal for federal policy, has drawn sharp opposition from unions in the industry.

The Railway Labor Executives Association, representing all the rail unions, voiced its views at hearings held by the Dept. of Transportation on its preliminary policy report, A Prospectus for Change in the Freight Railroad Industry.

The association registered firm dissent to any policy that would encourage abandonment of branch lines and secondary main lines as part of a restructuring process to achieve a high-density main-line rail network.

RLEA's testimony, presented by Atty. William G. Mahoney, was later supplemented by a 20-page written statement.

The drastic shrinkage policy, the RLEA warned, is not only advocated in the DOT's preliminary report, but is also being imposed by withholding financial aid under the Railroad Revitalization & Regulatory Reform Act —the so-called 4R Act—from carriers that do not conform.

"Before overseeing the destruction of a large percentage of the rail capacity of this nation," the RLEA said," it would behoove the department to attempt at least to determine whether any of the capacity will be required in the future," the RLEA declared.

It charged that in its report the DOT has "blithely ignored the future rail service requirements of the nation," which the RLEA said will probably increase as the economy expands and fuel efficiency grows more important.

The DOT report also gives "no consideration or mention of the ability or cost of re-establishing rail right-of-way that have been sold and rail lines that have been removed," the RLEA said. All this makes the report "incomplete and inadequate as a basis for restructuring our rail freight network."

Among other points made by the labor group:

- "The RLEA recognizes the vital immediate need to revivify the rail industry. . . . In our zeal to effect a cure, however, we must not create a statutory environment which encourages self-destruction as we did with our passenger train service when we enacted the Transportation Act of 1958."
- Changes in railroad bankruptcy law that slipped through Congress last year at the last minute "may have deprived employees of the bankrupts of the protections historically provided by Congress" and should be clarified.
- "Effective, adequate protection" of the interests of employees and their families must be assured in any rail restructuring.

The RLEA noted that the railroad unions believed such protections were contained in the 4R Act, but the Interstate Commerce Commission rejected that view.

"As a result," the RLEA said, "the ICC provided no protection at all in the first cases decided under the 4R Act and still provides, in many cases, less protection than the employees had received before enactment. . . . The RLEA cannot permit that travesty to occur again."

Anti-Union Alliance:

Profit Motive Links Industry, Right Wing

The alliance between big business and the fringe groups of the far right is explored in the December issue of the American Federationist in an article dealing with the labor law reform battle in the 95th Congress.

Corporate interests had a clear financial stake in the outcome, the article notes, and not just in terms of hampering union efforts to organize those plants and establishments that are still without union representation.

The author, James I. Kaplan, stresses the broader business interest in lessening labor's influence on a wide range of issues that can affect corporate profits—from more effective job safety and health to expanded consumer protections and tax policies.

Kaplan, who was the 1977-78 intern in the AFL-CIO Departments of Publications and Public Relations, finds "disturbing" the deliberate tailoring of the employer campaign to the hysteria scare tactics of the far right.

Thus, targeted groups were flooded with propaganda designed to show that a majority of the Senate has been "bought by the union bosses"—thus justifying the filibuster tactics. Cartoons showed union steamrollers about to run over the American public.

During most of the years since World War II, the article suggests, business didn't have to resort to such "desperation" tactics because it had things pretty much its own way in both Congress and the Executive Branch.

The Senate rules, which allow 41 of the 100 senators to block legislation through a filibuster, obviously were one reason why the legislation which passed the House with relative ease was thwarted in the Senate.

But there are other contributing factors that gave the filibuster the strength to continue, Kaplan notes.

In the Senate, labor law reform was not brought to the floor until after the long and bruising debate over ratification of the Panama Canal treaties. This delay lost the momentum of coming off of a convincing House victory and also, of course, gave the opposition more time to mount its campaign to stop the bill.

Another factor, the author suggests, is that White House support for labor law reform was less effective because President Carter had used up his political chips persuading several conservative southern senators to vote for ratification.

Kaplan examines the relatively greater support that labor law reform received from southerners in the House as compared with the Senate.

While 29 southern representatives voted for labor law reform—about 27 percent of the total from the former Confederate states—Tennessee's James Sasser was the only southerner to vote to end the filibuster in the Senate.

An important distinction, Kaplan says, is that southern statewide politics are largely dominated by a conservative small-town and suburban constituency. But in the House, liberal large-city enclaves in which black and union votes are significant, gain representation. Thus, of 29 southern representatives who voted a majority of the time with COPE positions in 1977, 20 were from largely or entirely urban districts.

As the South becomes more urban and more industrial, the article suggests, "bills like labor law reform will have a better chance of passage."



CONCERN OVER the ripple effect of federal budget cuts is voiced by President Jerry Wurf at the opening of a three-day leadership conference of the State, County & Municipal Employees.

State-County Hits Plans To Cut Public Services

(Continued from Page 1)

ous streets, untreated sewage and fewer day care center for working mothers.

"Disastrous monetary policies are sending interest rates soaring and discouraging economic growth," Wurf said. With a new recession threatened, "state and local governments will need increased federal assistance to make up for tax shortfalls and to meet the needs of those out of work or in need of special services."

A spending "freeze" that doesn't allow for inflation's impact amounts to a spending cut, Wurf noted. "Even during the Nixon-Ford years," he said, "federal aid to state and local governments increased by an average of 15 percent a year."

Wurf made clear, however, his union's desire to maintain lines of communications with the Administration, and delegates gave a friendly welcome to a Labor Dept. official who addressed the convention.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, detained by an emergency situation, sent his prepared speech with Assistant Sec. Arnold H. Packer.

Marshall acknowledged differences, but said the Administration agrees with the trade union movement that sacrifices to curb inflation should be borne equally.

He said the Administration has decided not to seek a deferment of future scheduled increases in the federal minimum wage, which some officials have advocated in recent months.

"You and I know that the minimum wage is the only bulwark unorganized low-wage workers have against sweatshop wages," Marshall said.

He told the AFSCME conference that the inflationary impact of a higher wage floor would be only "a tiny fraction of 1 percent" while a deferral of the step-up would require "those at the bottom of the economic ladder to shoulder a disproportionate burden in the battle against inflation."

Assistant Sec. Packer added that the President has also decided against seeking any legislative change in the Davis-Bacon Act, which requires prevailing wages for federally-funded construction.

And to a text affirming that "no one in this Administration wants to fight inflation with a planned recession," Packer added the phrase, "or even an unplanned recession."

Rail Clerks Win Pact in N&W Dispute

(Continued from Page 1)

formerly exempted from the seniority provisions of the BRAC contract will now be available to BRAC members on a seniority basis.

- Present employees with three years' employment or who attain three years' employment will be protected against any loss of wages caused by the abolition of jobs.

In addition, other more specific provisions covering smaller groups of workers were written into the agreement.

The origins of the dispute go back to July 1976 when BRAC filed a notice with N&W asking for the negotiation of changes in the existing agreement's scope protection clause. The two sides could not get together, and in June 1978 the National Mediation Board terminated its efforts to mediate the dispute.

The union struck the carrier after a first 30-day cooling-off period. N&W, the nation's seventh largest railroad, operates lines that extend as far west as Kansas City, Mo., and as far north as Buffalo, N.Y. It is a major hauler of coal, transportation equipment, and agricultural products.

The N&W bargaining was separate from BRAC's long-standing talks with the National Railway Labor Conference on a new nationwide contract with rail industry. Although 11 other unions have reached agreement with the country's major railroads, BRAC is seeking greater wage increases than those provided in the pattern settlement.

The union's negotiators, operating under a deadline to reach a new agreement, returned to the bargaining table on Jan. 9. Under provisions of the Railway Labor Act, the union will be free to strike on Jan. 18 unless President Carter appoints a special emergency board to intervene.

The only other union which has not settled, the Train Dispatchers, is seeking to be released from federal mediation to be free to strike under the Railway Labor Act.

Community Services Project Aid To 'Stevens Country' Workers

Laurinburg, N.C.—An "encouraging" change in attitudes among workers and communities in "J. P. Stevens country" is flowing from a new community services project sponsored jointly by the Clothing & Textile Workers and the AFL-CIO.

Jo Mastandrea, an ACTWU field representative in the area and a veteran of the union's historic struggle against the Farah Mfg. Co., reports that residents in this part of North Carolina already have a greater sense of direction now that organized labor has stepped in to help them stand up for their rights.

"The workers are beginning to feel better about using the union's name to get access to places where they had been unrecognized and afraid to go," she observes in a report to the ACTWU social services department.

She said the changing attitudes are developing at a faster pace than she had anticipated from past experience, in spite of the problems of literacy and a rural area.

The program—a spinoff from the United Labor Agency for Community Services in Greenville, S.C.—is designed to help serve union members at Stevens plants in Laurinburg, and in nearby Wallace and Monroe, N.C., as well as potential union members and citizens of the communities generally, with personal and family problems and other needs, thereby creating a community climate more favorable to organized labor.

The Greenville office opened last April. After helping to set it up, Mastandrea took over the Laurinburg operation last fall. Sponsored by ACTWU, the AFL-CIO Depts. of Organization & Field Services and Community Services and the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., the project has focused on setting up community services committees among the Stevens workers themselves.

These self-help groups assist residents in dealing with such problem areas as medical care, social security, workers' compensation, handicapped and runaway children, housing, veterans' benefits, unemployment insurance, and rehabilitation and training.

Mastandrea also makes herself available through attendance at union meetings, plant visitations, and house calls. The committee building and training come slowly, she reports, but already people are gaining a new voice in the community as a result of their union involvement.

At the same time they are developing a greater sense of their own worth and dignity. For example, one worker, when asked by his foreman to train a new employee, a job he had done for years without pay, felt the time had come for a change.

"He told the committee how shocked the supervisor looked when he said he'd start the training as soon as he got word that he would receive additional pay for this extra work," Mastandrea relates. "The supervisor came back almost immediately, telling him he would receive an additional 40 cents an hour for the training.

"As he emphasized to the committee: 'I listened to the union organizers at the meetings. They told us that we had to stick together and speak up. Before, the company always showed us the door. I decided that things had to change. . . . Suddenly I had the courage to do it because I knew that we had support and help.' "

Another mark of the project's success is the number of requests for help that Mastandrea receives from community agencies.

"They feel the union has more clout than they do," she says. "Often, agency workers are not trained and are limited by administrative interpretations. They welcome this presence and help, and are working closely with me whenever possible."

AFL-CIO Shifts Convention Site

The AFL-CIO's 13th Constitutional Convention will be held in Washington, opening Nov. 15, 1979, instead of the previously scheduled Oct. 18, 1979, opening in Miami Beach, Fla.

The change in sites came on consideration of requests from the Coalition of Labor Union Women and from women members of many AFL-CIO affiliates. They pointed out that Florida was one of the states that had failed or refused to ratify the Equal Righs Amendment. The ERA proponents have adopted a policy of calling on organizations not to hold conventions in states that have rejected ERA.

The AFL-CIO, a strong supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment, found the request from CLUW and others reasonable and shifted the biennial convention to Washington.

Social Security Earnings Limit Up This Year

Persons receiving social security retirement benefits will be allowed higher outside earnings this year before their payments are cut back.

Earnings limits vary with age. Currently, persons 72 or older are not restricted on the amount they can earn without a cut in benefits. In 1982, the age cutoff will drop to 70.

For the bulk of retirees, aged 65 to 72, the 1978 limit of $4,000 will be raised to $4,500 this year. Above that amount, a retiree will lose $1 of benefits for each $2 of earnings.

The earnings limit in this category will rise to $5,000 in 1980 and by $500 annual increments to reach $6,000 in 1982. Thereafter the increase each year will be tied to average wage levels.

Social security beneficiaries under the age of 65 have a lower earnings limit before benefits are reduced on the same fomula of $1 reduction for each $2 in excess earnings. The limit in 1978 was $3,240 and the earnings ceiling for this year will be $3,480. Future year ceilings will be based on a portion of average wages in covered employment.

A Different Congress

THE NUMERICAL CHANGES in the new Congress seem slight enough on the surface—three pickups for Republicans in the Senate, 11 in the House—but they could have enormous impact on the outcome of voting on key measures of concern to working people and their unions.

In the House last year, for example, three votes occurred on budget resolutions alone whose outcome this year would be reversed on the basis of the new numbers. One was a proposal by conservatives for huge budget cuts that would have undermined education, job training, public works and health programs. Pro-labor forces barely beat it back, 203-195.

Another proposal aimed at deep cuts particularly in Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare programs. It was defeated, 205-192. A third scheme was intended as a wedge for later passage of the conservative Kemp-Roth tax cut plan that would benefit the well-to-do far more than average taxpayers. This plan called for an across-the-board tax cut of $10 billion to be matched by a $10 billion cut in budget outlays—most of the cuts, of course, coming in human welfare programs. This was beaten by only 206-201.

As important as numbers is attitude. It seems that a lot of Democrats seem to have gone squeamish. This attitude is not so much reflected in the real and justified concern about getting your money's worth out of government. It's more a bending to the demagogues of the right and the pressures of the business community.

This showed up in the recent election campaign when, in many contests, it was hard to discern much difference between a supposed conservative and a supposed liberal or moderate when they started talking about human welfare issues. These were the programs they all talked of cutting back.

THE FACT IS, for a couple of reasons—new corporate political strength showing up in the form of big contributions to Democrats as well as conservatives, and new business and right wing sophistication and organization—a lot of so-called "pragmatic" Democrats are likely to go running away from a pro-people position at the first "boo" from the business and right-wing interests.

Will there be strong support for labor's position, for example, if an effort is made, as has been talked about, to weaken the protections of the Davis-Bacon Act? The act simply requires that where federal money goes into construction of a project the prevailing wage rate for the area must be paid. It's been in place for decades and was a Republican-sponsored measure.

There will be a battle of the budget, with the cutters taking dead aim on all the social programs that help people who need help most. It's nothing new. It's just that this Congress, despite a still-large Democratic majority, might feel stampeded into going the whole route. It could be a long and tough two years coming up in the 96th Congress.

—From Memo from COPE.

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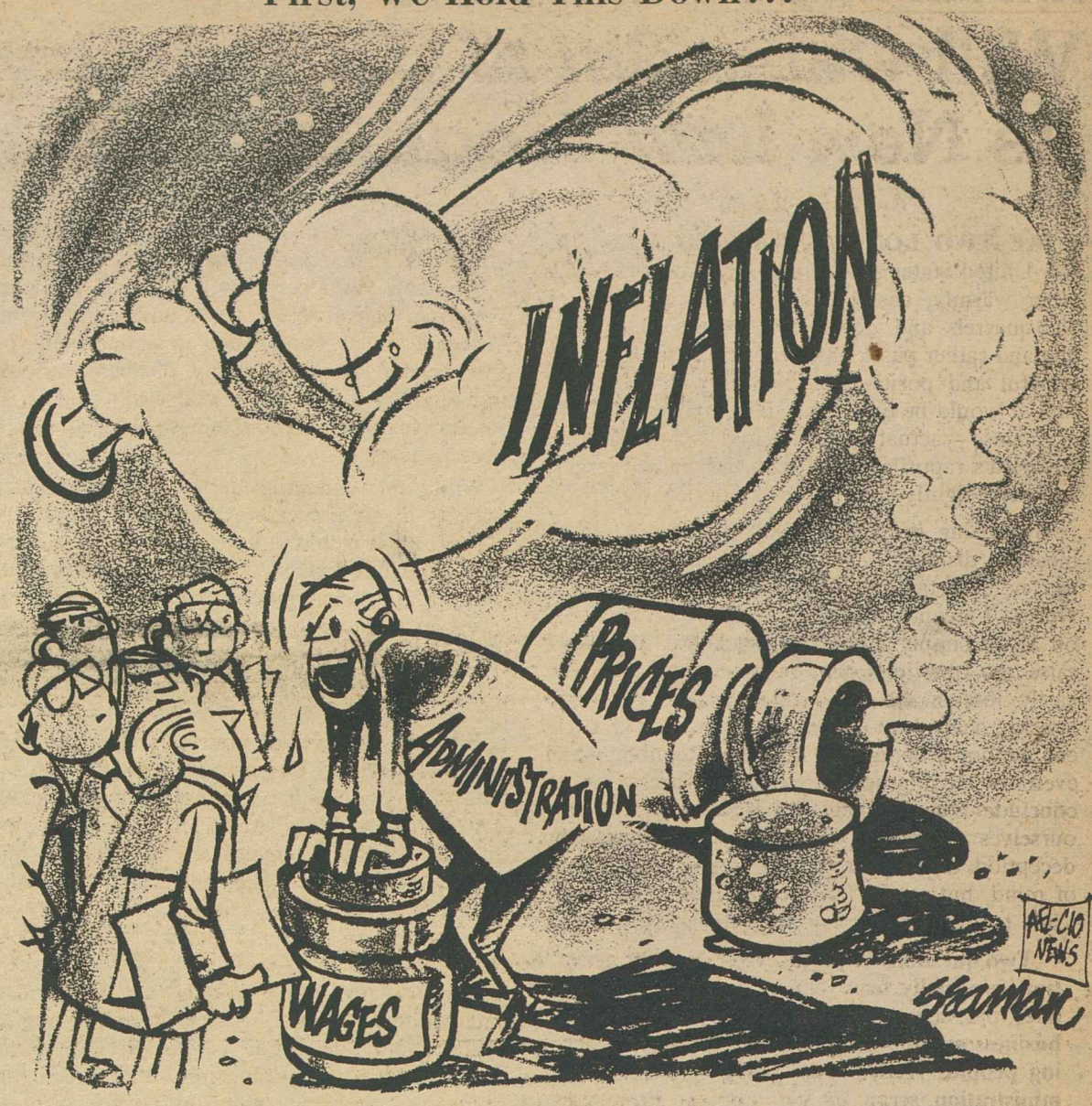
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'First, We Hold This Down . . .'



Posing as Seers:

Economic Prophets for Profit Drown in Babble of Nonsense

By Gus Tyler

PITY THE POOR ECONOMISTS for they know not whereof they speak.

Once, when economics was known as the "dismal science," its practitioners limited themselves to describing the forces at work in the present. In recent years, economists have been posing as seers foretelling the future, playing the prophet for a profit. In the process, the "dismal science" has become a joyful non-science, a babble of gleeful nonsense.

The most recent case is recorded in what happened to our country in the last quarter of 1978, when the economy boomed not only contrary to all expectations but also in total violation of the planned efforts of the President of the United States and the Federal Reserve Board to de-boom the nation's business.

In the last three months of the year, the economy expanded by 5 percent. Although Treasury Sec. Michael Blumenthal hailed the big leap upward as a sign of "strength and resilience," Federal Reserve Board Chairman William Miller commented more candidly: "That's bad news."

It's "bad news" to Miller because the Administration has been trying for the last several months to hold down economic expansion. This has been the preferred policy of both Carter and Miller to check inflation.

To cool the economy, Washington has tried to restrict the money supply by raising interest rates so as to make it harder for both makers and buyers of things to get credit. But, to the utter bewilderment of the soothsayers, the big speedup of the economy took place precisely in that period when the Administration was pressing hard on the brakes.

What happened is that human beings did not react the way the "best brains" expected. Indeed, people did just the opposite.

People are spending money as if it were going out of fashion because they really do think that it is going out of fashion. Today's buck may be worth only 50 cents tomorrow; so spend it now before you have to spend twice as much to get the same thing.

Inflation spurs people to get rid of their dollars. The result is an acceleration in the circulation of money, an acceleration that in effect is an "increase" in the money supply.

If one dollar changes hand 10 times in one day it has as much impact on buying in this country as $10 spent only once. The effective money supply is determined by the number of dollars multiplied by the velocity with which they circulate. Inflation stimulates circulation.

The hope that high interest rates would discourage people from borrowing also seems to be futile. People are ready to borrow at high rates now because they can pay back with "cheaper" dollars later.

Just to add to the ironic confusion, the high interest rates are themselves inflationary since the higher cost of money raises the cost of everything. And precisely such inflation is, for the present at least, speeding up money circulation to expand the economy.

You might expect that, with this overwhelming evidence that the economists know not whereof they speak, they would either apologize or fall silent. But they won't, because there is no profit in being no prophet.

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A Bulwark Against Sweatshop Wages

The recent decision by this Administration to continue to support the current minimum wage law, as it is written, illustrates the type of goals that we share. You and I know that the minimum wage law is the only bulwark unorganized low-wage workers have against sweatshop wages.

Our decision not to seek changes in the 1977 minimum wage law was made for several reasons. One reason was simple economics. No one could find evidence suggesting that the scheduled increases in the minimum wage would add more than a tiny fraction of one percent to the inflation rate. A decision to defer these increases would ask those at the bottom of the economic ladder to shoulder a disproportionate burden in the battle against inflation.

—Sec. of Labor Ray Marshall to the leadership conference of the State, County & Municipal Employees, Washington, D.C., Jan. 9, 1979.

More Jobs at Stake:

Will China Serve U.S. Industry As New Low-Wage 'Sunbelt'?

By Bayard Rustin

LIKE TWO LONG-ESTRANGED lovers, the United States and China have embraced each other warmly, casting aside bitter memories of old quarrels and deeply-felt hatreds. This sudden and rather passionate reconciliation has many hopeful and positive features. Yet at the same time it would be quite foolish to ignore the many problems — actual and potential — arising from America's rapprochement with the world's largest and most tightly-controlled totalitarian state.

By raising my doubts and criticisms, I don't mean to dismiss the importance and promise of the newly-established relationship with China. Nor do I mean to suggest that we would be better off if we simply ignored the Chinese. Rather, I raise my questions now because they could be easily lost in the flood of uncritical praise so lavishly heaped on everything Chinese. The present euphoria about the People's Republic—and even its most gruesome aspects—forces me to conclude that we may be collectively blinding ourselves to some unattractive realities. Self-deception, as we all know, offers temporary peace of mind, but in the long-run it almost inevitably leads to even more serious problems.

Two questions in particular cry out for attention, especially from black people. First, what does the new relationship between American business and the Chinese rulers mean for working people? And, second, will the Carter Administration scrap its commitment to human rights in deference to China's heavy-handed and deeply-entrenched governing elite?

In the area of economics, one thing is quite clear: American business views China as a huge pool of cheap, docile and rigidly-disciplined labor. Whereas labor-intensive companies once turned from the northeastern states to the sunbelt states, they now look toward China as the new low-wage Mecca. In the eyes of American business leaders, China offers untold possibilities for expansion and huge profits won at the expense of defenseless workers.

While it is still too early to estimate the full impact of this low wage Asian "sunbelt" on American workers, particularly those in semi-skilled or unskilled manufacturing jobs, several recent cases suggest what the future may hold.

Last fall two American apparel companies—Prestige Sportswear of Boston and Oxford Industries of New York—concluded a preliminary deal with the Chinese to construct and equip plants in two major cities. Because China lacks hard currency, the American companies agreed to establish a barter system with their Chinese clients. In other words, instead of demanding cash for the plants and equipment, the American companies will be "paid" with finished products, in this case sports clothes and corduroy suits. These apparel items manufactured by low-paid Chinese workers (the per capita income of China is less than $400 per year!) will then find their way to American retail outlets and sell at normal American prices. Under such an arrangement, our own apparel workers—many of them seriously underemployed and underpaid—will find it impossible to compete with Chinese workers earning mere pennies.

While the emerging barter system threatens workers in an immediate and direct way, other jobs are endangered indirectly by capital outflows from the United States to China. Simply put, this means that when an American company decides to invest in Chinese-based operations, it has fewer financial resources to invest in job-creating activities in the United States. Subsequently, fewer jobs develop here as new jobs open in China.

Business leaders, of course, argue that large capital exports to China, and a steady influx of cheap Chinese products will not seriously threaten American jobs. Flourishing U.S.-China trade, they insist, will actually create jobs in America. Such an argument might make sense if we planned to export finished consumer goods like automobiles, refrigerators and vacuum cleaners. But the great bulk of American export to China will consist of agricultural commodities and, to a much lesser extent, high technology items like computers. Neither agriculture nor sophisticated computer and communications industries offer much hope of new employment opportunities for displaced workers. While "free trade" certainly has its theoretical attractions, it makes little sense for the average American manufacturing employee.

Now, let us consider the question of human rights, a question which is intimately connected to the economic problems.

Aside from a few devoted Maoists, most people agree that the Chinese government is oppressive, totally undemocratic, and frequently prone to use force and outright terror in achieving political ends. Workers cannot organize trade unions or political parties. The press is controlled exclusively by the ruling elite. In short, the Chinese people —and their counterparts in other totalitarian states—have no human rights or freedoms. To be sure, all this may change some day, but there is scant evidence that supposedly liberal, pro-Western Chinese leaders like Teng Hsiao-ping or Hua Kuo-feng have much respect for basic civil rights.

While history may some day show that President Carter's bold decision to recognize China was a stroke of political and strategic genius, our triumph will surely seem less than magnificent if we cynically abandon the struggle for human rights, and seek to modernize China at the expense of jobs and dignity for America's poor and working people.

AFGE Mounts Opposition:

Carter's New Federal Pay Plan Held Unfair to Lower Grades

A **WHITE HOUSE** plan to reshape the federal pay system is discriminatory against low-paid workers, most of whom are women and minorities, President Kenneth T. Blaylock of the Government Employees charged.

President Carter "is hitting at the wrong end of the pay scale," Blaylock said in pointing out that Carter wants to impose regional pay systems on lower grade clerical and technical workers while retaining a nationwide pay scale for professionals and administrative people. He said that the AFGE will vigorously oppose the discriminatory effects of the Carter plan, which would cut the pay levels of lower paid federal employees, many of whom "are barely existing at their present salary levels—with today's inflation rate."

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Blaylock declared that the pay system changes that the Carter Administration plans to ask Congress to approve have roots in a determination to "take it out of the hide of the employees." He pointed out that the latest move follows close on the heels of the President's imposition of a 5.5 percent pay raise cap on federal workers last October, despite data gathered by the Administration that "showed that 8.4 percent would be needed to achieve true comparability" with private industry, as required by the Pay Comparability Act.

"The reason that government operations are so expensive is not because the secretary types only 45 words a minute instead of 50, and because the plumber does only 28 joints instead of 35, but because of the overhead costs of the people on the non-productive side of the operations," he asserted.

Blaylock said that federal employees, who were early and strong supporters of the Carter candidacy, now have "no confidence in this President." He said they "see the continuation of the disparities in treatment by a President who was, supposedly, 'Mr. Clean'—and very highly principled."

Blaylock was questioned by Michael Arian of the Bureau of National Affairs and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE NEWEST EDITION of an annual government publication, "Statistical Abstract of the United States," offers some interesting insights into American life—where we have been, where we are today and where we may be heading in the future.

The publication, compiled by the Bureau of the Census, covers the gamut of American life, detailing everything from our average height and weight to the price of real estate in New Mexico to the rate of inflation. It is an invaluable tool for union researchers, planners, economists and politicians, among others, and a veritable goldmine for trivia addicts.

The statistics tell us, for example, that the American labor force grew 2.7 percent from 1976 to 1977 and broke the 100 million level in the first four months of 1978. The percentage of the population in the labor force reached 63.3 percent in early 1978.

That means, obviously, that more Americans are taking jobs—perhaps in part so families can meet the rising costs of health care. Hospital expenses per patient day in non-federal short-term hospitals, the abstract reported, rose from $81 in 1970 to $173 in 1976, an average annual increase of 13 percent.

Or perhaps more people are working in an attempt to cope with the overall inflation rate—the Consumer Price Index increased 36 percent in the United States between 1973 and 1977. During the same period, the abstract reports, the index increased 95 percent in the United Kingdom, 63 percent in Japan, 52 percent in France, and 48 percent in Sweden. Among the leading western economic powers, only West Germany had a smaller increase, 23 percent.

Another change in the labor force is a 116 percent increase in lawyers over 1970. In 1976, according to the abstract, 32,300 law degrees were conferred. In the same 1970 to 1976 period, law degrees conferred on women increased from 5.4 percent of the total to 19.2 percent.

Another item of interest to women—and to men as well: approximately 1.2 million legal abortions were performed in 1976, a ratio of 361 per 1,000 live births. Of the 3.2 million live births in 1976, 468,000, or 15 percent, were to unmarried women.

ON THE BUSINESS SIDE, the abstract says the business failure rate declined 20 percent between 1976 and 1977, thus continuing the improvement since the slowdown of 1975, when the failure rate was 43 per 10,000 concerns.

Housing starts reached two million in 1977, an increase of 29 percent in one year. This is still below the high of 2.4 million recorded in 1972. Single-family housing starts were up to a record 1.5 million units in 1977. While the abstract makes no predictions, recent high interest rates are expected to slow this growth dramatically in the months ahead.

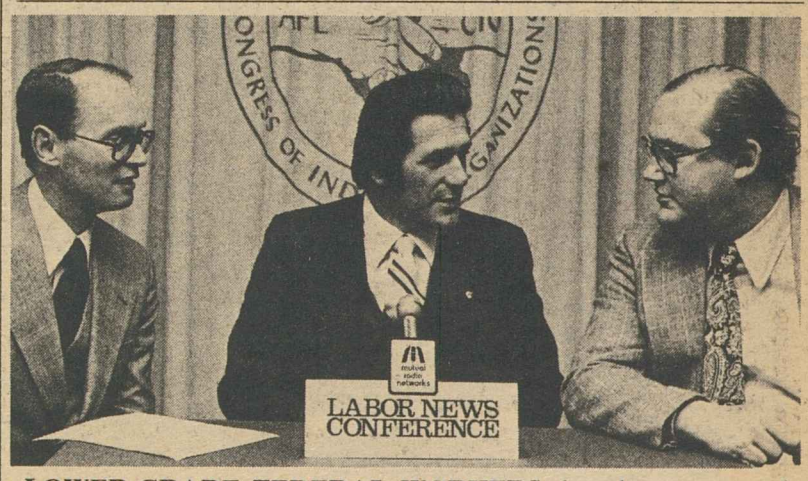
A couple of interesting items on the import front:

• U.S. crude oil imports reached 2.4 billion barrels in 1977, an increase of 24 percent over 1976. Saudi Arabia and Nigeria continued as the major suppliers, providing a cumulative 38 percent. Imports from Mexico rose from 32 million barrels in 1976 to 65 million in 1977.

• The number of new passenger cars imported into the United States increased from 2.0 million in 1970 to 2.8 million in 1977. Imports from Canada comprised nearly the same share of the total in 1970 (34 percent) as in 1977 (30 percent), but the Japanese have totally overwhelmed the West Germans in the American market. The Japanese share of the U.S. import market increased from 19 percent in 1970 to 48 percent in 1977, while the West German share declined from 34 percent to 15 percent over the same period.

All those imported cars figure in another statistic—total retail sales. In 1977, total sales hit $708 billion, more than 90 percent above the 1970 sales of $371 billion.

What the bewildering array of statistics shows is that the United States is a nation in continuous change. Here are the hard facts to enable each observer to try to make sense of a great kaleidoscope.



LOWER-GRADE FEDERAL WORKERS, largely women and minorities, will be the hardest hit if Congress approves the pay system changes that the Carter Administration wants, Government Employees President Kenneth T. Blaylock, center, charged on Labor News Conference. Reporters questioning the AFL-CIO vice president were Michael Arian, left, of Government Employee Relations Report and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio

How to Buy:

Inflation of 1979 Promises Little Relief for Consumers

By Sidney Margolius

THE INFLATION OF 1979 threatens to be almost as frightening as the 1978 massive rise in prices.

In 1978, experts had predicted that living costs would go up 5 percent to 7 percent. Instead, they shot up a staggering 9 percent by early winter, led by a 12 percent leap in food prices.

Manufacturers of food, drugs and many other products are still boosting their prices in an attempt to establish new levels in case the government makes present voluntary price restraints mandatory.

One shopper complains she paid $14 for double circline fluorescent tubes that last year cost $12. Another says nose drops were raised in one month from $1.49 to $1.79. Prescription drugs in general have gone up 50 to 75 cents.

Another shopper complains that she had to pay 90¢ for a 6.5 ounce can of tuna and 95¢ for a dozen eggs. Frozen orange juice costs over $1 for a 12-ounce can, up 15¢ over last year. Bacon is over $2 a pound, cookies have gone up four cents in just the past three weeks, canned fruits are a nickel over last year, corn flakes are 8¢ more, and paper towels are four cents more.

Sugar, which had dropped, is now back up 16¢ for five pounds, and American cheese costs 22¢ more a pound than a year ago. A holiday turkey or ham costs 15¢ more a pound this year.

At the same time, fuel oil is up 4¢. So is gasoline. Prices on 1979 cars have been hiked another $300, and mortgage rates have topped 10 percent —the highest level in modern times.

Some manufacturers have chosen to go the other way: concealing increases by reducing the quantity. A paper manufacturer has reduced its rolls from 120 to 100 towels. Some gin and other distillers have reduced the proof of their beverages from 86 to 80.

This is the situation we have to cope with as we enter 1979.

What can you expect in '79? It will be another year of at least trotting inflation, although possibly not as reckless as 1978's 9 percent gallop. Food, housing, home operating, car and medical expenses will again be your biggest problems, the ones you'll need to watch most closely.

You may also have to deal with a recession. Chances of one are 60-70 percent, government economists say.

Food prices are expected to rise again anywhere from 6 to 10 percent; probably around 8.

Housing expenses are another serious dilemma. These costs rose a solid 10 percent last year, and homeowners must face still further increases in heating costs this winter. Fuel supplies, however, should be adequate, even if the winter is as severe as last year, which was one of the coldest on record.

The real blow will be to young families seeking to buy homes. High mortgage rates and an expected building slump will drive many would-be buyers out of the market. It's even getting hard to find apartments, because of rising rents and the current low vacancy ratios for multifamily dwellings. However, rent hikes still have not been as severe as increases in homeowner costs.

In food, the real problems are meats and produce. Both beef and pork are high this year. Turkey prices are now up, too, despite abundant supplies, and only chicken remains relatively reasonable. If chicken is half or less the price of chopped beef (its usual competitor for your food dollar) it's the better value.

TRADITIONALLY, CONSUMERS meet high meat prices by reducing consumption through use of meat-extenders such as casseroles, stews, etc., and use of extenders such as soy granules and oatmeal.

But while meat prices have shot up 18 percent this year, so have produce prices. The increases have hit every category: fresh, frozen and canned. Wholesale prices for canned fruits and vegetables were raised 7 to 8 percent this year. Only fear that consumer price resistance might develop has kept the increases even at that level, reports Supermarket News, a trade paper.

It will take all your shopping skills to defend your budget from these steep prices.

In buying frozen vegetables, which are a winter mainstay, stick to the simplest version. You can actually pay anywhere from 40 to 89¢ a pound—more than twice as much—depending on the version and brand.

For example, researcher Jane Harmon found she could buy green beans in a 32-ounce pour bag in a house brand for 40¢ a pound. The same beans sold for 34¢ in a 10-ounce package, which comes to 54¢ a pound. A name brand of green beans in butter sauce costs 50¢ for a nine-ounce box. That's at the rate of 89¢ a pound.

You also need to watch package sizes as well as prices. Some brands are 10 ounces, others just nine.

Several vegetables mixed together and given an exotic foreign name often command premium prices; for example, 99¢ for a 10-ounce box. This is really $1.60 a pound.

You can also save big on house-brand frozen orange juice. We found house brands selling for 20 to 29¢ less than name brands.

Soup to Nonsense:

Be Ye Merry Here and Now — The Price Goes Up Tomorrow

By Jane Goodsell

CAN YOU REMEMBER ground top round at 67 cents a pound, nickel phone calls, quarter tips, two-for-a-penny licorice whips, blueplate specials for 90 cents and $80 monthly rents?

Back in those dear departed times first-run movies cost nine thin dimes, and you could buy a "better" dress for $40, maybe less, and get for under 20 thou a house that costs six times that now.

And buy a brand new Chevrolet for less than an old one costs today. Fifty cents supplied you with ice cream cones for your kin and kith.

And you could feed an army corps for only very slightly more than what it costs in times like these to board a pair of pekinese.

Two dimes would buy a chocolate shake or candy enough for a stomach ache, a glass of beer or a good cigar and a nickel got you a Hershey bar.

A quarter purchased a ham on rye or coffee and a piece of pie, a paperback book or magazine or a gallon or so of gasoline.

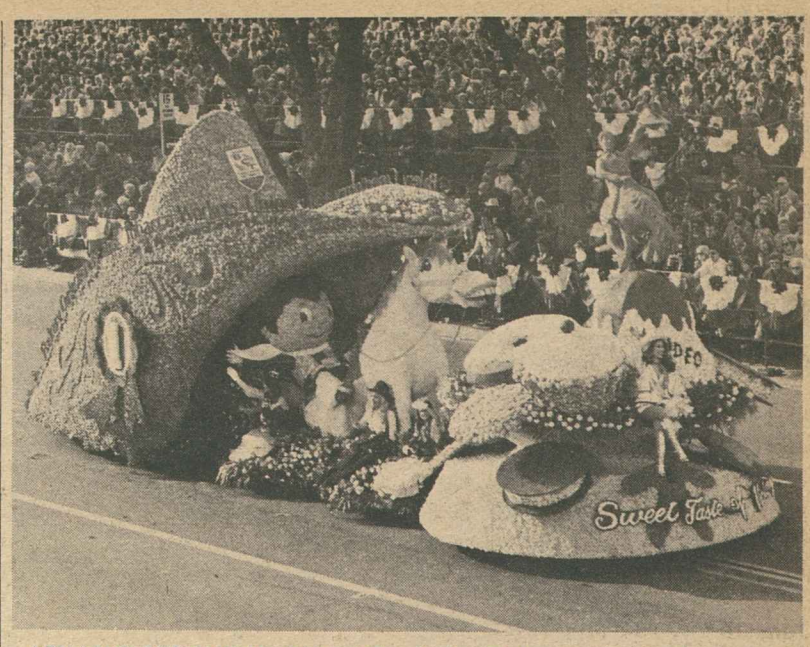
With four dollar bills or even three you could have yourself a shopping spree, and pick up such frills and furbelows as a fetching scarf and some filmy hose.

With a five-dollar bill or thereabout you had enough for dining out on soup du jour and a nice fillet washed down with a glass of beaujolais, while with ten in hand you could well afford to wine and dine like a drunken lord.

IF YOU ARE PRONE to reveries of bygone bargains such as these, take heart from what I have to say: if prices seem sky-high today they could be worse—and I would bet that worse is what they'll likely get.

As prices climb and climb and climb, at some not-so-far distant time we'll view the price tags of today in a nostalgic, wistful way, and beat our breasts and sigh and weep for times like now when things were cheap.

Should this prove true or should it not, the present time is what we've got. However much we fume and fuss, we're stuck with it, and it with us. So dry your tears and wipe your brow and be ye merry here and now.



AWARD-WINNING FLOAT of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers passes in review in the 1979 Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, Calif. The BC&T float, decked out with thousands of fresh flowers, was judged the best in its category. It carried the theme, "Sweet Taste of Victory." The BC&T has sponsored a float in the annual parades for 30 consecutive years.

Employer Seminar:

Slick Lawyers Teach Union-Busting Class

Nancy Stiefel, a member of the editorial staff of Local 1199 News, published by the National Union of Hospital Employees, RWDSU, slipped into a seminar on how to bust unions. Below are excerpts from her story from the 1199 News.

By Nancy Stiefel

North Brunswick, N.J.—"We're non-union. We like it that way. We intend to keep it that way. That's how you should state your position," instructs the confident lawyer in the crisp, brown three-piece suit.

The scene is a North Brunswick, N.J., hotel. The New York law firm of Jackson, Lewis, Schnitzler & Krupman is running a seminar for health care employers on how to fight unions.

The "students" are 50 administrators from the New Jersey Association of Health Care Facilities—almost all of them middle-aged white men—and me.

Before the day is over I will have heard and recorded on my tape recorder this advice from Jackson, Lewis lawyers:

- Stall and delay when workers request a representation election. "Time is on the side of the employer," points out the instructor.
- Fire workers who might be receptive to unionization. Administrators are told repeatedly "fire them," "weed them out," "get rid of them" and, for the delicate boss, "maybe they'd be happy someplace else."
- How to exclude workers, especially nurses, from the union bargaining unit.
- How to "stack the deck" when a representation election approaches. The trick is, "Hire new people."
- What's legal and illegal in such areas as threats, promises and spying.

Gone are the not-so-good old days of blackjacks and machine guns in the brutal strikes at Ludlow, Homestead or Harlan County. Enter the slick smiling lawyer, armed with the latest strategies to subvert workers' legal rights to collective bargaining.

The meeting's tone throughout is slick and sophisticated. It's an example of a phenomenon that is growing by leaps and bounds —law firms and consultants who collect a handsome living by selling experts' advice on how to keep the union out or, if the union is already in, how to combat it and possibly get rid of it.

Here are some of their tips on union-busting:

- "Spying surveillance: I know the union meeting's going to be held at the Holiday Inn. I park my car in the lot and I watch everybody who comes into the parking lot. That is an act of surveillance, I may not do this (under the labor law). Now, if I just happen to be coming to the Holiday Inn to attend another function and I happen to see certain people go in—I have every right to do that. That's not surveillance."
- "The employees can go to the labor board and file a petition for a decertification election, which can throw the union out. But it's not easy to get a decertification."
- "The most successful non-union companies such as Texas Instruments, Polaroid, IBM—work at it constantly, day in and day out. Just as they package a product. There is an element of all these companies that is devoted to maintaining non-union status."
- "Do you make a concerted effort to weed out all the people you don't find desirable during the probationary period? With new employees you have a golden opportunity to indoctrinate them into your method of doing business. Before any malcontents can get their hands on that employee."
- "When 30 percent of the employees have signed cards, the union can file for an election. Can you stack the deck? Yes—hire new people. Time is on the side of the employer." **(PAI)**

AFL-CIO Affiliates:

Union Conventions Scheduled for 1979

Below is a list of conventions scheduled for 1979 by AFL-CIO national and international affiliates and state central bodies. Changes and additions will be reported.

DATE	ORGANIZATION	PLACE
Apr. 22	Mechanics Educational Society	Niagara Falls, N.Y.
May 14-18	Insurance Workers	Monticello, N.Y.
May 14-19	Railway & Airline Clerks	Toronto
May 22-25	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia
June 4-15	Flint Glass Workers	New Orleans
June 14	Actors & Artistes	New York
June 18-20	Grain Millers	Minneapolis
June 20-23	Utility Workers	Washington
June 25-27	Idaho	Pocatello
July 2-6	Newspaper Guild	Providence, R.I.
July 2-6	Teachers	San Francisco
July 12-20	Coopers	Cleveland
July 16-20	Aluminum Workers	Kalispell, Mont.
July 16-20	Communications Workers	Detroit
July 25-28	Texas	Austin
Aug. 6-10	Railroad Signalmen	Chicago
Aug. 13-17	Lathers	Atlanta
Aug. 13-17	Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers	Hollywood, Fla.
Aug. 13-17	Plasterers	New Orleans
Aug. 16-18	Montana	Helena
Aug. 18-24	Typographical Union	St. Paul, Minn.
Aug. 26-31	Allied Industrial Workers	Atlanta
Sept. 9-12	Minnesota	Minneapolis
Sept. 10-14	Painters	Chicago
Sept. 10-15	Amalgamated Transit Union	Los Angeles
Sept. 12-13	Public Employee Dept.	Washington
Sept. 14-16	Vermont	Burlington
Sept. 16-20	Illinois	Springfield
Sept. 17-20	Florida	Hollywood
Sept. 17-22	Oregon	Coos Bay
Sept. 19-20	Industrial Union Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 21-22	Wyoming	Casper
Sept. 24-26	Nebraska	Lincoln
Oct. 8	Telegraph Workers	Vancouver, B.C.
Oct. 15-19	Woodworkers	St. Paul, Minn.
Oct. 17-19	West Virginia	Charleston
Oct. 24-26	Georgia	Jekyll Island
Oct. 29-31	Train Dispatchers	Chicago
Nov. 1-3	Massachusetts	Boston
Nov. 11-14	International Labor Press Association	Washington
Nov. 12-13	Union Label & Service Trades Dept.	Washington
Nov. 12-13	Maritime Trades Dept.	Washington
Nov. 13-14	Dept. for Professional Employees	Washington
Nov. 28	Flight Engineers	Jerusalem, Israel
Nov. 28-30	Oklahoma	Tulsa

Georgine Scores Move To Scuttle Davis-Bacon

The AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. has alerted its affiliates to a new attempt to scuttle the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law by branding it inflationary.

Building Trades President Robert A. Georgine said the attack on the Davis-Bacon Act is being fueled by a "slanted" report that has been circulated by the General Accounting Office. A draft of the GAO report, which is subject to revision before going to Congress, concluded that the law is no longer necessary and claimed that Labor Dept. wage survey regulations result in excessively high area prevailing wage determinations.

Georgine wrote presidents of affiliated unions that the Labor Dept. has challenged "almost every one of the GAO conclusions." But if the report goes out without major changes, the Building & Construction Trades Dept. has the facts to refute its allegations.

In a backup staff memo, Georgine said the allegation that the Davis-Bacon Act is inflationary is merely "camouflage" for an attempt to wipe out all fair labor standards.

"The fundamental principle of the Davis-Bacon Act is as valid as when it was promulgated in 1931," Georgine said. The law's intent "was and still is to prevent the federal government from causing or contributing to the erosion of established wage conditions through its construction programs."

Critics assume that the public interest requires that federal construction be built "with the cheapest labor available," Georgine noted.

But in fact, he stressed, "the prevention of the undercutting of local wage conditions is as socially desirable as insuring equal employment opportunity, occupational safety and health, and environmental protection."

As for the supposedly inflationary impact of prevailing wages, Georgine noted that the major causes of higher construction costs are land, costs of materials, soaring interest rates and higher profits.

None of these cost factors, he pointed out, would be dampened by gutting the Davis-Bacon Act.

Seeley Named to Social Security Post

Barrett K. Seeley has been appointed an assistant director in the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security succeeding James R. O'Brien, who died in February 1978.

Seeley, who is 42, has been a staff representative in the federation's Dept. of Education since June 1975. He is a former member of the Railway & Airline Clerks and was an intern on the AFL-CIO education staff in 1970. Following the internship, he spent four years with Group Health Association of America.

Seeley is a graduate of the University of Minnesota in political science. His responsibilities in the Dept. of Social Security will cover workers' compensation and unemployment insurance.





BLOOD AND GORE were a specialty on early radio horror shows of Sid Brechner, now the broadcast recording engineer for the AFL-CIO. At left, a slow twist on crispy celery was used to create the sound of bones and tendons snapping in a victim's neck. Squashing grapefruit, right, was Brechner's sound effect for brains being whacked open by a mad axeman.

AFL-CIO Sound Engineer Helps Hit Play Recreate Radio's Heyday

For a person who sits in on dozens of union conferences and conventions every year, Sid Brechner doesn't look like the type that has been an accessory to more killings, maimings and executions than he can remember.

As horror-filled as his past is, Brechner shows no remorse, particularly since all of his acts of violence were strictly legal.

It was his job in the early days of radio to send chills through older folks and scare the wits out of youngsters—if they dared stay up late on Sundays to tune in on the "Hermit's Cave."

Today Brechner is the broadcast recording engineer for the AFL-CIO. But back in the 1930s he was the sound effects specialist at radio station WJR in Detroit where the scary weekly series originated.

Because of his knowledge of the early days of radio drama and his expertise in producing sound effects, he was recently enlisted as a consultant to the Broadway-bound play, "The 1940s Radio Hour," which drew SRO audiences at the Arena Stage in Washington.

At the closing performance of the eight-week stand, Writer-Director Walton Jones and cast of the play expressed their thanks for his contribution by presenting Sid with a souvenir tape recording of one of the old Hermit's Cave programs for which he had created and executed the sound effects at WJR.

As a teenager, Brechner started at the station as a "gofer"—going for coffee and helping haul equipment for the engineers.

At first the job didn't pay a dime, he recalls. But he learned a lot by spending long hours in the radio control room and eventually won a spot as a paid member of the staff.

He initially assisted the engineers in producing sound effects before earning a chance to do them himself, and soon he was put in charge of the station's sound effects department.

Recorded special effects were already available to sound engineers in the '30s, but the scripts for the Hermit's Cave called for more than rifle shorts, falling bodies, dropping trapdoors and gurgling acids.

"We had to use our imaginations, come up with innovations," Brechner said, noting that the writers preferred to kill off their victims by more violent means—broken necks, bashed-in heads and strangulations.

Brechner said he usually was given the scripts a week before the broadcast was aired so that he could come up with the weird sounds.

"One particular show needed the effect of people walking over a floor covered with spiders," he recalled. "It took a lot of thinking, but we finally came up with something.

"We bought some of those large blue grapes — Concords — with seeds in them, put them in a box and walked on them. When you hit the seed, you got a crunch. It was very effective; the seeds gave it that extra effect of a hard shell."

It took about 20 pounds of grapes to produce the show, not to mention the mess it made of his shoes.

In the mid-1940s, Brechner had a stint with the CBS radio network in Hollywood where he worked with a number of stars, such as Lionel Barrymore, Agnes Moorehead, Charles Laughton, Hans Conreid and Bette Davis.

After returning to WJR in the late 1940s, Brechner was the engineer for the first stereophonic radio show aired in Michigan, a summer program series of the Detroit Symphony orchestra.

A member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Brechner helped organize a unit of the IBEW at WJR in the early 1950s. But the union was decertified a year later and Sid was fired.

He came to Washington in 1956 to work for the Voice of America, and the following year he joined a private firm that handled the recordings for the AFL-CIO and a number of unions. In 1968 he joined the federation's public relations staff where he is involved in the weekly production of Labor News Conference, aired on the Mutual radio network, and is responsible for the recording of AFL-CIO conventions and conferences.

With more than 41 years in radio and sound engineering, Brechner has acquired extensive expertise in the field. Five years ago he authored a special three-part analysis for Press Associates news service on the Watergate tapes in the Nixon White House, focusing on the "accidentally" erased 18-minute segment.



NO LONGER A "VILLAIN" of radio sound effects, Brechner makes recordings of union conventions and conferences.

To Ease Payroll Tax:

Labor Urges U.S. to Share In Social Security Funding

(Continued from Page 1)

portion on which workers pay taxes.

Smedley noted that employers are able to deduct their share of the social security tax as a business expense while workers pay full federal income tax on the amount deducted from their pay.

The advisory council, whose members were drawn from a broad spectrum of the community, including labor and business, invited comment on a number of issues it is considering. One of the most controversial, which is also being studied by a special panel established by Congress, deals with proposals for mandatory coverage of all public employees under the social security system.

On that issue, AFL-CIO unions are divided with unions in the Public Employee Dept. strongly opposed and the State, County & Municipal Employees in favor of universal coverage.

Smedley told the advisory group that the AFL-CIO is concerned that any proposals in this area "take account of the need for full protection of the retirement rights of the millions of public employees and retirees."

For the Public Employee Dept., Executive Director John A. McCart said any merger of the federal civil service retirement system into social security or any involuntary merger of other public employee retirement plans would be an "outrageous breach of faith."

Federal employees and many other public workers, he noted, have for years contributed to separate retirement systems on their full pay at higher rates than the social security payroll tax. The department's affiliates, he said, see universal social security coverage as "a threat to existing retirement systems." But McCart said that public jurisdictions that already have social security coverage for their workers should not be allowed to withdraw from the system, as some have sought to do as a budget-cutting maneuver.

Testifying for the State, County & Municipal Employees, Robert Kalman told the panel that AFSCME supports universal coverage with guarantees "that total pension and social security benefits provided to previously uncovered workers be at least equal to what they were entitled to under their former pension plan" and that the total contributions for social security and separate public pensions be no higher than under the previous pension plan.

Employees need both social security and private pensions, he said.

Postal Workers President Emmet Andrews and Tony R. Huerta, executive vice president of the Letter Carriers, expressed strong opposition to any merger of the civil service retirement system with social security.

"The answer of our union and our 300,000 members is an emphatic 'No,'" Andrews said. He noted that postal and federal workers are entitled to full retirement benefits at earlier ages than provided by social security if they meet length-of-service requirements, and he questioned whether such rights would be preserved under a merger of the systems.

Huerta said any cutback of civil service retirement system rights would be a breach of the employment relationship in the government service.

Among other differences, he said, federal and postal workers are not limited in their earnings after retirement while persons receiving social security payments do have a ceiling on earnings before age 70.

The advisory council includes three persons from the trade union movement—AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman; Velma Hill, vice president of the Teachers, and UAW Social Security Director Melvin A. Glasser.

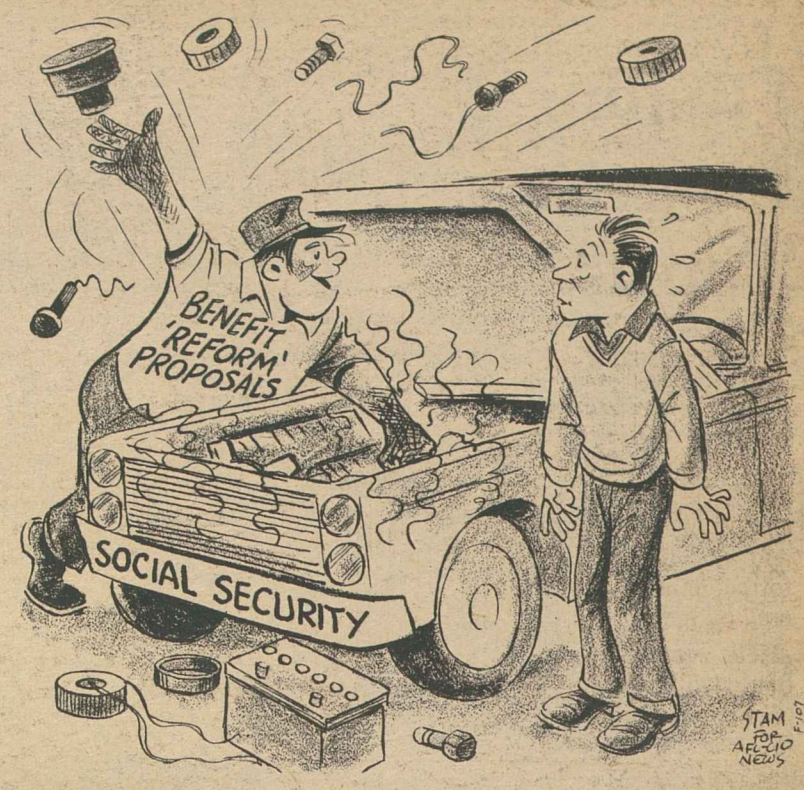
The AFL-CIO statement to the advisory council suggested some areas of improvement in social security protection, but opposed any general reduction of the age at which benefits are paid.

Priority should be given to the problems of persons "forced" into early retirement, especially for health reasons, Smedley said.

"At the present time," he said, "the definition of disability is very stringent, requiring that workers be unable to participate in any substantial gainful activity. This is particularly hard on older workers who frequently suffer from chronic ailments, are unable to work in their usual occupations and cannot secure other employment because of age and ill health."

He proposed a change in the definition of disability "to allow older workers to receive benefits if their impairments bar them from their regular occupations."

'It's Just an Overhaul!'



Hill-Burton Hospitals Pressed to Admit Poor

The AFL-CIO applauded a new government effort to get hospitals built with federal subsidies to admit more poor patients and urged some strengthening of regulations proposed by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

Basis for the HEW effort is a long-neglected section of the Hill-Burton Act, which in 1946 launched a multi-billion dollar program of federal grants and loans for construction and modernization of both public and private non-profit hospitals and nursing homes.

Facilities receiving federal funds had to agree to make their services available to all persons in their communities and to provide a reasonable amount of free or low-cost care for those too poor to pay. In a 1975 law, Congress charged HEW with the task of enforcing the requirement, even though the Hill-Burton subsidy program in its original form had been discontinued.

In a letter to the HEW, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman noted that the absence of a comprehensive national health insurance program has left "millions of low-income working people without adequate access to needed health care."

He welcomed the admission by HEW Sec. Joseph A. Califano, Jr., when the regulations were proposed late last year, that the lack of prior enforcement of the law was "inexcusable." And the AFL-CIO is "in general support of the policies" reflected in the regulations, Seidman said.

One AFL-CIO recommendation is a larger role in monitoring compliance by hospitals for the local Health Systems Agency (HSA), which is broadly representative of the community in deciding on health facility needs.

Under the proposed HEW regulations, a hospital that received Hill-Burton funds in the past could either adopt a federal plan spelling out its obligations for "uncompensated care" or establish its own plan.

Seidman said the regulations should specify that an alternative plan must meet the approval of the local HSA as consistent with community needs.

He also urged HEW to specify a sliding-scale system of payment for persons above the poverty level but still in need of assistance. And under all conditions, Seidman said, a hospital should not be allowed to turn away patients because they are too poor to pay the cost.

Seidman noted that many private hospitals have "dumped" poor patients by transferring them to public hospitals. Since some hospitals with Hill-Burton Act obligations are in neighborhoods not serving poor patients, he suggested that they be required to accept some of the surplus from less affluent areas.

"As long as poor patients have been and are being transported to public hospitals," he wrote HEW, "poor people can also be transported to suburban hospitals."

Senate Election Victors Set Spending Records

Candidates for the Senate broke all spending records in the 1978 campaign, with the 35 winners averaging nearly $1.2 million each.

A New York Times tally, based on financial reports filed with the Federal Election Commission, showed that Republicans outspent Democrats by a wide margin and all but five contested elections were won by the candidates who spent the most.

In both dollars and per capita spending, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) topped the list.

Helms, a favorite of right-wing contributors, reported gross spending totaling more than $8 million and amounting to $13.65 for each vote he received. Helms won with 54 percent of the vote.

His Democratic opponent, John Ingram, reported spending of only $258,000.

On a per capita basis, the next biggest spender was also a southern Republican who won re-election. Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina spent $5.70 for each vote he received.

The Times story lists six close contests in which the winners "dramatically" outspent the losers. Five of the six winners were Republicans. In addition to Helms, the close winners include Republicans Charles Percy of Illinois and Pete Domenici of New Mexico, each of whom outspent Democratic opponents by more than $800,000. In the closest elections of all, won with less than 51 percent of the vote, winners included Republican John Tower of Texas, who outspent his rival by nearly $1.9 million, and Republican John Warner of Virginia, who spent $1.6 million more than the Democratic candidate. The only Democratic winner in a close race spending substantially more than his opponent was Jennings Randolph of West Virginia, who spent some $220,000 more than the Republican candidate.

The newspaper story put the average spending by major party candidates for the Senate at more than $900,000, a 40 percent rise since the 1976 elections.

Incumbents as a group had substantially more money to spend than challengers, and Republicans averaged more than $1 million each in campaign spending, compared to an average of $700,000 for Democrats.

Oil Workers Spell Out Basis for New Accords

(Continued from Page 1)

er the contract proposal fell within the Carter Administration's wage-price guidelines.

Despite meetings here between OCAW President A. F. Grospiron and two top officials from the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, the union could not get a firm response to its query, Grospiron reported.

He said he was "unable to get any clear and precise answers" from federal officials on the Amoco plan. Grospiron has labeled the Administration's 7 percent wage restraint program as unfair to labor because price restrictions are not controlled. This view drew support from the Energy Action Education Foundation in Washington, D.C., which wired the OCAW:

"Unless and until the oil companies agree to limit price increases in crude oil and natural gas to an average of 7 percent per year, instead of an expected rise of at least 20 percent in 1979, it is the height of chutzpah for them to ask your members to be satisfied with a 7 percent wage increase."

Grospiron and the union's other negotiators said they are bargaining "as usual" with the industry, seeking to gain the best possible terms for the 60,000 refinery workers covered by the contracts. The current industry hourly wage average is $8.82.

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Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

EEOC Role Extended To Federal Service

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has replaced the Civil Service Commission as the enforcer of non-discrimination policies within the federal government. The changeover took effect Jan. 1 under a presidential Executive Order.

EEOC will have jurisdiction over complaints from federal employees of discrimination based on age, sex or physical handicap, as well as race, color, religion and national origin.

HEW Policy Spurs Use of Generic Drugs

(Continued from Page 1)

as about the same share of profit.

Sec. Joseph A. Califano, Jr., of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare said that a long series of investigations over the years had "repeatedly demonstrated that consumers needlessly pay huge premiums to purchase brand-name drugs instead of their generic versions."

HEW and the Federal Trade Commission also made public a model law for states to follow to permit the free substitution of generic for brand-name products. Two states, Delaware and Wisconsin, now have this type of law in effect and federal officials reported that drug prices there have fallen by 20 to 30 percent.

"We are looking for an outbreak of competition" in drug prices if the model law is adopted by the other states, FTC Chairman Michael Pertschuk said, because "current state laws artifically restrict the marketplace."

Budget Battle to Test New Congress

Funding of Programs Top Issues

By David L. Perlman

The 96th Congress opened for business with skirmishes over House and Senate rules, election of party leaders, jockeying for choice committee assignments—and the first rumblings of the forthcoming battle over the federal budget.

The outcome of the budget battle will determine the extent of America's commitment to jobs for those able to work and help for those who can't, to health care, housing and the survival of cities.

President Carter will send his budget proposals to Congress on Jan. 22, and the Administration's announced anti-inflation strategy calls for clamping down on economic stimulus programs as part of a planned slowdown of economic growth.

The shape of the fiscal 1980 budget will be determined by Congress in the months ahead, but House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes of Arizona took tongue-in-cheek notice of the Administration turnabout and at the budget-cutting rhetoric of some Democrats during the election campaign.

"I welcome you to the brotherhood of fiscal conservatism," Rhodes said. House Republicans, he promised, "will be doing our very best to provide you with many opportunities to put your vote where your campaign rhetoric was."

But Rep. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-Mass.), who was re-elected Speaker of the House, had some gentle words in reply.

"We must set priorities that promote the dignity and security of all Americans," he urged. Control of inflation must not come through "tolerating higher unemployment." And while unacceptable budget deficits must be avoided, "we must find a way to provide adequate health care to all Americans."

In one of the rare situations where party lines are unbroken in the House, the Democratic leadership put through a series of rules changes designed to speed the legislative process and minimize opportunities for delaying tactics.

The changes, all endorsed by the Democratic caucus, eliminate some needless procedural votes, give the Speaker somewhat more flexibility in scheduling votes and allow members of the House Budget Commit-

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AFL-CIO News

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Marshall Assails Attempt To Undercut Davis-Bacon



SIX-DAY OBSERVANCE of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s 50th birthday in Atlanta included the presentation of an award to President Murray H. Finley of the Clothing & Textile Workers. Making the presentation of the Labor Social Responsibility Award is Coretta Scott King, the slain civil rights leader's widow. **(Story, Page 6.)**

Cites Need for Law, Errors in GAO Study

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall called on the General Accounting Office to withdraw an error-riddled report attacking the Davis-Bacon Act, which he said is still needed to protect both construction workers and responsible contractors.

The GAO has circulated for comment a draft report calling for repeal of the prevailing wage law, which has long been a target of anti-union employers and their right-wing allies in Congress.

Marshall sharply chided the agency for its apparent unconcern about "the importance of this law to American workers."

He warned that if the GAO report is made final, "it will also raise the specter among American workers that, in the good name of the fight against inflation, there will be open season on the protective labor legislation for which they have fought for half a century."

Repeal of the 1931 law, the Labor Dept. said, would not contribute significantly to reducing inflation but would instead "undermine a basic legal protection of the wages of American workers in one of the largest, most economically unstable, and complex industries."

In a letter to Comptroller Gen. Elmer B. Staats, Marshall expressed sharp disagreement with the GAO report's premise that the law is unnecessary, has an inflationary impact on the economy, and should be scrapped.

"In my view, the Davis-Bacon and related acts continue to provide a much needed wage protection program for American workers and business opportunity for local contractors in an industry charac-

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Six Percent Joblessness Marks '78

By James M. Shevis

Unemployment in December was virtually unchanged at 5.9 percent, about the annual average rate for 1978, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The slight upward change in the jobless rate—one-tenth of 1 percent from November to December—was regarded by BLS as "too small to be statistically significant." The increase, which was the first in five months, resulted partly from increased joblessness among adult men and teenagers.

For all of last year, the nation's jobless rate averaged an even 6 percent, a sharp drop from the 7 percent annual average in 1977 and the 7.7 percent average in 1976. In December 1977, the jobless rate stood at 6.3 percent.

In a year-end review of employment and unemployment figures, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall said that "substantial progress has been made in our efforts to put Americans

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With Clothing-Textile Union:

Shoe Workers Vote Approval of Merger

Miami Beach, Fla.—Merger of the 25,000-member United Shoe Workers union into the Clothing & Textile Workers won overwhelming approval of the more than 200 delegates to a special USW convention here.

Already approved in principle by the ACTWU executive board and the union's regular convention last year, the merger is expected to become effective in February with final approval coming from ACTWU's 509,000 members. A referendum will get under way Jan. 25, ACTWU said.

The merger agreement provides for the creation of a shoe division in ACTWU which will be headed by USW President George O. Fecteau as its director. USW Sec.-Treas. Angelo G. Georgian will serve as assistant director. Both will become ACTWU vice presidents and will serve on the union's executive board. Also, all USW vice presidents will become regional directors of the shoe division for six-year terms.

The USW-ACTWU merger follows by a little over a year the merger of the Boot & Shoe Workers and the Retail Clerks. Both shoe unions had been hurt by declining memberships, the result of severe job losses stemming from skyrocketing imports during the past 10 years.

Georgian, who keynoted the special convention, in the absence

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Court Bars SEC Role In Pension Regulation

A unanimous Supreme Court agreed that Congress did not intend most pension plans to be regulated by a 1933 law designed to protect buyers of stocks and bonds from fraud.

Its decision was in accord with the position taken by both the Labor Dept. and the AFL-CIO in briefs to the Supreme Court. An opposite view had been taken by the Securities & Exchange Commission, which argued that a person who takes a job at a plant whose employees are covered by a noncontributory pension plan is in the same legal position as a prospective purchaser of a company's stock.

The case that reached the Supreme Court had its origins before Congress passed the 1974 pension plan reform law. A retired member of the Teamsters was denied a pension because of a break in service, and his lawsuit contended that the information given employees about the plan didn't adequately point out the obstacles to qualifying for benefits.

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Oil Contract Pattern Won at Major Firms

Denver—The Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers approved new two-year contracts with the nation's oil producers covering two-thirds of its 60,000 members employed by the petroleum refining industry.

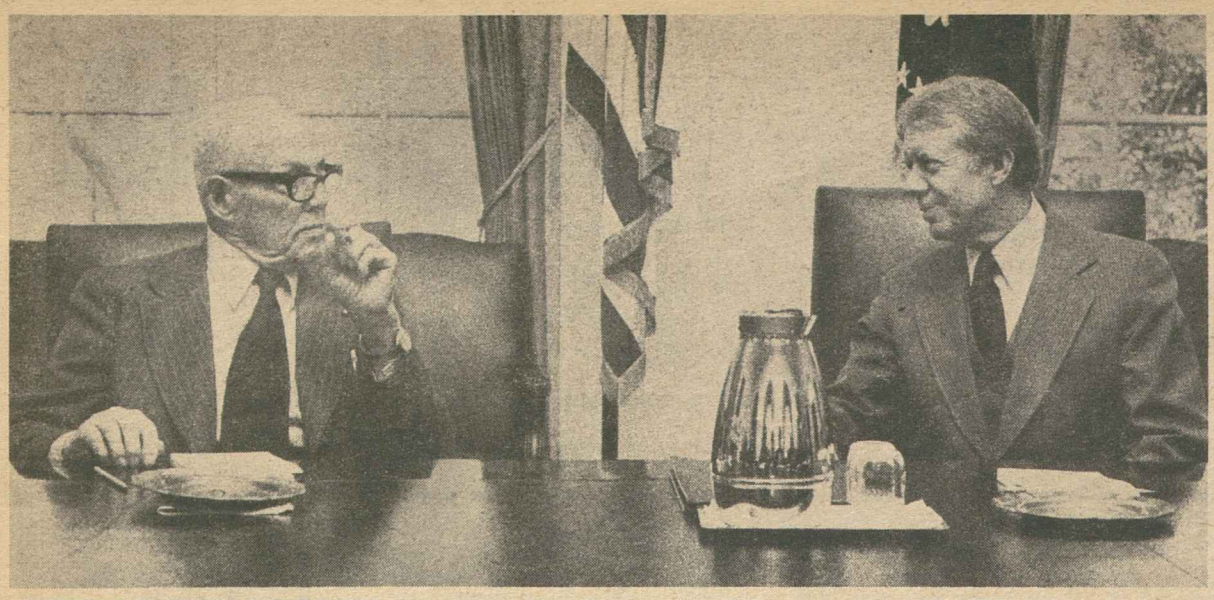
The pacts, retroactive to Jan. 8, follow a pattern established in a settlement with the Gulf Oil Corp., which agreed to wage increases of 73 cents an hour in the first year and 5 percent in the second year. The agreement covers 3,250 workers at 13 Gulf locals.

Including Gulf, 26 companies employing 39,600 workers have settled with the union, which has more than 400 contracts with 100 oil firms.

The union's locals are now at various stages of ratifying the contract terms. Some bargaining units have already completed the process. They include two Gulf units at Santa Fe Springs, Calif., and Toledo, Ohio; two Cities Service units at Lake Charles, La., and two units at Energy Cooperative, Inc.'s East Chicago, Ind., facility.

Meanwhile, strikes over local issues delayed voting on the new agreement at three Gulf Coast locations. At Port Arthur, Tex., a walkout by 140 Gulf Oil Corp. office workers was honored by 2,250 re-

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WHITE HOUSE MEETING brought a "frank discussion" between an AFL-CIO delegation and President Carter. "I think we cleared the air," AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters. "We'll be able to communicate better." The union participants besides Meany were AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Vice Presidents Paul Hall, Jerry Wurf, Martin J. Ward, Sol C. Chaikin, Lloyd McBride and William W. Winpisinger.

McBride Alerts Carter To Crisis at Shipyard

Pittsburgh—The Steelworkers advised President Carter that its members at the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding Co., have been forced into an "extremely serious confrontation" with the company over the fundamental issue of union recognition.

Although the union won a representation election as the bargaining agent for some 19,000 workers at the shipyard a year ago, the company has refused to engage in good-faith negotiations on a contract, USWA President Lloyd McBride said in a letter to Carter.

McBride noted that it took nine frustrating months of legal maneuvers by the company before the union was finally certified as bargaining agent by the National Labor Relations Board last October. A week later, the shipyard's conglomerate owner, the Tenneco Corp., announced that it would refuse even to meet with the union's negotiators.

"The company has determined to exploit each of the loopholes which still infest our nation's labor laws," and although it will surely be found guilty in the end, it has nothing to lose because present law provides no meaningful penalty," McBride pointed out.

"All that the employees ask is that the company recognize their union and bargain in good faith as the law requires," he said. "Since the government seems powerless to enforce the law within any meaningful time, the only recourse left to the workers is to enforce the law themselves by an effective unfair labor practice strike."

McBride said that the union's full resources are now committed to support the shipyard workers, who chose the USWA over an independent union by a substantial margin on Jan. 31, 1978.

"Subject to the democratic decision-making processes of the Newport News local union," he added, "the strike will begin at the most opportune time."

McBride said that he was well aware that a strike at Newport News would have far more than regional consequences. The shipyard is the largest private builder of new vessels for the Navy.

"The repercussions will extend to the national economy, your inflation-fighting effort, and our national defense," McBride wrote the President. "I have explored every alternative, but the company's intransigence eliminated each option."

As recently as Dec. 28, McBride noted, the union asked Tenneco officials to sit down and discuss the dispute with USWA leaders at a meeting with Labor Dept. officials in Washington.

"We appeared that day and met with department officials," he observed. "The company, however, did not show up. Increasing numbers of Newport News workers are now translating their resentment of the company's defiance of national labor law into calls for action."

McBride said that "no honest union could conscientiously try to curb their legitimate determination to redress the shabby treatment they have received from their employer. To do so would only allow Tenneco to continue thumbing its corporate nose at the law, and encourage hundreds of other employers to do the same."

R-T-W Aide Loses Notary Commission

Jefferson City, Mo.—A staff member of Missouri's "right-to-work" organization has had his commission as a notary public revoked as a result of irregularities in certifying the initiative petitions that put the anti-union proposal on the ballot.

Missouri Sec. of State James Kirkpatrick revoked the commission of Stanley Dale III after an administrative hearing showed that Dale had notarized a number of petitions without witnessing the signatures of the circulators that appeared on them.

The proposed state constitutional amendment to ban union shop agreements got on the ballot despite challenges to the validity of its petitions. But voters last November decisively rejected it.

State-County Wins Connecticut Vote

Hartford, Conn. — The State, County & Municipal Employees won the right to represent a new unit of some 2,600 human service professional workers throughout Connecticut.

The state employees chose AFSCME Council 4 over the Connecticut State Employees Association by a vote of 1,088 to 851 in a runoff election last month.

The new unit includes employees of the state departments of labor, human resources, mental health, community affairs, and children and youth services, as well as other state agencies and commissions.

Union Women Quit National Advisory Unit

The two top officers of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, President Joyce Miller and Executive Vice President Addie Wyatt, have resigned from a White House advisory group that they concluded "can no longer be an effective vehicle" for furthering women's rights.

Miller, who is a vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, and Wyatt, a vice president of the Meat Cutters, said they decided to resign from the National Advisory Committee for Women after "full discussion" of the situation with other officers of CLUW.

The advisory committee was splintered after President Carter fired Bella Abzug as its "co-chair" in an acrimonious dispute over what the White House considered confrontation tactics.

The other co-chair, Carmen Delgado Votaw, then resigned as did a number of other committee members.

Miller expressed CLUW's concern that the aftermath of the dispute left the advisory group an ineffective mechanism for carrying out the "plan of action" adopted at a National Women's Conference held in Houston in late 1977.

"We respectfully urge that very strong positive action be taken by your Administration to restore the confidence of American women," she wrote Carter.

Hits Delaying Tactics:

Byrd Prods Senate For Rules Reforms

The Senate began consideration of rules changes that would make it harder for a small minority to block legislation or force concessions with the threat of delaying tactics.

As proposed by Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, the rules reforms wouldn't change the present requirement that at least 60 of the 100 senators must vote for cloture in order to limit debate. If his plan had been in effect in the last Congress, labor law reform would still have been beaten because only 58 senators voted for cloture.

But if Byrd's proposal is adopted, opponents of a bill would get only one chance to filibuster and couldn't resort to an array of other delaying tactics after cloture has been voted. The present 100-hour limitation on debate after cloture is voted could be further reduced to 12 hours if three-fifths of the Senate agreed, all procedural motions would count against the time limit, and the timetable for invoking cloture would be even swifter in the final days of Congress.

Republican Leader Howard H. Baker, Jr., indicated the possibility of bipartisan support for some rules change and appointed an ad hoc committee headed by Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska to try to develop a GOP consensus on the issue.

Meanwhile, supporters of a stronger rules reform—one which would enable less than three-fifths of the full Senate to halt a filibuster—were meeting to consider trying to strengthen Byrd's proposal through an amendment.

There appeared no realistic possibility that the Senate would this year allow cloture by a simple majority vote. But past years have seen some easing of the cloture requirement, which at one time stood at 67 votes or two-thirds of the full Senate. The last change was in 1975, when after a bitter battle over an attempt to allow cloture by three-fifths of senators present and voting, a compromise was reached on three-fifths of the full membership of the Senate.

A part of the continuing battle over rules changes has been the question of whether at the start of a new Congress the Senate has an inherent constitutional right to adopt new rules by majority vote, without being bound by restrictions imposed by a previous Congress.

The question is of more than academic interest. The old rules specify that a change in rules can only be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Senate. In previous Congresses, various parliamentary maneuvers were employed to establish that only a simple majority was necessary. The big success was in 1975, when a 51-42 vote to table a point of order was interpreted as an endorsement of that position. But the vote was subsequently voided as part of a compromise lowering the cloture requirement.

Byrd told the Senate that he is convinced that the right to change the Senate rules by majority vote at the start of the 96th Congress cannot be inhibited by the two-thirds requirement adopted in 1959 by the 86th Congress.

"The 96th Congress is not bound by the dead hand of the 86th Congress," he declared.

Byrd conceded that he hadn't always held that position. But "the experience of the last few years has made me come to a conclusion contrary to the one I reached some years ago."

Under Byrd's rules reform proposal, after cloture had been voted and 10 hours of further debate had been concluded, three-fifths of the Senate could then limit debate to an additional two hours.

A motion to proceed to consideration of a bill would not be subject to a filibuster since debate would be limited to one hour. Other delaying tactics sometimes used would be thwarted by putting routine procedural motions to a vote without debate. An example would be the customary motion to waive the reading of the official Journal of the Senate.

And after September of each year, when Congress is normally pressing toward adjournment, a cloture motion could be acted on the same day after three hours of debate. Under present rules, the Senate must wait two days before voting on cloture.

Battle over Budget Takes Shape As Key Test for New Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

tee to serve up to three terms, with a chairman eligible for a fourth two-year term. Extending the duration from the original two-term limit will give the committee a more experienced membership — and in terms of this Congress probably a more liberal tone than otherwise would have been the case.

Another House rules change would bar the practice by some organizations, most notoriously by right-wing groups soliciting money, of using letterheads or envelopes of members of Congress in their mailings.

In the Senate, Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd opened what could be a long battle over changes in the rule governing limitations on debate when opponents use filibuster tactics to keep the Senate from acting.

Byrd's proposal would not change the present requirement that a motion to limit debate must be supported by 60 of the 100 senators. But it would bar an obstructionist minority from repeated filibusters of the same bill or from continuing delaying tactics after cloture is voted. **(Story, this page.)**

A Senate Republican caucus shortly before Congress convened brought the upset defeat of one of the most conservative GOP senators by one of the party's more liberal members.

Sen. Orrin G. Hatch of Utah had confidently claimed victory in his bid for chairman of the Republican Campaign Committee, which raises and passes out funds for Senate election campaigns. He claimed 24 "sure" votes. But on a secret ballot, Sen. H. John Heinz III was the winner, 21-20.

In other Senate Republican contests, the more liberal Bob Packwood of Oregon beat conservative James A. McClure of Idaho for chairman of the Republican Conference, while conservative Jake Garn of Utah edged out moderate John H. Chafee of Rhode Island for conference secretary.

There were no contests for other leadership positions, and Sen. Howard H. Baker, Jr., of Tennessee will again be the Republican floor leader.

Hundreds of bills were introduced on the opening day of Congress, many of them repeats of legislation that failed to pass in the two years of the 95th Congress.

The new House has 275 Democrats and 158 Republicans, with two vacancies resulting from the deaths of California Democrat Leo J. Ryan and Wisconsin Republican William A. Steiger.

The Senate has 59 Democrats (including Virginia's Harry F. Byrd, Jr., who was elected as an independent) and 41 Republicans.

In American Cyanamid Strike:

Health Risk Survey Backs Union Fears

Bound Brook, N.J.—American Cyanamid Co. refuses to budge on negotiations to improve safety and health conditions, the Chemical Workers charged even as the union compiled more data that workers are being exposed unnecessarily to cancer-causing substances.

A study conducted under the auspices of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City and released at a strike rally here comes after earlier ICWU contentions of the serious health hazards at the giant chemical complex.

More than 1,000 members of ICWU Local 111 have been on strike at Cyanamid since Dec. 3 after negotiations on a new two-year contract broke down.

A key issue in the dispute centers on the union's concern that long-term exposure to chemicals made and used in the company's operations pose a serious health risk to workers.

The ICWU charged that Cyanamid has continually understated the health hazards and has concealed latent and actual illnesses in workers detected by the company's medical staff.

The Einstein College study, conducted last summer by two medical students, focuses on cancer hazards in the plant's pharmaceutical and dyes divisions as well as on the shortcomings of the company's medical department.

The findings of the study by Howard Hu and Jack Quarrier were supported by three physicians —Dr. Victor Sidel, professor of community medicine at Einstein; Dr. David Parkinson of the University of Pittsburgh, and Dr. Cate Jenkins, ICWU occupational health specialist.

The study claims on the basis of worker interviews that:

- Workers in Cyanamid's pharmaceutical division are being exposed through leaking pumps to at least one carcinogen—acrylonitrile.
- In the same division, workers are exposed to as many as nine suspected cancer-causing chemicals and "in some cases, this exposure is massive."
- Workers in the dyes division are being exposed to numerous suspected human carcinogens, as well as one proven human carcinogen.
- At least 15 cases of bladder cancer were reported in the dyes division.
- In at least two cases, the plant medical department failed to alert workers to chest x-ray abnormalities that appeared in routine examinations over several years.

Based on the findings, a major conclusion of the report called for a full epidemiological study of the Bound Brook facility by either the National Cancer Institute or the National Institute of Occupational Health.

Last May, Cyanamid was cited for fines by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration on carcinogen exposure violations and ordered to correct 11 deficiencies relating to substances suspected of causing bladder cancer.

Although the company strongly denied the charges, it subsequently paid $4,410 in fines to OSHA.

The strike rally, which drew about 200 supporters, was joined by members of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, the Paperworkers, UAW and representatives of the New Jersey AFL-CIO.

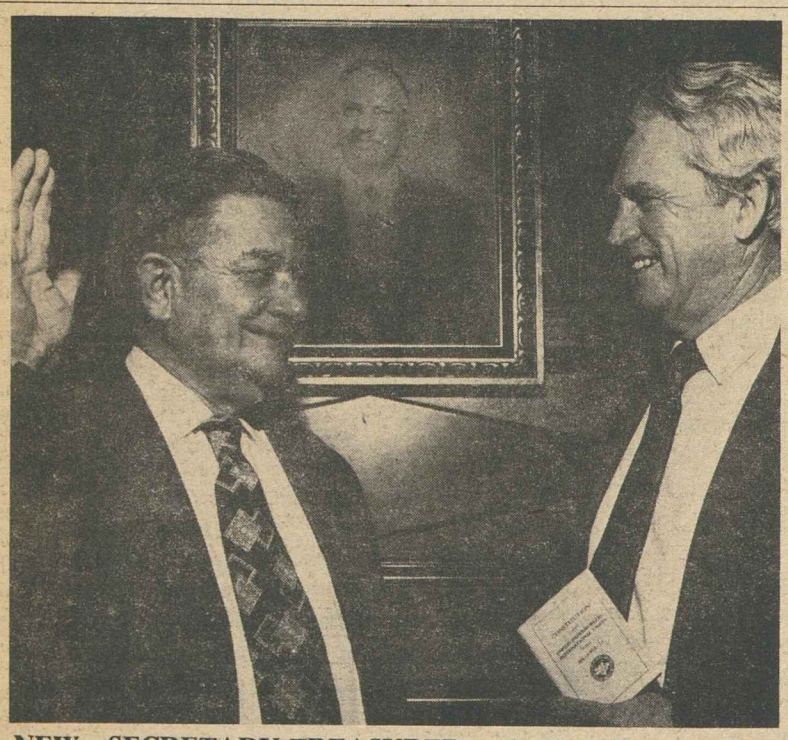
Meanwhile, OSHA is inspecting a Cyanamid plant at Willow Island, W. Va., on an "imminent danger" complaint filed by OCAW because of worker overexposure to lead and related carcinogens.

OCAW said that adequate engineering controls and proper work practices are not provided at the Willow Island facility.

"As a result of the company's unilateral action, five women workers were sterilized in order to retain their jobs," the union charged. "Two women refused to get sterilized and were forced into the janitorial pool."

OCAW said that the company should be cited for violation of the federal lead standard because of its knowledge of workers' elevated blood lead levels and because lead dust concentrations are five times higher than the current federal limit.

The union pointed out that excessive levels of lead are also found in workers' locker rooms and lunchrooms.



NEW SECRETARY-TREASURER of the Paperworkers, Nicholas C. Vrataric, is sworn in by UPIU President Wayne E. Glenn. Vrataric, who has served as acting secretary-treasurer for the past six months, is a former regional director of the UPIU. He succeeds Henry Segal, who has pleaded guilty to filing a false LM-2 report with the Labor Dept. A series of other charges against Segal was dropped.



BOYCOTT COMMITTEE of the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers (ORIT) met at AFL-CIO headquarters to consider implementation of a resolution by the hemispheric labor body to boycott all shipments of goods to Chile, Cuba and Nicaragua. The meeting was presided over by ORIT Sec.-Gen. Juan del Pino. Taking part were AFL-CIO President George Meany and other federation officials, and trade union representatives from Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Peru, Costa Rica and Canada.

Pacts Reached At St. Louis Newspapers

St. Louis—This city's two daily newspapers resumed publication as all-union operations after a 54-day shutdown that started with a dispute over the size of pressroom work crews and eventually involved all 11 unions at the Post-Dispatch and Globe-Democrat.

The dispute arose at the Post-Dispatch, but it immediately affected the Globe-Democrat, the city's morning newspaper. The Globe-Democrat is printed under contract by the Post-Dispatch and the two newspapers employ some 1,900 union members.

As newspaper owners in other cities have tried to do, the Post-Dispatch management sought drastic cutbacks in the number of pressmen through complete control of the "manning table," which is a negotiated agreement specifying the size of press crews and the hours of duty.

Local 38 of the Pressmen struck last Nov. 20, most other unions voted to observe their picket lines, and neither newspaper attempted to publish.

Contracts with all of the newspaper unions had expired the previous summer so there were multiple negotiations going on throughout the strike period. Some unions reached agreement relatively early but continued to respect the line; others reached tentative understandings but held off formal action until it was clear that there would be a general settlement, and one union, a Graphic Arts local representing lithographers and platemakers, did not reach a final settlement. But it agreed to extend its contract and continue negotiations after the newspapers resumed publishing.

The pressmen's dispute was resolved in a compromise that eliminated substantial overtime work and provided for a small reduction in the number of jobs, to be achieved through attrition without any layoffs.

The pay package accepted by the newspapers generally provided for a 6 percent wage increase in each year of a three-year contract, with cost-of-living increases if the consumer price index rises more than 6 percent but triggering off at 8 percent.

Other principal unions involved included the Newspaper Guild with 900 members affected, the Typographical Union with 400 members in one local and 200 members of a Mailers local, several locals of the Teamsters and various mechanical and service crafts.

Guiding Eyes Honors Boilermakers' Leader

Boilermakers President Harold Buoy was honored by the International Guiding Eyes for his services to the organization. He received its Gift of Sight Award.

ORIT Continues Study On Imposing Boycott

Representatives of the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers (ORIT) are continuing to study the implementation of a resolution to impose a hemispheric boycott of Chile and two other Latin American countries accused of suppressing human and trade union rights.

ORIT had authorized the boycott at a meeting in Lima, Peru, last November against Chile, Cuba, and Nicaragua, charging that the three countries had brutally and systematically intimidated workers.

Juan del Pino, the organization's secretary-general, following a two-day meeting of ORIT's boycott committee in Washington, issued the following statement:

"We have met to plan the mechanisms to comply with the Lima resolution, and to discuss the inherent problems of taking action. Such a trade union activity, because of its profound international significance, demands serious analysis in order to achieve a successful execution."

In concluding the meeting, the committee noted promises by the Chilean government to restore trade union freedoms in that country. Jose Pinera, the new Chilean labor minister, has promised to allow collective bargaining, union dues checkoff and other union rights, althrough strikes "against the national interest" are prohibited.

Three top representatives of the Chilean labor movement addressed the ORIT boycott committee. They are Ernesto Vogel, president of the Federation of Industrial Railroad Workers; Hernol Flores, president of the National Federation of Postal & Telegraph Workers, and Tucapel Jimenez, president of the National Association of Fiscal Employees.

Del Pino, who chaired the meeting, was joined by trade-union officials from Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Peru, Costa Rica, Canada, and the United States. AFL-CIO President George Meany and other federation officials were among those taking part in the discussions at the AFL-CIO headquarters.

Committee members said they were "appalled and disgusted" by the street slaying of Luis Medrano Flores, general secretary of the Unified Confederation of Nicaraguan Workers, in front of a Managuan cathedral by persons allegedly connected with the government of dictator Anastasio Somoza Debayle.

They noted current mediation efforts by representatives of the Organization of American States, "which indicate possible acceptance of a plebiscite to settle the political dispute" in Nicaragua.

The committee further noted that a boycott of Cuba is, for all practical purposes, in effect by the United States now and that it believed it was necessary to study the implications of extending that boycott with the participation of other countries in the hemisphere.

Strikebreaker Charged With Slaying Picket

New York—A member of the Service Employees on strike against a contract cleaning firm at St. John's University was fatally stabbed by a strikebreaker during a picket line confrontation Jan. 5.

SEIU Local 32B-32J reported that Leroy Johnson died shortly after he was knifed in the chest by the attacker. The suspect, Juan Vargas, was charged by police with first degree homicide.

Johnson, 57, was among the more than 200 employees of McLean Services, Inc., who have been on strike at the Queens campus since Nov. 27.

Johnson's wife, Gertrude, also a member of the bargaining unit, was not on the picket line at the time of the killing. Johnson is also survived by his son, Benjamin, a Transit Authority policeman.

The SEIU contract with McLean, which handles building and grounds maintenance for the university, expired last Apr. 1.

Local President John J. Sweeney said that little progress had been made in more than six months of negotiations before the strike was called. A major issue in the contract dispute centers on the local's efforts to bring McLean's employees at St. John's under a master agreement that covers the company's workers at other sites.

Sweeney said the local is also seeking needed improvements in job security and basic wages. Efforts by federal mediators to resolve the dispute have been unsuccessful.

Members of the bargaining unit joined Johnson's family in a memorial service held Jan. 11. The local, which has 52,000 members, is also planning a memorial service on the picket line.

The Disabled Worker

A **LARGE MAJORITY** of workers who retire early do so involuntarily—a majority for poor health and another large group because of layoff or discontinuance of jobs.

The social security system should provide more adequate protection for the victims of these problems. By introducing a greater degree of flexibility, the system could facilitate coordination with retirement and disability programs achieved through collective bargaining as well as other forms of social insurance so the special problems faced by many older workers could be more easily resolved.

The large number of early retirements due to ill health clearly demonstrates the need for improvements in the disability program. At the present time, the definition of disability is very stringent, requiring that workers be unable to participate in any substantial gainful activity. This is particularly hard on older workers who frequently suffer from chronic ailments, are unable to work in their usual occupations, and cannot secure other employment because of age and ill health.

They are unable to meet the definition of disability only because, theoretically, if someone would hire them they might be able to work in some kind of job no matter how unrelated to their previous occupation. A change in the definition of disability should be made to allow older workers to receive benefits if their impairments bar them from their regular occupation.

Permitting older workers the right to receive disability benefits when unable to engage in their usual occupation if coupled with provisions allowing retirement at age 60 at less than a full actuarial reduction would, in effect, establish a zone of retirement after age 60.

This approach would also allow older workers more rational choices in retirement decisions based on their own individual circumstances and would avoid encouraging retirement at earlier ages than would tend to develop if an across-the-board age reduction were adopted. The intent is to target program benefits to deal with social problems and avoid encouraging healthy workers to retire early.

THE EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS of older workers are inseparable from the national problems of unemployment. It is difficult to expand job opportunities for older workers when the job market is tight for all. Such efforts will work only in a favorable economic framework, for older workers cannot be placed in jobs if these jobs do not exist. Economic growth and expansion, and not raising the age of retirement, are the key factors which would keep older workers in the labor force.

Raising the age of eligibility for full social security benefits would save the system money, but would break faith with workers who have paid benefits all or most of their lives on the assumption that they could retire at a specified age on full social security benefits. The proposal would also be at the expense of some of the poorest and most deprived of our older citizens.

—From AFL-CIO testimony before the Advisory Council on Social Security.

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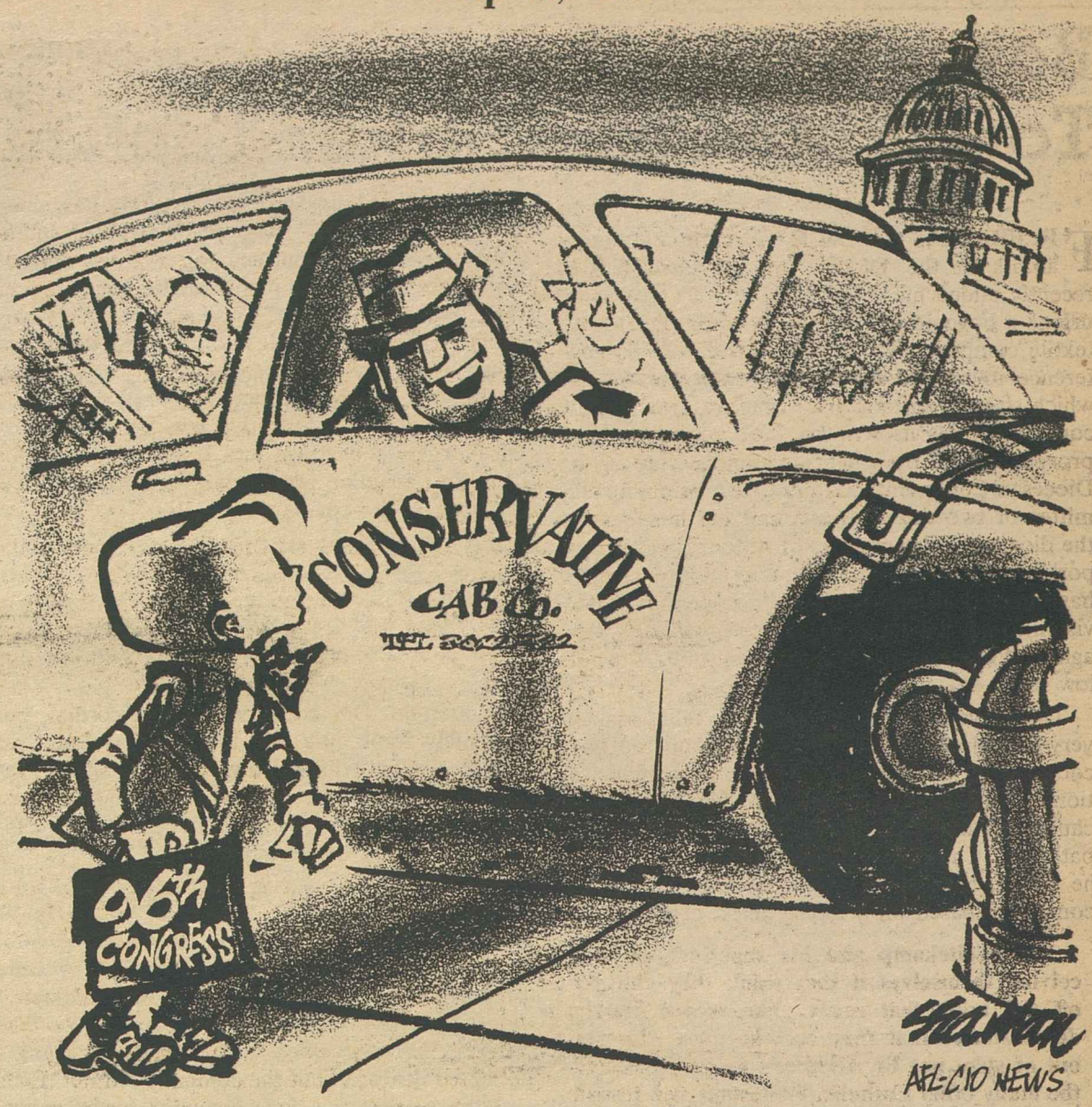
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'Hop in, Kid!'



Financial Manipulators:

Oil Companies Sinking Profits Into Conglomerate Takeovers

By Gus Tyler

MOBIL'S OFFER TO BUY nearly 2 million shares of W. F. Hall Printing Co. was worth about two inches of type on a middle page of the Wall Street Journal. Although the price for the stock ran to $50.5 million, the purchase was no big deal. This sort of thing happens daily in the world of high finance.

Yet, viewed conceptually, the Mobil move deserved front-page attention because the fact destroys a carefully cultivated myth about so-called oil companies.

The public believes that oil companies are just oil companies. But they are not; they are generally conglomerates which own copper mines, mail order houses, bakeries, panty factories, kosher food plants.

The oil companies are fundamentally financial manipulators who are loaded with money looking to buy up any kind of enterprise that promises profits. Wall Street knows this so well that Mobil's purchase of all the outstanding shares of W. F. Hall is hardly news at all.

Yet the myth that oil companies are just oil companies still prevails and is repetitively promulgated because the fiction provides the rationale for higher gas and oil prices and for lower taxes on petroleum producers. The customary reasoning, stated most eloquently and effectively by Mobil itself, is that higher profits provide the necessary funds to expand production—to explore, to sink new wells, to erect new refineries.

Such expanded production, it is promised, will provide more native gas and oil, thereby creating a plentiful supply (perhaps even lower prices) and liberating us from dependence on Arab sheikhs.

The myth, of course, is that oil profits are reinvested in the oil business. But the fact is quite the contrary: the Mobil-Hall deal is but one small example of a prevailing practice.

If you are wondering why an oil company should put its money into printing (or anything else), you may wish to consider several possible motives:

Printing may be more profitable than petroleum. Or the oil company may be buying up a company that is a consistent loser because—in the work of tax gimmickry—it is still possible for the big timers to make money on "tax losses." Or the purchase of an outside company in a seemingly unrelated sector may link a supplier or customer with a parent corporation in a vertical monopoly.

But—and this is an important "but"—sometimes oil producers may not think it prudent to increase oil production because too adequate a supply may shrink profits while a small supply may swell profits. Put bluntly, it may very well pay not to make too much oil available at one time.

Whatever the reasons, it is clear that the higher profits made by an oil company will not necessarily be reinvested in expanding the available supply of the precious petroleum—especially when the reservoir of U.S. capital can be used for investments in other lands as well as the United States.

So, the next time you are asked to spend more for gas or oil to underwrite expanded production of the fuel, remember the case of Mobil et al. You might then ask for a guarantee that the extra pennies you lay out will go for oil production and not for bending pretzels, printing Christmas cards, or setting up an oil drilling rig in Saudi Arabia.

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Nation Faces Choice Of Economic Paths

What's ahead for America depends on how the Administration and Congress respond to these most pressing economic questions:

Will there be a replay of the Nixon recession, created by using tight money and high unemployment and hit-or-miss, piecemeal economic controls that guarantee huge profits to money manipulators at the expense of workers, consumers and small business?

Or will there be a carefully legislated control program that is fair. . . ? Such a program would provide for equal sacrifice from all by imposing reasonable limits on profits, dividends, rents, executive bonuses, professional fees and capital gains—as well as on wages—and limit the prices of everything.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany in the American Legion magazine.

Calling Company's Bluff:

Boycott Called Only Answer To J. P. Stevens' Unfair Tactics

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

FR. FRANCIS GIUDICE, vicar for community affairs in the Diocese of Providence, R.I., recently added his voice to those who have been urging a boycott of products by the J. P. Stevens textile company. Fr. Giudice called a press conference to endorse a study commission's report which strongly criticizes the manner in which the company treats its workers. The report was approved in June by a near-unanimous vote of the Diocesan Community Affairs Commission, a committee of two dozen priests and lay members of the diocese of Providence. In announcing his support of the boycott, Fr. Giudice added that he has directed all church agencies under his supervision to participate in the boycott and is encouraging all diocesan agencies and institutions to follow suit.

The Stevens company has predictably reacted very sharply to Fr. Giudice's stand on the boycott. David Weitekamp, manager of administration in the company's New York office, said rather caustically that "the church is so out of step, it's pathetic." Church groups throughout the country, he added, have been making decisions about the company "based on a lot of union propaganda."

Mr. Weitekamp and his superiors are deceiving themselves if they think they can get off the hook that easily. The record clearly demonstrates that they are the ones who are out of step, not Fr. Giudice's commission and the many other Catholic, Protestant and Jewish agencies which are supporting the Stevens boycott. And with all due respect to Mr. Weitekamp, the stand being taken by these church-related groups in support of the boycott is based not on "union propaganda," but on the documented findings of the National Labor Relations Board and on a succession of court cases sustaining the board's numerous anti-Stevens rulings.

The evidence summarized in these decisions—some of which, quite properly, have been almost savage in their criticism of the company—proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that Stevens has been guilty of numerous unfair labor practices in its protracted fight against the unionization of its workers by the Clothing & Textile Workers Union (ACTWU). Its record in this regard is worse than that of any other major corporation in recent American history. To paraphrase Mr. Weitekamp, it is so defiantly out of step with the law, it's pathetic.

Less than three weeks after Mr. Weitekamp issued his sarcastic but extremely feeble response to Fr. Giudice, the National Labor Relations Board charged the company with still another flagrant violation of the law. In a 4-0 decision, the board held that Stevens unlawfully bargained in bad faith for almost two years—with no intention of reaching a contract—after 3,000 Stevens employees at its seven plants in Roanoke Rapids, N.C., voted to have ACTWU serve as their bargaining agent. The evidence on which the board based this decision runs to 88 single-space pages. In the light of this evidence—which was gathered by an NLRB administrative law judge after extensive public hearings and therefore cannot be dismissed as union propaganda—the board threw the book at the company.

THE BOARD'S DECISION in the Roanoke Rapids case compels me to reconsider my own position on the Stevens controversy. More than a year ago, one of my USCC colleagues and I spent several hours conferring with high-ranking Stevens executives at the company's New York headquarters. Our conversation was cordial, but extremely frank. We told the Stevens executives that we strongly disagreed with the company's labor relations policy, but indicated that, at least for the time being, we would refrain from officially endorsing the boycott.

We said that we would temporarily maintain a neutral stance with the hope that we might be able to play a mediating role between the company and the union. We indicated that we were prepared to serve in this capacity, on a moment's notice, at the invitation of the parties. We then relayed the same offer to the union. The union accepted the offer, but the company did not. Even at that, we left the door open for further negotiations. In the light of subsequent events, however, and specifically in the light of Mr. Weitekamp's recent statement, it is now perfectly clear that the door has been slammed shut and that the company has decided to defy public opinion and to go it alone, regardless of the consequences.

It is possible, of course, that, at the eleventh hour, Stevens will belatedly reconsider its position and decide to comply with the board's directives in the Roanoke Rapids case. For the good of all concerned, I sincerely hope it will do so. If it does not, however, I will urge my own superiors and anyone else who asks my opinion about the matter to endorse the boycott immediately and to stick with it until the company complies with the spirit as well as the letter of the law.

As the Second Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in 1972, the Stevens Company "deliberately took their chances in ignoring our decrees because they thought it profitable for them to do so." Six years later, the top executives of the company still seem to be of this mind. The time has come, then, for the public at large to call their bluff and, by means of the boycott, to make it unprofitable for them to violate the law of the land.

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Oswald Warns:

White House Economic Curbs Could Trigger Steep Downturn

THE BUDGET-CUTTING and tight-money policies of the Carter Administration could boomerang into a much steeper downturn than most economists are predicting, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald warned.

The course the Administration has set will force the economy to contract, Oswald said, pointing out that such severe and wrongly placed restrictions could swell unemployment substantially beyond the 6.2-to-7.2 percent range that is forecast on the assumption of a mild downturn. He urged that the Administration develop "contingency plans to offset the possibility that the situation will get much worse" than the "unduly optimistic" predictions of its economic advisors.

Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, Oswald said the Administration's anti-inflation program is aimed at "cooling down the economy by putting it into a crunch," rather than zeroing-in on "those areas of the economy where most of the inflation is coming from." He said that the inflation pressures are most severe in food, housing, medical care and energy, and those are pressures that won't be eased by an overall squeeze on the budget.

The AFL-CIO economist said that by the end of 1978, the economy was running at a "fairly good and robust" pace, which could have continued had the crunch policies not been initiated.

He took issue with feeling within the Administration and the business community that "the current cycle has run its course after three and a half years of expansion," and that the best remedy is "a mild recession now and get it over with." He said that those same attitudes were raised in the 1960s with the warning that "the Kennedy-Johnson era expansion could not continue."

But it did continue for eight years, and "it was viable," he stressed.

Oswald said that there is a failure to recognize "the high cost of suffering the loss of output that occurs during a recession." By giving up "the ability to produce goods that we're able to produce, we do not use our potential" to achieve the production and services that people need.

Reporters questioning Oswald were Michael Posner of Reuters news agency and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THREE AMERICANS ARE KILLED every hour using one of 10,000 household consumer products. During the same hour more than 2,300 people are injured by these products.

The annual toll is shocking—some 30,000 killed and approximately 110,000 permanently disabled.

Considering all deaths and all injuries, consumer product mishaps total 20 million, at an annual cost to the country of more than $5.5 billion.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission was created to address this problem and to reduce or eliminate the incidence of death and injury.

CPSC Commissioner R. David Pittle recently put the situation into perspective in a speech before the Sixth National Consumer Symposium when he discussed the costs of ensuring consumer safety. Pittle's arguments also apply to other agencies whose goals are to protect health and safey.

"Our mission is to reduce unreasonable hazards to health and safety as effectively and cheaply as possible—not to guarantee companies a minimum rate of return on investments or to insulate companies from fluctuating business cycles," he said.

Often the most outspoken critics of federal regulation in the health and safety area are those whose chief goal is to promote the profitability or protect the market position of business. They often confuse the real issue by converting the health-safety problem into a cost versus benefit equation, leaving out the human element.

But agencies such as CPSC, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency were created to meet a critical need.

Pittle said: "The message that I am receiving is not that the public wants no government regulation, but rather that they seek, in fact demand, regulations that make sense and that can be implemented at a reasonable cost."

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS with assessing the costs in a traditional way is that the cost-benefit approach isn't easily applied to health and safety issues. It's easier to measure the costs than it is to determine the benefits. However, Pittle pointed out, the benefits "can be easily understood and appreciated." He cited several examples:

- In regulated product groups, safety packaging requirements have produced a 40 percent drop in ingestions of poisons by children over a four-year period.
- Since the safety standard for cribs became effective in 1974, crib deaths by strangulation have fallen by half and injuries have been reduced by 45 percent.
- The General Accounting Office reports 28,000 lives were saved between 1966 and 1974 because of federal motor vehicle safety regulations. The same report also showed that in one state where a detailed analysis was conducted, there was also a substantial reduction in the frequency and severity of injuries.

It's not easy to put human lives, grief, suffering and pain into a dollars and cents cost-benefit relationship. In some cases, it is done by assigning a value to a lost limb, for example, or by determining lost earnings from a life cut short. But can a price tag truly be placed on an amputated leg or arm, on the loss of health, or of life itself?

The federal, state and local health and safety agencies would be the first to admit they could not possibly prevent all the tragedies that might occur in the home, workplace or community. But they are aware that many things can be done to reduce the present toll of life and limb.

Business and industry, in their self-interest, can be expected to pursue greater sales, efficiency, markets and profits. But the public interest today says that this shall not be done at the expense of the health and safety of the consumer, worker or the community.



STEEP DOWNTURN in the nation's economy can be triggered by the Carter Administration's budget-cutting and tight-money policies, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, center, warned. He was interviewed on Labor News Conference by Michael Posner, left of Reuters news agency, and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired on Mutual radio.



ECUMENICAL SERVICES at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, where the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., preached, was a highlight of the week-long observance of the 50th birthday of the slain civil rights leader and was addressed by AFL-CIO Vice President William Wynn, second from right. Others are, from left, Rabbi Arthur Schneier of New York, Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson, Andrew Young, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Sweden's Prime Minister Olla Ullsten, and Dr. Walter Anderson of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Shoe Workers' Delegates Approve Merger with Clothing-Textile Union

(Continued from Page 1)

of Fecteau, who was ill, told the delegates that the merger plan is in the best interest of the union and its membership. He noted that the decision was not made at the spur of the moment and pointed out that the USW first adopted a merger resolution at its 1961 convention.

"We will be joining the Amalgamated as partners in a venture that will prove more beneficial to all of our members at the bargaining table, in the organizing field and in the legislative halls," he stressed.

"It will be a new beginning and will enable us to better achieve our objectives, as it will bring new strength to the organized and unorganized in the shoe and allied industry."

Georgian traced the roots of the USW to the nation's first union, the Philadelphia shoe makers, which was formed in the late 1700s. A succession of small shoe worker unions came into being and were dismantled through the years, he noted.

In the 1930s, several small shoe unions united at the urging of the CIO to form the Shoe Workers Organizing Committee. A subsequent merger of the United Shoe & Leather Workers and the Shoe Workers Protective Union in 1937 created the United Shoe Workers of America, which was chartered as a national union by the CIO.

A former Mine Worker was appointed by CIO President John L. Lewis as the director of USW and served until 1939 when the union elected its first president, Frank McGrath. Fecteau has been president since 1956 and Georgian was first elected secretary-treasurer in 1958.

In an address to the convention, ACTWU Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman said the time to merge has come and "to speak out in greater strength," adding that the purpose of the 1976 merger of the Clothing Workers and the Textile Workers was to form a better union.

He warned, however, that the problems of shoe workers will not disappear merely through the merger. But he said merger would help in the fight against job-destroying imports and unemployment, and for improved wages.

"The U.S. footwear industry has lost half of its shoe companies and over 70,000 shoe jobs in the last 10 years," Sheinkman pointed out. "It is time to reverse that devastating trend and bring about recovery —long overdue—in this industry."

He said that attempts by the Carter Administration to combat imports with trade adjustment assistance will not solve the problem. A more effective remedy would be direct restraints on injurious imports that stem from substandard foreign wages and unfair trade practices, Sheinkman said.

Also addressing delegates was ACTWU Executive Vice President Sol Stetin, who headed the TWUA before the 1976 merger.

The merger agreement provides a timetable for bringing dues and per capita payments of USW members in line with those of ACTWU members and for the maintenance of health and pension plans. It also details the transfer of USW property and assets to ACTWU.

Haughton Set to Head Federal Labor Panel

Ronald W. Haughton, a prominent arbitrator and industrial relations educator, has been appointed by President Carter to serve as chairman of the new Federal Labor Relations Authority.

The agency, established as part of the Civil Service Reform Act, will function for the federal sector much as the National Labor Relations Board does in the private sector.

Haughton, 62, is co-director of the Institute of Labor & Industrial Relations of the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. He is also a professor at Wayne State in Detroit and has conducted a number of collective bargaining institutes.

Carter also appointed to the three-member board Henry B. Frazier III, a career federal employee who has been serving as executive director of the Federal Labor Relations Council, which is being replaced by the new authority. Still to be appointed are a third member and a general counsel.

Haughton and Frazier were given recess appointments before Congress convenes and their permanent appointments as well as that of the general counsel will require Senate confirmation.

In other appointments resulting from the civil service reorganization plan that took effect on Jan. 1, Carter named former Civil Service Commission Chairman Alan K. Campbell director of the Office of Personnel Management and former CSC Vice Chairman Jule M. Sugarman deputy director. The Merit Systems Protection Board, which will take over part of the former functions of the Civil Service Commission, will be headed by Ruth T. Prokop, who had been general counsel of the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development.

Richard Lichtenwalter, Retired Staffer, Dies

Erie, Pa.—Richard D. Lichtenwalter, who retired from the AFL-CIO field staff in December 1967, died here recently. He was 76. Lichtenwalter was active in the Pattern Makers when he was appointed a CIO organizer in 1949. He served on the AFL-CIO organizing staff following merger.

New York Faculty Retains AFT Unit

The United University Professors, an affiliate of the Teachers, has been retained as the bargaining representative for the more than 16,000 teaching and non-teaching professionals at State University of New York.

The UUP, which has represented SUNY professional and academic employees at the university's 32 campuses since 1973, was challenged by the New York Education Association, an affiliate of the National Education Association.

In the election conducted by the state's Public Employment Relations Board, the UUP received 6,067 votes to 4,092 for the NYEA. There were 1,156 votes for no union.

At Tribute to King:

Labor Affirms Tie To Rights Groups

Atlanta—The labor-civil rights coalition must press on if Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream of social and economic justice is to be reached, trade union leaders declared at the six-day observance of the slain civil rights leader's 50th birthday celebration here.

While progress has been made in the continuing struggle, they noted that much remains to be accomplished.

Speaking at an ecumenical service at Ebenezer Baptist Church, AFL-CIO Vice President William H. Wynn stressed that the ties between the labor movement and the civil rights movement are strong and enduring.

He said labor would never forget Dr. King's contributions in the fight for workers' rights, citing his assassination in Memphis while rallying support for striking sanitation workers there.

In reviewing the history of the labor movement and the civil rights movement, "no one can fail to see the sharing of a total and complete commitment to human rights and social justice," Wynn said.

"While this is a long and frustrating struggle, both of us can take pride in the fact that neither of us wavered or faltered."

Wynn, who is president of the Retail Clerks, cited recent hard-won legislative gains in Congress and spelled out a list of programs high on the list of priorities of the labor-civil rights coalition.

"We must accomplish full implementation of existing laws and the passage of legislation to cure the remaining problems, such as full employment, national health insurance, dignity and survival of our senior citizens, as well as the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment," he said.

President Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., reminded participants in a breakfast reception that the enemies of black people are also the enemies of labor.

Clayman, who was co-chairman of the breakfast sponsored by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change, said that King's life, ways and work represented the conscience of America.

Much of King's work is being carried on by his wife, Coretta Scott King, Clayman observed, and he pledged that the labor movement would always remain aligned with King's goals.

On the first day of the observance, Mrs. King presented Murray H. Finley of the Clothing & Textile Workers the Labor Social Responsibility Award sponsored by the Center for Social Change.

In accepting the plaque, Finley pointed out that a long relationship has existed between labor and the King family. He noted that the slain civil rights leader also had been given ACTWU's Sidney Hillman Award, the union's highest honor.

Mrs. King and Finley are co-chairmen of the Full Employment Action Council.

Other trade union officials participating in the six-day Atlanta celebration included President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers, Vice President Abe Fineglass of the Meat Cutters, E. H. Kehrer, southern representative of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights, and Vice President Irving Bluestone of the UAW.

James Baker Heads Western Region

James E. Baker has been appointed director of AFL-CIO Region VI to fill the vacancy created by the death of Charles C. Hogan last month.

In making the appointment, Federation President George Meany said that Baker, 25, demonstrated the ability to handle responsibilities of the post by administering the affairs of the region during Hogan's lengthy illness. Region VI, headquartered in San Francisco, comprises California, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii.

Baker, who comes out of the UAW, has been a field representative on the region's staff since November 1975. Earlier, he served as assistant to the president of the Oregon AFL-CIO, northwest regional director of Frontlash, and administrative assistant for Labor's Community Services Agency in Portland, Ore.



MARCH THROUGH ATLANTA'S downtown area climaxed the observance of the 50th birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., promoting the campaign to have the date declared a national holiday. Marchers also pressed the cause of labor's boycotts of J. P. Stevens products and Winn-Dixie stores.

Cites GAO Mistakes:

Labor Dept. Refutes Davis-Bacon Attack

(Continued from Page 1)

terized by highly uncertain employment conditions," Marshall asserted. "Unfortunately, many of the conditions which led to these laws still exist."

The Davis-Bacon Act requires that contractors must pay locally prevailing wages and fringe benefits on all federal construction projects above $2,000. The statute was designed to prevent itinerant contractors from using cut-rate labor from outside a project area to underbid on federal projects.

Two bills to repeal Davis-Bacon were introduced on the opening day of the new 96th Congress, reflecting the latest conservative bid to scuttle the law.

Marshall, pointing to major errors in methodology and analysis in the GAO study, wrote Staats: "I cannot believe that the American people would strip away this long established and historically supported wage protection program from four million workers for inadequately supported reasons."

In his letter and in an accompanying 56-page rebuttal of the GAO report, Marshall declared that "the importance of this law to American workers was not seriously dealt with in the draft report."

He noted that the basic rationale for Davis-Bacon is that the federal government should not use taxpayers' money to undercut wages on government construction projects. The law was originally designed for "much broader purposes" than simply to counter specific economic conditions arising from the Great Depression of the 1930s, he said.

As reaffirmed by Congress in 1964, the Davis-Bacon Act was enacted to provide equality of opportunity for contractors, to protect the prevailing living standards of building tradesmen, and to prevent the disruption of local economies, Marshall observed. These original aims retain their validity to this day, he stressed.

In his letter to Staats, Marshall denied that federal and federally-assisted construction wages are an inflationary force today. In the last seven years, construction wages have lagged behind all-industry wage figures and the gap has widened in the past year, he pointed out.

Marshall also cited an inadequate statistical sampling in the GAO study which contended, on the basis of only 73 of some 10,000 Labor Dept. wage determinations in the first six months of 1976, that the department's wage data collection and prevailing wage determination methods were inaccurate. Of the 30 wage determination examples included in the GAO report, he said, the Labor Dept. found that almost all of the alleged errors were those of the GAO, not the department.

Marshall also noted that the GAO study was partly based on a 1972 survey by the Associated General Contractors of America which drew only 276 responses from some 9,000 to 10,000 employer members, in answer to a direct appeal from the AGC to "help document the case against the weekly Davis-Bacon payroll requirements."

"For these reasons, we must conclude that the assertions in this draft report are unsupported," Marshall said.



LABOR'S GOALS in bringing needed improvements in social programs were explored at a meeting of the AFL-CIO Standing Committee on Social Security, which is chaired by Federation Vice President John H. Lyons, third from left. The committee also discussed AFL-CIO policy statements covering pending legislation on health care, social security, welfare reform, workers' compensation and unemployment compensation. Bert Seidman, second from left, is director of the federation's Dept. of Social Security.

Court Denies SEC Role In Pension Regulation

(Continued from Page 1)

Congress passed the 1974 law because of such problems, Justice Powell noted in the court's decision, in the belief "that it was filling a regulatory void." If the plaintiff had retired after the law was passed, the Supreme Court noted, he would have been entitled to at least a partial pension.

Regulatory authority over the pension law—the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA)—is divided between the Labor Dept. and the Internal Revenue Service.

If pension administrators could also be sued under the Securities Act, as lower courts had held, it would have added still another layer of government regulation and subjected many long-established pension plans to potentially costly lawsuits. It was for this reason that the AFL-CIO filed a friend of the court brief in the case, even though the Teamsters are not an affiliate.

On the legislative front, the AFL-CIO last year alerted congressional committees to the potential mischief of the Security & Exchange Commission's jurisdictional claim over pension plans.

In a letter to Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), a principal author of the pension reform law, AFL-CIO President George Meany noted that the AFL-CIO had supported the 1974 law "because we are convinced that legislative protection of pension plan participants is necessary."

But the SEC's position, Meany said, appears to be that "the greater the number of laws that are piled one on the other, the more protection is afforded employees." That's clearly "unsound" reasoning, he said.

The Supreme Court in effect accused the Securities & Exchange Commission of trying to convey the impression that it has always considered noncontributory pension plans within its jurisdiction.

But "the SEC's present position is flatly contradicted by its past actions," the court said. Not only hadn't it ever claimed such powers, but in congressional testimony it had conceded lack of coverage.

As for the claimed need to protect employees covered by pension plans, the Supreme Court said that ERISA serves that purpose more effectively.

"Unlike the Securities Act, ERISA deals expressly and in detail with pension plans," the court noted. "ERISA requires pension plans to disclose information to employees in a specified manner in contrast to the indefinite and uncertain disclosure obligations imposed by the antifraud provisions of the Securities Acts. Further, ERISA regulates the substantive terms of pension plans, setting standards for plan funding and limits on the eligibility requirement an employee must meet."

'Bread and Roses' Arts Program Sponsored by Hospital Union

New York—An extensive $1.3 million cultural project has been launched by District 1199 of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union that will bring performing arts productions and creative arts programs to union members and to the communities where they work and live.

The two-year project, titled Bread and Roses, includes programs in drama, music, poetry, visual arts and films, as well as conferences, seminars and street fairs. The productions initially will be staged in New York, but will be extended to other 1199 locations later this year in Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New Jersey.

The opening program is an exhibition of paintings by children from more than 70 countries that was prepared by the U.S. Committee for UNICEF in observance of the International Year of the Children.

Bread and Roses was developed by District 1199 with planning grants of $300,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Additional funds are coming from federal and state cultural agencies and private foundations. District 1199 is the hospital and health care division of RWDSU.

The programs will be presented in both English and Spanish to accommodate 1199's large number of Hispanic members. Of the district's 70,000 members, 70 percent are black or Hispanic and 80 percent are women.

"Bread and Roses has something for everyone," said Moe Foner, executive secretary of the union and director of the project.

Program activities will include lunch hour presentations by professional theater companies in 30 major hospitals and nursing homes; evenings with performers at the district's headquarters; art and photography exhibitions in Gallery 1199 at the union's building, and shows staged at 1199 Plaza, a union-sponsored housing cooperative for 1,600 families. A series of conferences, symposiums and dialogues will also be conducted on the leadership and contributions of Martin Luther King, Jr., in the campaign for civil rights in America.

The theater program will feature performances by Ossie Davis and Rudy Dee, the Howard Roberts Chorale, Labor Theater and Woodie King, Jr.'s New Federal Theater. A Bread and Roses musical revue also has been written for local presentations that will include a tour of locations in Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New Jersey.

Performers scheduled for evening appearances at the union's Theater 1199 are Eli Wallach and Anne Jackson, Judy Collins, Elizabeth Swados, Pete Seeger, Arlo Guthrie, Sam Levenson, Prof. Irwin Corey, Jack Gilford, Odetta, and Viveca Linfors.

Bread and Roses takes its name from a poem by James Oppenheim which was inspired by the textile strike in Lawrence, Mass., in 1912. A banner carried by young mill girls read, "We want bread and roses too."

The estimated operating budget for programs in each of the two years is $625,000, with $175,000 coming from 1199. Other contributors include the New York Council on the Arts, the United Hospital Fund, United Church of Christ Board for Homeland Ministries and the Ford Foundation.

Artist Paul Davis designed the theme poster which is being used widely to promote the Bread and Rose programs.



POSTER PROMOTING District 1199's $1.3 million cultural arts project, Bread and Roses, was designed by artist Paul Davis. The first program under the project is a UNICEF-sponsored painting exhibition at the union's headquarters. District 1199 is the hospital and health care division of the Retail, Wholesale, & Dept. Store Union.

NMU Leader Cites Lag in Wage Growth

New York—Wages of American workers, far from causing inflation, have not kept up with wage growth in other well developed countries, President Shannon J. Wall of the National Maritime Union declared in an editorial of the union's newspaper, The Pilot.

Wall noted that there has been no appreciable improvement in real earnings of U.S. workers in manufacturing in the past 18 years. During that period, earnings of American workers grew by 209 percent compared with increases of 411 to 2,073 percent in nine foreign countries, he said.

Inflation, Budget Cuts:

Public Sector Faces '79 Bargaining Test

A combination of budget cutbacks and soaring living costs makes 1979 "a tough year for labor relations in the public sector" and a real test of the collective bargaining process, Thomas R. Donahue said.

Donahue, who is executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, spoke at the fourth annual Public Sector Labor Relations Conference. The two-day program was sponsored by the Labor-Management Relations Service of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the American Arbitration Association.

All levels of government will feel the impact of federal budget decisions, higher interest rates and resultant higher unemployment, Donahue said. And cuts in federal funding, he noted, mean cuts in government services at the state and local level, ranging from closed mental health centers and deferred road and bridge repairs to "pink slips in the paychecks of CETA workers."

Donahue sharply criticized California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr. for his demand for "an absolutely balanced" federal budget, "whatever the cost in suffering to the poor and the jobless."

But while granting that state and local governments face "real economic problems" as they go to the bargaining tables this year, Donahue stresssed that public employees have essential needs that can't be shunted aside and can't be expected continually "to give and give, and to receive nothing in return."

Few public workers have any cost-of-living protection, Donahue observed. "They are losing ground to inflation every week." And most have already had their pay held down in recent years, including federal workers whose pay raise was cut to 5.5 percent from the 8.4 percent needed to meet the government's own comparability test.

"When public employees go to the supermarket, nobody gives them a discount for being good inflation fighters," Donahue reminded the city officials. The economic pressures faced by management "are no more severe than those faced by workers."

He said a frank recognition of "the legitimate aspirations and rights of public employees" is a good starting point for constructive negotiations, even when the money is not available to meet all needs immediately. And "confrontation rhetoric" such as threats to jail strikers may win some favorable newspaper editorials "but it isn't going to resolve a dispute."

Creative collective bargaining "can go a long way toward resolving the issues facing public employees and public employers," Donahue insisted. "And this year it certainly deserves a try."

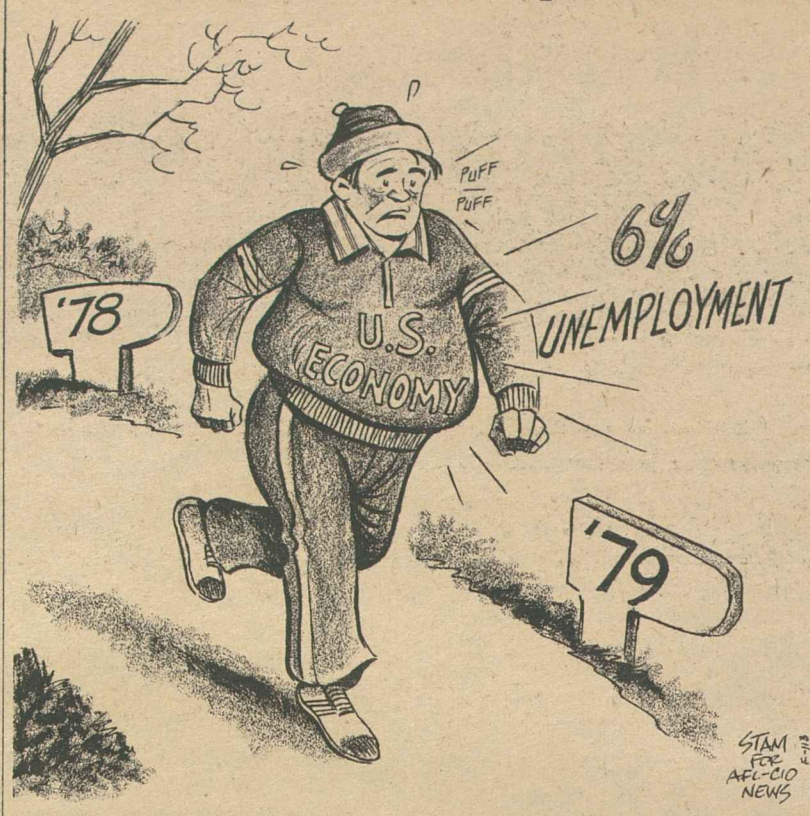
Fire Fighters President William H. McClennan; General Counsel A. L. Zwerdling and Research Director Donald S. Wasserman of the State, County & Municipal Employees; John Ryan of the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers and John Zalusky of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research were among the speakers and panelists at conference sessions and workshops.

McClennan, who is also president of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., agreed that the squeeze of budget and living cost pressures threatens to make the bargaining table mood "angrier and more bitter."

For the fire fighters, he said, the best solution is "fair, final and binding arbitration laws" so that impasse disputes don't "explode into strikes."

The publicized fire fighters and police strikes of the past year, McClennan said, have been in cities "where there is no satisfactory alternative to resolve disputes."

Still Out of Shape



'78 Joblessness Holds At 6 Percent Level

(Continued from Page 1)

back to work," and predicted that this trend would continue in 1979.

"I don't see any marked increase in unemployment" this year, Marshall said. He pointed out, however, that some increase in joblessness is possible because of economic uncertainties over which he said the Administration has no control.

Marshall told a news conference that there has been "no reduction in our commitment" to the jobs goal of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment & Balanced Growth bill. "I'm not going to be satisfied until it (the jobless rate) gets to 4 percent," he said.

"The challenge during the next five years will be to keep the economy on a sustainable growth path, allowing inflation to unwind," Marshall declared.

"The challenge for employment policies will be to provide the training and job opportunities necessary to further reduce structural unemployment and place the 4 percent unemployment goal within the reach of non-inflationary macroeconomic policy."

Among the highlights of the 1978 jobs picture was an increase of about 3 million in total employment, which stood at 95.9 million last month. The December employment-population ratio—the proportion of the total non-institutional population over the age of 16 that is employed—remained at its all-time high of 59.1 percent.

Also in 1978, BLS said, "an unprecedented 50 percent of adult women and nearly 60 percent of teenagers were in the labor force." Teenagers continued to make up a growing proportion of the unemployed, as more than one of every four jobless persons was under 20 years of age.

"Although unemployment among minority youth, and all teenagers, is still a terrible problem," Marshall told reporters, "much progress has been made where none had been made before."

Still, one out of every three blacks between the ages of 16 and 19 actively seeking employment last month was without work, BLS reported. Their jobless rate of 34.9 percent compared to a rate of 14.2 percent for whites of the same age.

The civilian labor force, which exceeded the 100-million mark for the first time in 1978, edged up by 239,000 to 101.8 million in December, leaving approximately 6 million workers unemployed.

The jobless rate for men last month rose two-tenths of 1 percent to 4.1 percent; for women, the rate was unchanged at 5.8 percent; for full-time workers, the rate edged up one-tenth of 1 percent to 5.3 percent. The rate for teenagers increased from 16.2 to 16.5 percent from November to December. The rate rose from 5 to 5.2 percent for white workers while it dropped from 11.7 to 11.5 percent for blacks.

The number of so-called discouraged workers, which is reported on a quarterly basis, fell by 93,000 to 760,000 in the final three months of 1978. Discouraged workers are those who want jobs but do not actively seek them because they believe that none exists for them.

Over-the-month employment gains were posted in most major industry groups, BLS said. The largest increase, for the third straight month, was in manufacturing, 125,000. About two-thirds of the gain in factory hirings occurred in durable-goods industries, particularly among major metals and metal-using industries.

Rail Clerks Win Gains in National Pact

The Railway Clerks reached tentative agreement with the nation's major railroads on a new 39-month contract described by BRAC President Fred J. Kroll as a "landmark achievement."

Kroll, predicting a "heavy endorsement" of the pact in a mail referendum of BRAC members, cited significant improvements in wages and fringe benefits. The contract replaces an agreement that expired on Dec. 31, 1977. Eleven other rail unions settled with the carriers last year.

BRAC general chairmen overwhelmingly approved the new agreement with the industry. Mail ballots are due to be returned by Jan. 30 in the union's first-ever contract referendum.

The BRAC agreement provides for wage increases of about 36 percent over the life of the contract. The figure includes a guaranteed set of cents-per-hour cost of living adjustments at intervals throughout the contract.

Union negotiators also achieved the following provisions:

- A back-pay increase averaging about $1,000 per worker, including a $100 bonus for the first three months of 1978.
- Health and welfare benefit improvements, plus an increase in the number of days of leave for sickness.
- A new provision for personal days off, allowing one day per year for employees with 10 to 20 years of service and two days for those with over 20 years' service.
- A payroll checkoff for voluntary political contributions to BRAC's Political League. "This will enhance BRAC's ability to express more adequately our members' political viewpoints," Kroll said.

"In addition," he said, "we succeeded in keeping out of the agreement an employer proposal to put a moratorium on present or future proposals regarding work rules under the contract."

Twelve of the 13 unions with rail members have now settled with the National Railway Labor Conference.

Oil Contract Pattern Won at Major Firms

(Continued from Page 1)

finery workers. At Texas City, Tex., 280 Amoco Chemical workers and another 280 Marathon Oil Co. workers struck over local issues.

The Gulf settlement adds 71 cents per hour to base wage rates, which now average $8.93 an hour, and 2 cents an hour to shift differentials. The first-year raise is equal to an 8 percent increase. The national average wage in the industry is currently $8.82.

In addition, the pacts call for company contributions to employees' health insurance coverage to increase by up to $4.50 per month for a single worker and $12 per month for a family. The agreement also allows the union to reopen negotiations on wages, health-care benefits, and vacations in the second year of the contracts.

Companies that have met the terms of the Gulf agreement, and the number of workers involved at each, include Standard Oil Co. of Indiana (Amoco), 6,700; Marathon Oil Co., 600; Lion Oil Co., 700; Texaco, Inc., 8,250; Standard of Ohio, 900; Atlantic Richfield Co., 3,500; Energy Cooperative, Inc., 650; Cenex, 200; Shell Oil Co., 4,600; Rock Island, 200; Cities Service, 1,100; Charter Oil, 300; Ashland, 850; Amdel, 450; Total Petroleum, Inc., 200; Union Oil of California, 2,000, and Getty Oil, 1,600.

Also, Gary Western, 100; Jefferson Chemical, 300; Witco Chemical, 100; Crown Central, 300; Douglas, 150; Sinclair, 200; Continental, 1,800, and BP Oil, 600.

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Study Questions Data On Joblessness Length

A Labor Dept. report prepared by two Harvard economists asserts that official statistics on the duration of unemployment produce a "misleading picture" on the ease of finding jobs because nearly half of all jobless workers pull out of the labor force entirely.

The study, "Labor Force Transitions & Unemployment," by Kim B. Clark and Lawrence H. Summers, also finds that the vast majority of those who take new jobs comes not from the ranks of the unemployed but from outside the labor force.

"The evidence suggests that estimates of the ease of job finding are overstated by failure to take into account the extent of labor force withdrawal," the study observes. "Spells of unemployment appear to be short because of frequent exits from the labor force. . . .

"It seems plausible that at least some of those who end unemployment by leaving the labor force do so because they are unable to find work."

The Labor Dept.'s current definition of unemployment relies heavily on recent job-search activity as a test for labor force participation.

A review of labor force concepts is now underway by the National Commission on Employment & Unemployment, which includes AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald among its members.

The report notes that periods of unemployment averaged slightly more than two months between 1968 and 1976, with durations a bit lower for teenagers and women and somewhat longer for prime-age males.

"These durations would be much longer but for the fact that almost half of all workers leave unemployment by withdrawing from the labor force," the study observed. Clark and Summers conclude that a jobless worker who declined to withdraw from the labor force would have had a much longer spell of unemployment—almost four months during the 1968-76 period.

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Meany Terms Budget Cuts 'Unfair' for Workers, Poor

Carter Plan Sees 6.2% Joblessness

By James M. Shevis

The Carter Administration, planning for continued but slower economic growth over at least the next two years, is forecasting a "modest rise" in joblessness from the current 5.9 percent to 6.2 percent by the end of this year.

The nation's unemployment rate is expected to remain at the higher level through 1980 as the Administration continues its approach to reducing the country's soaring inflation rate.

"Reducing inflation must be our top economic priority," President Carter told Congress in his annual Economic Report.

In the annual report of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, which accompanied Carter's assessment of the economy, and at a news briefing by CEA Chairman Charles Schultze, however, the nation was alerted to the possibility of even higher unemployment.

The 1979-80 unemployment forecasts must be regarded as "highly uncertain," the President's economic advisers said, "because of the difficulties inherent in predicting growth in the labor force, in productivity, and in output."

The President and his advisers also insisted that it will be "very difficult" to achieve the unemployment goals of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment & Balanced Growth Act unless the economy

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CIVIL RIGHTS struggles of three decades were recalled in honors paid to Msgr. George G. Higgins, left, of the U.S. Catholic Conference and Andrew J. Biemiller, right, who recently retired as AFL-CIO legislative director. Taking part were AFL-CIO President George Meany, former Sen. Muriel Humphrey and Clarence Mitchell, NAACP lobbyist and chairman of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, which made the awards at its annual meeting in Washington.

Prices Up 9 Percent:

Real Wages Down 3.4 Percent for '78

Living costs rose 9 percent during 1978, the second biggest leap in 31 years, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. At the same time, BLS said that workers' real buying power declined 3.4 percent during the year.

Contributing to the sharp annual rise in prices was another six-tenths of 1 percent rise in the government's consumer price index in December. Except for 1974's 12.2 percent rise in the CPI, last year's 9 percent increase was the sharpest since 1947.

Prices for food and beverages soared 11.6 percent in 1978, the largest single jump of any category.

Higher prices during December lifted the CPI to 202.9 percent of its 1967 base, meaning that consumers spent $209.90 last month for goods and services that cost $100 in 1967.

Meanwhile, real spendable earnings dipped again during December, declining by one-tenth of 1 percent over the month. A married worker with three dependents in December took home real spendable weekly earnings amounting to $91.89. This compared with $91.95 in November and $95.06 in December 1977.

Real spendable earnings, or take-home pay expressed in constant 1967 dollars, declined 3.4 percent over the full year, due mostly to the manner in which the reduced personal income tax has been calculated over the past two years, BLS said.

After food and beverages, the steepest price increase last year was for housing, up 9.9 percent. Medical care costs rose 8.8 percent over the year, while transportation costs were 7.7 percent higher. Clothing prices rose only 3.2 percent for all of 1978, the smallest increase of any category.

The December increase of six-tenths of 1 percent in the CPI com-

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Labor Backs Senate Rules Reform Bid

The AFL-CIO gave a strong endorsement to the Senate rules reform proposed by majority Leader Robert C. Byrd and asked state labor federations to help lobby for its enactment.

Legislative Director Kenneth Young termed the changes sought by Byrd "critically necessary" so the Senate can more effectively protect itself from "the delaying and obstructionist tactics of a small minority."

Byrd's proposed rules change would not alter the present requirement that debate can be curtailed only by vote of 60 of the 100 senators. But it would bar filibusters

(Continued on Page 2)

Meany Hits Lack Of Equality In Sacrifice

By Rex Hardesty

The Administration's proposed federal budget for fiscal 1980 would place the burden of fighting inflation on workers, retirees and the poor to an extent that it adds up to "the sacrifice of equality, not equality of sacrifice," AFL-CIO President George Meany charged.

Reducing the federal budget deficit to $30 billion from the $40 billion estimated for the current year as part of the Administration's program to curb inflation actually would reduce the inflation rate less than one-quarter of 1 percent, Meany said. And that is a figure from "economists who rarely agree with organized labor."

"So isn't it fair to ask how many lives must be injured in order to 'save' that one-quarter of 1 percent?" Meany asked.

He cited a series of savings that could be made by lowering interest rates on the federal debt or curbing oil company passthroughs of OPEC price increases that would require U.S. banks and oil companies to share more equitably the burdens of the fight against inflation.

"Austerity?" he asked in referring to the proposed budget. "I see it as a major attack on the living standards of average Americans, further widening the gap between the haves and have-nots," Meany said. "I see no reason why the have-nots should expect less, dream less, want less or receive less."

Yet that is precisely what the budget proposals ask them to do, he said, and he expressed total dis-

(Continued on Page 2)

Labor Battles Move For Funding Limit

AFL-CIO President George Meany has urged all state AFL-CIO federations and central labor councils to take immediate action to oppose "a very dangerous right-wing legislative threat" aimed at calling a constitutional convention to draft a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget.

"The economic effect of such an amendment would, of course, be disastrous," Meany said. "Equally serious are the many uncertainties and dangers surrounding the constitutional convention process. For these reasons the AFL-CIO strongly opposes this legislative proposal."

Noting that such a convention can be called on request of the legislatures of two-thirds of the states, Meany urged the labor movements of 28 states to contact their state legislators at once in order to urge rejection. In 22 states where the legislatures have already approved the scheme, he recommended vigorous lobbying to rescind the action.

"Obviously, the economic fallout of a balanced budget requirement would be castastrophic," Meany said. "Federal programs would be devastated, unemployment would increase and national security would be threatened."

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'Lean' Carter Program Poses Critical Cutbacks

By David L. Perlman

The "lean and austere" budget that President Carter has proposed to Congress would cut back substantially public service jobs, fund an array of other social programs below levels needed to continue present services, and abandon for a second consecutive year the promise of full "pay comparability" for federal workers.

It seeks to dampen inflation by slowing the nation's economic growth, accepting in exchange higher unemployment. Under the budget's economic assumptions, the goal of full employment would recede still further and the jobless rate would climb back over 6 percent.

The Administration calculates that its proposed budget would drop the federal deficit from an estimated $37 billion this fiscal year to $29 billion for the fiscal year that starts next Oct. 1. Carter told Congress that his budget "meets my commitment" to hold the deficit below $30 billion.

(Continued on Page 3)



KEY PRIORITY GOALS in the 96th Congress were spelled out at the Machinists' legislative conference in Washington which drew 850 delegates from all parts of the country. The four-day conference tied in with a week-long session of the IAM's Nonpartisan Political League. Addressing delegates is IAM President William W. Winpisinger.

Meany Terms Budget Cutbacks Unfair Burden on Workers, Poor

(Continued from Page 1)

agreement with the assertion by Council on Wage & Price Stability Chairman Alfred Kahn that social programs cannot be funded because "the middle class and upper middle class are unwililng to take the cuts that are needed.

"I just don't believe Mr. Kahn," Meany said. "I don't believe America's middle class has become as hard-hearted as the corporations and the vested interests have always been."

Meany's remarks came in a speech to a Leadership Conference on Civil Rights awards dinner the same day the Administration's budget proposals were released. Meany noted that the conference had "endured seven presidents and 15 Congresses" since it was formed 29 years ago, and the battlegrounds of civil rights are a kaleidoscope of issues with this year's focus on the budget.

"Sometimes the battleground is voting rights, fair housing or the minimum wage," Meany noted and said the budget battleground wasn't the choosing of the groups that make up the leadership conference. "We would rather fight for improvements, not just defend past gains from the attacks of the budget cutters."

In that fight, Meany pledged the same commitment the conference has known from the AFL-CIO throughout its life. What's at stake, he said, is to "challenge those who would use the Proposition 13 mentality to widen the gap between those who have much and those who have little. We will not permit the politics of greed to destroy the commitment America has made to build a society based on social and economic justice."

That doesn't mean workers, blacks, retirees, or the poor aren't willing to sacrifice, he said, "Of course they're willing to 'tighten their belts, to join in the national 'sacrifice' to achieve austerity. What they ask is how about someone else joining the fight."

Meany equated the call to go slow or hold back on the federal budget as a direct descendant of those who told civil rights leaders to "go slow" or "don't rock the boat."

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) made the same point in his address to the dinner, which honored retiring AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller and Msgr. George G. Higgins of the U.S. Catholic Conference. **(Story, this page.)**

Kennedy said Dr. Martin Luther King was often told "the time isn't right" or hold on, "your time will come."

"Today there are some who say that the time has come for another pause, to lower our sights on civil rights and accept a time of austerity. And as part of this austerity, they are urging across-the-board retrenchment in many of the most important social programs that have done so much for so many in our country."

Kennedy also made a commitment to help the leadership conference fight the inequities in the budget cuts.

Meany spelled out several areas—with dollar amounts—on what the federal budget meant in terms of worker sacrifice. The proposed social security slash would save $600 million, he noted. That's less than half what the U.S. Treasury is losing through the reduction in capital gains taxation voted in last year's tax bill.

Similarly, Meany noted the budget's plan to deprive 100,000 low-income Americans of their route out of poverty through slashes in CETA jobs. That would save one-third as much, Meany said, as reducing the interest rates on the federal debt to the levels of a year ago.

For 3 Decades of Service:

Rights Award Cites Biemiller, Higgins

Principal figures from three decades of civil rights campaigns shared memories of historic legislative struggles and concluded that the battles ahead may be even tougher as the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights met in Washington for its 29th annual meeting.

Msgr. George G. Higgins of the U.S. Catholic Conference and Andrew J. Biemiller, who retired Jan. 1 as AFL-CIO legislative director, were recipients of the conference's Hubert H. Humphrey Civil Rights Award at a banquet during the two-day Washington meeting.

The conference is chaired by Clarence Mitchell of the NAACP, another veteran civil rights lobbyist, and the presentation was conducted by Bayard Rustin, organizer of the 1963 March on Washington who is now chairman of the A. Philip Randolph Institute. The conference is a coalition of 150 national organizations like those represented by Higgins, Biemiller, Mitchell and Rustin.

The presence of former Sen. Muriel Humphrey, widow of the Minnesota senator for whom the award is named, evoked the memory of an early civil rights milestone, the 1948 Democratic convention.

It was the first to adopt a strong civil rights platform, which was accomplished with Humphrey as the orator, Biemiller as the floor strategist and Rustin outside with what he recalled as a group of about 14 pickets who got their first notice when Humphrey joined them.

And the principals recalled working for another 30 years—including 1969 when they started alone in questioning Nixon's Supreme Court nominees.

Mrs. Humphrey outlined the effort needed in the future to fulfill the promise of civil rights with full economic opportunity for blacks, other minorities and workers of all stripes.

"It is always harder to protect what you've won in the past," she noted, than it is to mount new and glamorous crusades.

That's because the battle ahead involves the complexities of federal budget on the whole spectrum of jobs, education, housing and health care—all among the topics of the legislative work for which Biemiller and Higgins were honored.

The "communality among civil rights, social justice and economic equality" legislation was also noted by Labor Sec. Ray Marshall when he presented Higgins and Biemiller with the Labor Dept's Award of Merit.

He saluted Biemiller for the AFL-CIO's continuing leadership role on issues from social security to full employment, and he cited Msgr. Higgins as "never a temporizer" and one who embraced controversial issues and repeatedly reminded the nation that "collective bargaining is an important moral right."

The Administration's proposed federal budget for fiscal 1980 was one of the six major topics to which sessions of the Leadership Conference were devoted. The awards dinner drew a gathering of 700 and the work sessions—the Leadership Conference's first under a two-day format—also had record attendance.

Kenneth Young, Biemiller's successor as AFL-CIO legislative director, made the budget presentation. Other sessions discussed amending the Senate filibuster rules, ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and the amendment to give the District of Columbia full representation in Congress, enforcing equal job opportunities, and school integration in the 25 years since the Supreme Court's epic 1954 decision in Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education.

Senate Urged to Back Rules Reform Efforts

(Continued from Page 1)

designed to keep bills from even getting to the Senate floor, and it would clamp down on the array of delaying tactics that senators can now employ even after cloture has been voted.

Young told the state federation officers that labor's interests have been hurt by such delaying tactics on a broad array of bills—including civil rights measures, campaign financing, social security, consumer protection, voter registration and energy issues as well as direct labor legislation.

Byrd's rules package also would allow three-fifths of the Senate to impose a rule that amendments to a bill must be "germane" to the subject matter of the bill.

"Under present rules," Young noted, "any amendment is in order on any bill, creating the oft-criticized 'Christmas tree' bills and causing amendments dealing with controversial issues, such as OSHA, business and abortion to be attached to bills dealing with other matters."

Unless a unanimous-consent agreement is reached on a procedure for voting on rules changes, Byrd has indicated he will ask the Senate to proceed under its constitutional authority to establish its own rules at the start of each Congress. To maintain that start-of-the-session status, he has held back other legislative business pending agreement on a rules change vote.

Young wrote senators urging them to support Byrd on that key procedural issue if it comes to a showdown so that the Senate can "undertake reasoned discussion and action on necessary rules changes."

A Senate rule adopted in 1959 requires a two-thirds vote to change the Senate's rules. But a series of presiding officers have given opinions that the Senate has a constitutional right to act by majority vote at the start of a Congress and Byrd said he doesn't consider the new 96th Congress "bound by the dead hand of the 86th Congress," which adopted the two-thirds requirement.

Nation's Job Gains over 5 Years Concentrated in Services, Trade

Employment figures covering the past five years show large job gains in the services and retail trade industries with the overall number of manufacturing jobs rising only slightly.

As measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics survey of households, total employment increased by 10,205,000, or 12 percent, to 95,855,000 between December 1973 and December 1978. The survey, which provides information on age, race, sex, and occupation of workers, shows that 6.3 million of the new jobholders were adult women, compared to only 3.3 million adult men and 600,000 teenagers.

During the past year, employment as measured by BLS's survey of business establishments increased by 3.6 million, substantially greater than in earlier periods. Over the five-year span, payroll totals were up 9.3 million to 87.3 million.

Analyzing the figures, the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research noted that employment in services and retail trade each increased by almost 3 million from 1973 levels. State and local government employment rose nearly 1.5 million, while manufacturing employment, at 20,724,000, returned to its pre-1973 peak.

The manufacturing increases were primarily in non-production employment—up 393,000—while production - worker employment was down by 101,000, the AFL-CIO observed. Some manufacturing sectors made substantial gains in employment while others decreased dramatically.

Gains were reported in the following industries: lumber, fabricated metal products, transportation, instruments and related products, printing and publishing, chemicals and allied products, petroleum and coal products, rubber and plastics products, and machinery, except electrical.

Decreases were reported in furniture and fixtures, primary metal industries, electrical equipment and supplies, food and kindred products, tobacco, textile mill products, apparel and other products, paper and allied products, leather and leather products, miscellaneous manufacturing, and stone, clay and glass products.

Black employment over the five-year period increased 14.3 percent but not fast enough to provide the additional jobs needed for blacks whose unemployment level has increased substantially. White employment grew by 11.7 percent.

White-collar employment increased 17 percent but blue-collar employment was up only 6 percent over the five-year-period. Service employment grew by 16 percent. Professional and technical employment rose 2.5 million, or 21 percent, and clerical employment rose 2.4 million, or 16 percent.

The number of blue-collar, semi-skilled workers actually decreased by 38,000, or five-tenths of 1 percent, while the number of farm workers continued to decrease, declining by 305,000, or nearly 10 percent.

Unemployment in December 1978, at 5.9 percent, was slightly improved from the 6.3 percent level a year earlier, and substantially better than the 7.7 percent level two years earlier.

"However, in relation to five years ago, prior to the 1975 recession," the AFL-CIO pointed out, "unemployment remains a full percentage point higher than in December 1973."

The higher levels of unemployment hold for all categories of workers. Adult males, adult females, teenagers, and experienced workers encountered unemployment approximately one percentage point higher than in December 1973. The notable exception was in black unemployment which, at 11.5 percent, is still three full percentage points higher than in December 1973.

To Hold Down Deficit:

'Lean and Austere' Budget Asks Cut in Job Programs

(Continued from Page 1)

In reality, the funding of various programs will be largely determined by Congress, and the revenue the government takes in will be substantially influenced by economic conditions.

Thus, the Administration budget shows a first-year "savings" of more than $600 million in social security outlays. But this assumes that Congress will obediently enact the reductions in social security benefits the President is seeking. The reality is that House Ways & Means Committee Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) promptly said his committee won't even consider the Administration proposal this year.

Another budget reduction sought by Carter would require Congress to sharply cut federal "impact" grants to school districts attended by children of government employees or kids from public housing projects. This is a perennial Executive Branch proposal that Congress each year has ignored.

On the outgo side, the Carter budget assumes that $2.5 billion will be paid out through the complex "wage insurance" tax credit the Administration has proposed to compensate workers for the difference between the 7 percent "guideline" limit on pay increases and the anticipated higher rate of inflation. But the initial congressional reaction has been distinctly dubious.

The biggest part of the budget represents payments required by law or otherwise not affected by executive or legislative decisions. By the government's own calculations, only $134.8 billion of a projected $531.6 billion in outlays falls in even the "relatively controllable" spending category.

The biggest budget increase sought by the President is in defense spending, which he has put down for a 3 percent rise in "real dollars"—after the effect of inflation has been squeezed out. Carter also asked more funds for foreign assistance and proposed changes in some domestic programs that would target a greater share of available resources for the most needy and disadvantaged.

But even with the few areas of "real" budget increases, the President's proposals amount to a net reduction of $12.6 billion from the sums needed to maintain current service levels, the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research estimates.

The President's Office of Management & Budget used so-called "zero-based budgeting" to examine all of the government's programs in light of the Administration's economic objectives.

Thus, the budget does not seek renewal of some key anti-recession programs of recent years, such as labor-intensive local public works. But cuts in some other areas are less drastic than the OMB had initially proposed as a result of strong objections from federal administrators and groups that would be hardest hit.

With the President's budget proposals as an obvious reference point, Congress will begin its own budget-setting procedures. This will start with legislative committees sending to the House and Senate budget committees their estimates of the cost of programs they will be considering. At the same time, the independent Congressional Budget Office will be making its set of economic assumptions and its analysis of the impact of various budget decisions.

By mid-May, Congress will have set an initial budget target of its own that will in effect act as a spending ceiling. The budget it draws up will be further modified as the fiscal year draws closer.

Most congressional comments on the President's budget proposals endorsed the anti-inflation theme, with criticisms focused on specific areas of inadequacy related to home-district concerns. And some Democrats as well as Republicans were saying, at least for public consumption, that Congress should go even further than Carter proposed in holding down spending.

But there was concern also that the Administration's attempt to decelerate the economy could bring on a recession, and congressional budget-makers will be keeping a close eye on the economic indicators as they add up their figures.

At a briefing for reporters, Council of Economic Advisers chairman Charles L. Schultze said the Administration hopes that Congress will stick to the proposed spending ceiling "and not move it around because of some moderate deviations in the economy." But he acknowledged that all signals would be off "if economic events should depart very significantly from what we have indicated."

Here is how the Carter Administration's budget proposals would affect some of the programs of special interest to workers:

JOB PROGRAMS—The number of public service jobs under the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA) would be cut from the present level of 625,000 to 467,000 by the end of fiscal 1980. The Administration claims that part of this job loss will be made up through increased private sector hiring of the disadvantaged as a result of a special tax credit enacted last year. CETA funds would be slashed by $700 million, but more funds would be sought for private-sector programs.

There would also be a cut of $100 million in the summer youth jobs program, which the Labor Dept. says would be met by raising the age at which youngsters could be hired from 14 to 15.

In the Agriculture Dept. budget, the Youth Conservation Corps would be virtually eliminated.

WORKER PROTECTION—The Labor Dept., would receive funds for the 286 new OSHA enforcement positions added by Congress last year, but overall funding for worker protection and labor standards enforcement would be below current levels, even without allowance for the impact of inflation.

SOCIAL SECURITY—The following cuts would be made in existing benefits:

- Abolition of benefits now available to dependent children of deceased workers between the ages of 18 and 22 who are fulltime students at colleges or other post-secondary institutions.
- Elimination of the $255 lump-sum death benefit to help pay funeral costs when a covered worker dies. A smaller benefit would be available to the very needy under the supplemental social insurance (SSI) program.
- Hereafter, persons with low earnings under covered employment would no longer be guaranteed at least $122 a month in minimum social security benefits.
- An adult caring for children of a deceased worker would have benefits cut off when the youngest child reaches 16 instead of the present 18-year cutoff. The proposal would not affect the child's benefits.
- Social security benefits would be reduced for persons also receiving civil service pensions.
- Disability rules would be tightened.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES—Federal pay raises would again be held to 5.5 percent, significantly below the anticipated inflation level and only about half the amount estimated to catch up with the private industry comparability formula.

The President's budget message termed it "vital that the government set an appropriate example by remaining within the guidelines that others have been asked to follow." It said the Administration will also propose "comprehensive" changes in federal pay-setting procedures.

Federal employment would be cut by 35,700 jobs under the President's budget, and proposed social security changes would cut the retirement income of persons entitled to both a civil service pension and social security.

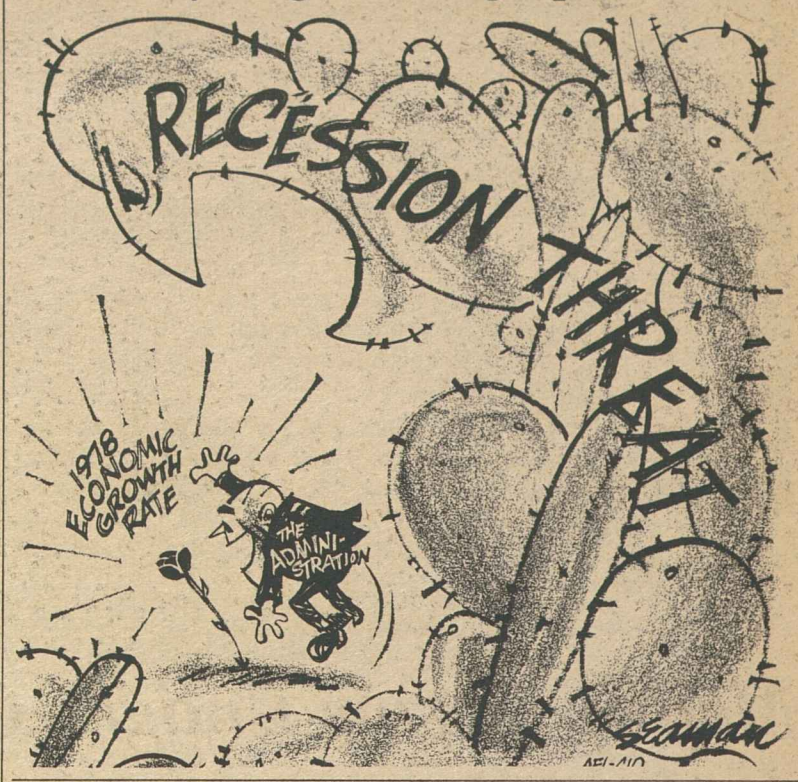
EDUCATION—There would be more funds for elementary and secondary schools serving poor neighborhoods, but a number of other education-related programs would be cut. One proposed economy would reduce school lunch subsidies.

HOUSING — Projects in the pipeline will result in a rise in subsidized housing starts, but commitments for future projects would be reduced. Housing rehabilitation funding would be slashed.

HEALTH — Most health programs would slip in relation to inflation, and grants to nursing and medical students would be substantially cut. The Administration is counting on congressional enactment of its hospital cost containment program as a big money-saver.

CITIES — Most anti-recession programs would be reduced or dropped, but the Administration will propose a National Development Bank to channel aid to cities.

'Everything's Coming Up Roses!'



Economic Growth Rate Shows Year-End Surge

The real gross national product—the nation's total output of goods and services—rose at an annual rate of 6.1 percent during the last three months of 1978, bringing real GNP growth for the year to 3.9 percent.

The 1978 rate was more modest than the 4.9 percent rate of 1977 and the 5.7 percent rate of 1976. The Carter Administration forecasts a real increase of 3.3 percent this year and 2.5 percent next year.

In releasing the fourth-quarter figures on the economy, the Commerce Dept. emphasized that they were based on preliminary and incomplete data and are subject to revision.

The October-December growth rise compared with increases at a 2.6 percent annual rate in the previous quarter and 8.7 percent in the second quarter and a decline of one-tenth of 1 percent in the first.

Commerce Sec. Juanita M. Kreps noted in a statement that the strong fourth-quarter growth rate would not continue in 1979 but added that "the fourth-quarter's performance increases my confidence that the slowdown will not turn into a recession."

The latest government report on the economy contained further signs of rising inflation. As measured by what the Commerce Dept. calls its GNP price deflator, inflation reached a seasonally adjusted 8.1 percent annual rate in the final three months of last year, picking up from the third quarter's 6.9 percent rate.

For all of last year, the inflation rate rose to 7.4 percent, as measured by the GNP-based statistic, considered the broadest gauge of price rises. This compared to a 5.9 percent rise in 1977 and 5.2 percent in 1976.

Adjusted for inflation, fourth-quarter GNP rose to a $1.412 trillion annual rate from a $1.391 trillion rate in the third quarter. For all of 1978, real GNP rose to $1.385 trillion, from $1.333 trillion in 1977 and $1.271 trillion in 1976.

Consumer spending was brisk in the fourth quarter, especially for autos, television sets, and other durable goods. Personal consumption expenditures, constituting about two-thirds of GNP, rose by $45.3 billion in current dollars during the last three months of 1978, compared with a $34 billion rise in the third quarter. In real (1972) dollars, the increase for all of 1978 was 3.9 percent, with a fourth-quarter rise of 6.8 percent.

Carter Program Tied To Inflation Strategy

President Carter reiterated his support for labor law reform, promised a "first step to develop a national health plan," and endorsed "limited public financing of congressional election campaigns."

But overall, the President's State of the Union address to Congress and the American people broke little new ground and expressed cautious optimism that the nation can somehow solve its problems at home and abroad.

His "new foundation" theme reiterated the Administration's anti-inflation strategy of holding down government spending coupled with "responsible wage and price restraint." This, Carter insisted, will lower inflation "without contriving either a recession with its high unemployment or unworkable mandatory government controls."

He set the stage for a Senate battle over a new strategic arms limitation agreement with the Soviet Union by promising that any pact he will sign would enhance national security, provide verification that the Soviets meet their part of the bargain, and leave the United States with an "overwhelming" deterrent force.

Carter got his loudest applause from the joint session of the House and Senate by calling for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

He endorsed the concept of "affirmative action for those who carry the extra burden of past denial of equal opportunity" and spoke out strongly for the Administration hospital cost containment proposal that died in the last Congress.

Carter for the first time gave a formal endorsement to so-called "sunset" legislation that would automatically terminate government programs unless Congress periodically renews them. Most liberal groups have expressed concern that such legislation could be turned into a booby trap against needed programs that don't have a strong political constituency.

The President was scheduled to send a more detailed follow-up message to Capitol Hill.

Denison Named to Legislative Post

Ray Denison, an AFL-CIO legislative representative since 1967, has been appointed by President George Meany as associate director of the Dept. of Legislation. He succeeds Kenneth Young, now the department director.

Denison, 55, was on the AFL-CIO public relations staff from 1963 to 1967 and earlier had held posts with the Seafarers and the UAW.

A native of Dearborn, Mich., and the son of a charter member of the UAW, Denison was a tool and die apprentice at the Ford Motor Co.

After World War II service, he became managing editor of the Seafarers Log and received a journalism degree from New York University. Subsequently, he served as a regional editor of Solidarity, the UAW newspaper, and before coming to the AFL-CIO staff was an official of the Great Lakes District of the Seafarers.

The Budget and Civil Rights

THE BUDGET FIGHTS which confront us this year are what the Leadership Conference is all about. This organization has always known that statutory rights to equality are only empty promises if the means to achieve that equality are denied.

The legal right to eat in the restaurant of your choice is meaningless if you are broke. The statutory right to a college of your choice is a fraud to anyone denied a quality education as a child. The right to an equal chance for a job is a phony if there are no jobs.

For many Americans, social programs are the vital link between the promise and the realization and so adequate funding for social programs is a civil rights issue and to deny that funding is to violate the civil rights of those in need.

We must—and we will—challenge those who would use the Proposition 13 mentality to further widen the gap between those who have much and those who have little. We must not—and we will not—permit the politics of greed to destroy the commitment America has made to build a society based on social and economic justice.

It is up to us—the organizations which belong to this Leadership Conference—to ask the tough questions not being asked today in American politics.

POLITICIANS SAY they have to make "tough" decisions to cut social programs. Why not make the "tough" decision to close tax loopholes benefiting the rich?

What kind of economic sense is there in slashing federal funding for education in the same year that the corporate income tax rate is reduced?

Why eliminate 100,000 CETA jobs in order to "save" $1 billion, rather than reducing the interest rates on the federal debt to the levels of a year ago and save $3 billion? Why ask workers to sacrifice their jobs in order to fight inflation rather than asking the banks to sacrifice some profits?

Why not consider the human cost, rather than always the dollar cost? Economists, who rarely agree with organized labor, report that a budget deficit of $40 billion—rather than that sacred $30 billion—would add less than one-quarter of 1 percent to the inflation rate. Isn't it fair to ask, how many lives must be injured in order to "save" that one-quarter of 1 percent?

Ten billion dollars could mean one million CETA jobs—one million unemployed workers given a chance and an opportunity. Aren't one million jobs worth one-quarter of 1 percent?

For the same money that it will cost the federal government to pay higher interest rates on the federal debt in fiscal 1979, America could have 200,000 more job-training slots for young people and another $2 billion in low-interest loans for low and moderate-income housing. Is it wrong to suggest taking some of the cost of inflation out of the profits of the bankers rather than out of the hides of the poor?

As far as the AFL-CIO is concerned, the fight against inflation must be on the basis of equality of sacrifice—not the sacrifice of equality.

From an address by AFL-CIO President George Meany to the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

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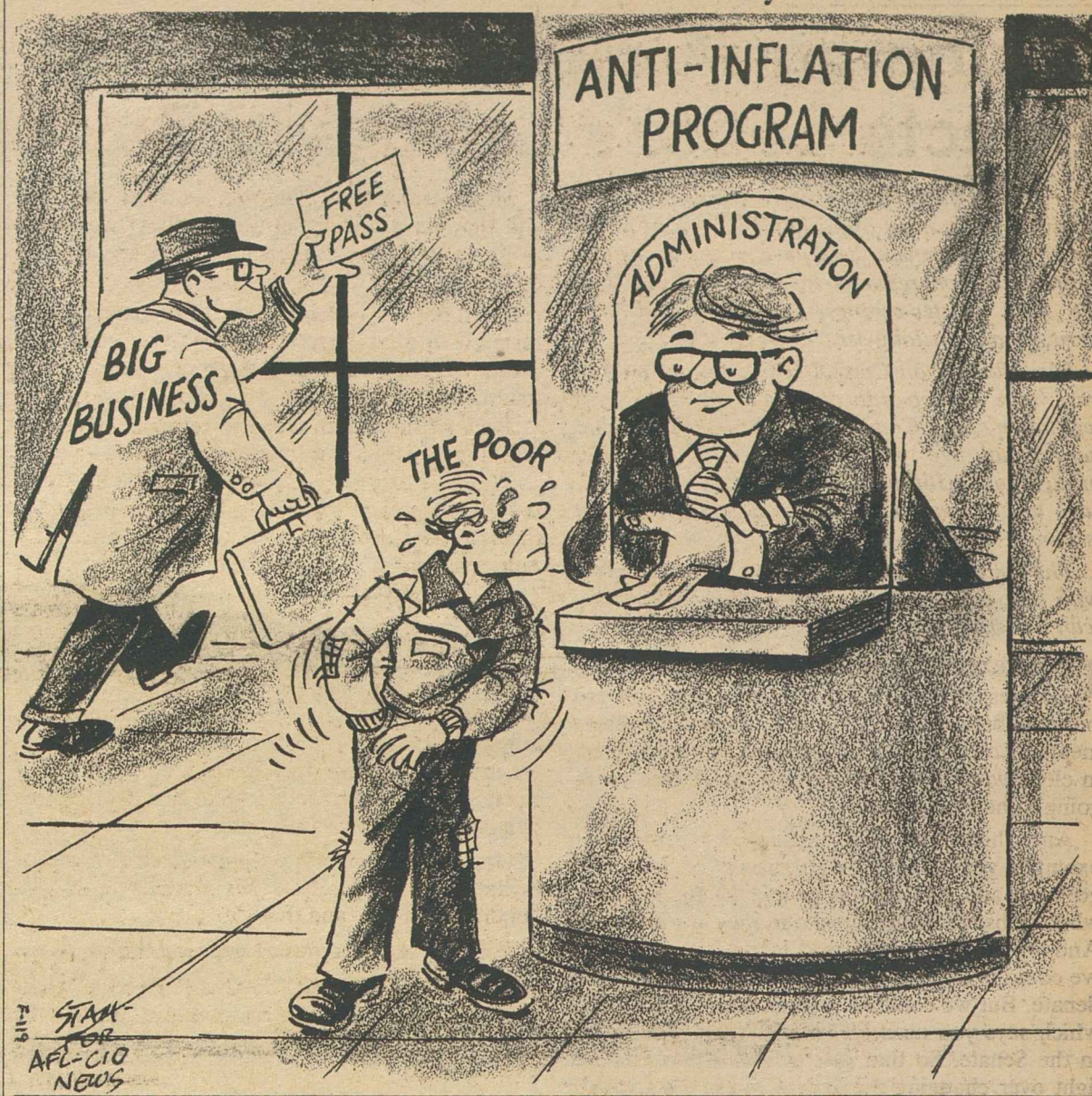
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'Well, Someone's Got to Pay!'



Cutting Down 'Insiders':

New Legislative Move Seeks To Reform Corporate Boards

By Gus Tyler

A LEGISLATIVE MOVE in which American corporations are governed will be introduced in Congress by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio). Passage of the bill could have revolutionary consequences.

The proposal to take the running of America's mega-companies out of the hands of a tight little self-perpetuating group of "insiders" to make corporations more socially responsive is, in a sense, the fruit of many decades of frustration.

For well over a century, America has been trying to find some way to make the giants of our economy behave—without any real success. The first attempt to control the biggies runs back to the farm-based "populists" in this country with their demands for "regulation" of the railroads.

At that time, the "roads" were the largest corporations in the country, beating farmers into the ground with discriminatory prices and rebates; beating their employees into the ground with armed thugs; cheating investors with watered stock.

Out of agrarian protest came the Interstate Commerce Commission with its legislative commitment to "regulate" the naughty lines. Since that time, many "regulatory commissions" have been set up to protect farmers, workers, consumers, investors against unscrupulous practices. After about a hundred years of this, the record is only fair, at best, largely because corporate power has been able to "regulate" their regulators.

A second effort to deal with the biggies was popularized by Teddy Roosevelt with his crusade to "bust the trusts." We have a body of legislation aimed at keeping the monopolies and shared monopolies down to manageable dimensions. But, after about three-quarters of a century of trust-busting, the nation finds itself more trustified than ever as horizontal monopolies went vertical and then conglomerate.

A third effort that enjoyed a modest modicum of success in the early years of this century was the socialist solution to have the government take over the "means of production and exchange." Indeed, at one point (1912) the otherwise conservative-minded American Federation of Labor actually went on record officially as favoring nationalization of major utilities and industries in America. But in the post World War I period, the socialist solution lost much of its appeal to the nation.

At present, it appears that we have come to resign ourselves to the notion that we cannot break up the big corporations, we cannot really regulate them and we are not about to socialize them. So what do we do?

The Metzenbaum idea is to change that spirit of the corporations by changing the composition of the boards that run these potentially menacing aggregations of wealth. He would, for starters, like to cut down on the number of "insiders" on these boards: insiders being managers, suppliers, related banks, house lawyers, etc.

Should the Metzenbaum reform go through—as indeed it may—then we may expect that others will seek legislation to provide board seats to all sorts of constituencies that are profoundly affected by corporate actions. Among such interested parties would be consumers, minorities, women, employees, environmentalists, local governments. The implications are far-reaching if the bill ever gets past the forseeable corporate opposition.

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Marshall Sees Unity On Critical Issues

It is important for us to explore our differences, but I am also convinced that the things that unite us are far more important than the things that divide us.

I don't have to tell you that many of the things that we all believe in are being challenged on many fronts. Nothing illustrates the climate of hostility and fear that is loose in the land better than last year's debate over labor law reform.

A Democratic governor of a major state is calling for a constitutional convention to mandate a balanced budget. Despite Administration efforts, Congress is reluctant to do anything to close tax loopholes. Inflation and the fears that go with it are contributing to a mood of selfishness under which many regard any government program as a giveaway.

—Sec. of Labor Ray Marshall at legislative conference of the Machinists.

Reflections by Biemiller:

Changing Makeup of Congress Affects Labor's Lobbying Role

Andrew J. Biemiller has been involved in the legislative process most of his adult life—as a member of the Wisconsin legislature in the 1930s, as a two-term congressman in the 1940s, and for the past quarter-century as organized labor's most prominent lobbyist.

His influence on Capitol Hill stemmed only in part from the job title of AFL-CIO director of legislation. To a Congress whose typical member has about five years of seniority, Biemiller brought an institutional memory and a knowledge of congressional rules and procedures that is almost unmatched.

The following is excerpted from an interview with him in the January 1979 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

I DON'T THINK we're spread too thin. We're interested in all of the matters that concern our members. We are American citizens as well as members of trade unions. We have a real interest in clean water, clean air and so forth. And we're going to be in these fights.

And there's no one single labor issue. For example, you get into the question of trade. If you go back and talk to the people in the factories whose jobs are being wiped out, they are in revolt. And we could have passed labor law reform if we could ever have gotten the bill to a vote in the Senate. But we couldn't do it because of Rule 22, which says you need 60 votes to stop a filibuster in the Senate. So that gets us into the legislative fight over changing the Senate rules. It's a tough one.

So we've got to be involved in all these things. Now on the tax bill, we had maybe two of our own staff and about five other labor lobbyists who were really working on it, on the whole bill. But you would have 50 or 60 business lobbyists working on just one part of the tax bill. And this makes a real difference.

In some congressional campaigns, you can listen to a candidate and not be sure if he is a Democrat or a Republican. They will talk exactly the same. Some don't even identify themselves in their literature as Republicans or Democrats. It's just 'Vote for Brown' or 'Vote for Smith.' The sense of party loyalty isn't there.

In Congress, party leadership is weaker and I'm not blaming the leaders.

Most members of Congress are relatively new and they have taken the attitude that "we aren't going to have any leadership telling us what to do."

They are not interested in their party's platform. They are interested in how to get re-elected in the 7th District of New York or wherever they may come from.

Each of them is thinking in terms of what will sell in my district, not in national terms.

We have to do a better job of trying to excite the grass roots. I've been asked so many times that I've lost track, "are you sure you are really representing the people back home?"

On a big issue, we can get people to sign cards. But we have to get personal letters.

Now it's very difficult for a worker who comes home from the shop to sit down and write a personal letter to his congressman and maybe a letter to each of his senators. And I've seen workers in a factory who were really fired up on some matter, but it's hard to translate that feeling into communication with Congress.

On the other hand, a Chamber of Commerce businessman just calls in his secretary and says "blah, blah, blah" and that's it.

We have to find a way of cracking this problem.

FEDERAL FINANCING of election campaigns is a difficult thing to work out, but it's the only way I know of stopping the excessive influence of money.

You have the right-wing fund raising operation that brings in all kinds of money for candidates who use it. But even if you had public financing, we don't know any way around the Supreme Court decision that allows candidates to put as much of their own money as they want into their own campaigns. There isn't anything to stop a rich person from throwing money into a campaign.

And these business Political Action Committees have really grown, and there's going to be a lot more of them. I think we've got a real problem on our hands because it takes so much money to run an election campaign. I was talking to a House member who decided not to run for reelection and he said that in his district more than $500,000 was spent by each candidate this year. Now this is beginning to get out of hand.

Social Security Protection:

Proposed Slashes in Benefits Seen Upsetting Family Finances

EXTENSION of the Carter Administration's budget-cutting plan to reduce long-standing social security protections would be a serious blow to workers who depend on the benefits they earn and pay for as part of their economic planning.

That warning was made by AFL-CIO Associate Director of Social Security Lawrence Smedley, who declared that the White House cutbacks would have a stiff impact on the typical working family that suffers the loss of a breadwinner through death or disability. He said that "workers have made contributions to and worked under this program on the assumption that certain benefits would be available to them and their families."

Wiping out or reducing those protections now "would be a breach of faith," Smedley stressed in an interview on Labor News Conference.

Smedley said that benefits for full-time students age 18 to 22, who are the children of deceased workers and the $255 death benefit that everybody is now entitled to, are among the major protections that the Carter Administration is asking Congress to write out of the social security program.

He turned aside the suggestion that the federal student loan program could replace the social security student benefit program. He said that the Administration's new budget does not adequately fund the student loan program and that even if loans were available, the cost of a college education would be out of reach for the typical family that has lost its principal income earner.

Smedley noted that the death benefit is minimal, and that dropping it would save little on the over-all budget. But, he stressed, even that small amount "is a real help to low-income families." He added, "at least you have a down payment" to help assure that "the members of the family will be buried properly."

The federation's social insurance expert said that labor will be working closely with groups that represent the elderly particularly the National Council of Senior Citizens—for the defeat of benefit cutbacks in Congress. He also reiterated labor's call for general revenues funds for government to share in financing the social security system to help ease the heavy payroll tax burden on workers.

He was questioned by William Steif of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. Labor News Conference is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and is aired weekly on the Mutual radio network.



At a Higher Price:

By Any Other Name It's Still Soft Soap

By Sidney Margolius

THIS IS AN ERA of invented foods and toiletries under invented and often even meaningless names when a lab-concocted powder of sugar, citric acid, starches, preservatives and synthetic vitamin C becomes the morning's Tang, and a blend of flour, bread crumbs, fat and seasonings becomes something called Shake 'n' Bake.

It's also an age when a blend of peanuts, vegetable oil, sugar and artificial flavor becomes Koogle; a chocolate sauce becomes Swell Brown Stuff on Ice Cream; a chuck steak becomes a "patio steak;" a liquid yogurt with added sugar and thickener becomes Le Shake; a powdered soybean protein with added flavorings and artificial coloring becomes Make A Better Burger, and a soft drink is Yabba Dabba Dew.

Now reconstituted potato chips are Pringles, Kaboom is a breakfast food, Booberry is a sugar cereal, and Moon Dust is a topping of apple bits.

The cereal manufacturers now seem to want to call their products anything but cereal. Two recent ones are Grins & Smiles and Giggles & Laughs. Moonstone and Wheels are fruit-flavored cereals. The trend also has hit hot cereals. The new name for Quaker Oats Farina is Hot & Creamy.

Pop Rocks, if you haven't heard yet, are carbonated crystals which pop when released in your mouth; Whip and Poof is a non-dairy topping; Oven Lovin' is pan-style dinner rolls; Sizzelean is a pork breakfast product. Funny Face, Squooze and Quirst are all drinks or drink mixes. Country Time is a lemonade flavor drink (note the word flavor). It was really concocted on laboratory time.

Even pet food has joined the name game with such identity hiders as Lovin' Spoonfuls.

The identity-hiding game is spreading to household medicines with such products as Sting No More, for insect bites.

Toothpastes have long been notorious for such nondescriptive names as Aim and Closeup. But many co-ops and other retailers have their own brands which they simply call Toothpaste or Flouridated toothpaste.

In liquid cleaners, too, some have such names as Janitor In A Drum or Mr. Clean. But some house brands still are just called Liquid Cleaner.

ALL THIS MIGHT BE just funny if it didn't cost more. Almost always, the more fanciful the name the more you pay for the same basic product.

The most noticeable examples are the breakfast cereals and soy products. In the soy products, ordinary Soy Granules cost least, Plus Meat is in between and Make A Better Burger most expensive.

Various surveys have shown that the generic or no-name canned and packaged foods usually cost 10-40 percent less than the national brands.

We've been asked if these products are as good. Nutritionally and in eating quality, the answer is "yes" from all sources and experiences.

The main difference is that the generic products are usually the standard grade or Grade C or B. The brand-named and house-brand versions more usually are called "extra standard" or "fancy" grades, usually Grade A or B.

A main difference between the lower and higher grades is simply appearance. The lower grades are more likely to be less uniform and perfect in appearance, and have some uneven or broken pieces.

Where stores also offer paper goods and cleaning products in the new generic brands, the savings may be even greater, as much as 50 percent. Paper products have been among the most popular generic and house brands.

Some reports have said that some generic paper products aren't as good as brand and house-brand products. But they still sell well.

Reports are that the generic products are selling well where they're available. So if consumers do have a choice, apparently they can make a rational one despite TV repetition.

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WORKERS COULD SUFFER a stiff blow if President Carter succeeds in cutting back or dropping key social security protections as part of his budget-cutting drive, Associate Director Lawrence Smedley, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security warned. He was questioned on Labor News Conference by William Steif, left, of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc.



NEWSPAPER GUILD'S Heywood Broun award, given annually for journalistic achievement in the spirit of the Guild's founding president, was won this year by two Detroit Free Press reporters, Paul Magnusson and Susan Watson, shown accepting the $1,000 check from Patrick R. Oster, chief of the Chicago Sun-Times Washington Bureau, who was one of the judges. At left is Harry S. Culver, chairman of the Guild executive board.

Detroit Reporters Share Guild's Broun Award

A series of articles by Paul Magnusson and Susan Watson in the Detroit Free Press on abuse of patients at Michigan's Plymouth Center for retarded children has won them the Newspaper Guild's 1978 Heywood Broun Award.

The two reporters were presented with the 38th Annual Broun Award—which includes a check for $1,000 to the winners and a citation to the Free Press—at a luncheon on the opening day of the winter meeting of the Guild's executive board in Washington.

The Watson and Magnusson entry was selected from among 107 in the contest. Honorable mentions went to Gary Galloway of the Gary (Ind.) Post-Tribune and Hoag Levins of the Philadelphia News.

The award is given annually for outstanding journalistic achievement "in the spirit of Heywood Broun," the crusading newspaper columnist who helped found the union and served as its first president.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, in remarks to the awards luncheon, recalled that that spirit was marked by Broun's relentless efforts to root out wrongdoing and to aid its victims. But, he stressed, Broun was "never mean."

The judges said the award went to Watson and Magnusson because their "persistent and comprehensive effort to expose unconscionable treatment by state officials of retarded children" was on behalf of "a forgotten, inarticulate, underdog group that would surely have elicited Heywood Broun's attention and help."

Watson's and Magnusson's reporting "righted an injustice of enormous proportions, resulting in a complete overhaul of the way the state of Michigan deals with such children," the judges said.

"In addition," the judges continued, "most of those responsible for the abuse of the children at Plymouth Center, which included a death and an unnecessary amputation, were fired or charged with criminal offenses.

"Plymouth Center itself was transformed, its staff increased by 50 percent and its budget raised by $8 million, thanks to the response of the governor of the state and the state legislature," the judges concluded.

Judges of this year's contest were Hale Champion, former California and Wisconsin newspaper reporter who is now U.S. Under Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare; Patrick R. Oster, chief of the Chicago Sun-Times Washington bureau, and Sam Donaldson, ABC News White House correspondent.

Machinists Sue to Halt Price-Fixing by OPEC

Los Angeles—The Machinists charged the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its 13 member-nations with violating U.S. antitrust laws by a price-fixing conspiracy that has caused hardship to consumers and grave damage to the American economy.

The accusations were leveled in a precedent-setting suit filed in federal district court here. IAM President William W. Winpisinger told reporters that the union is "serious" in its legal challenge and filed its lawsuit in Los Angeles because all of the defendant countries have marketing or profit-sharing involvements in the area.

OPEC was created as a price-fixing mechanism, the suit notes. It cites price increases of more than 400 percent during 1973 alone, year-by-year increases thereafter, and a newly-announced series of increases that this year will total 14.5 percent.

The U.S. market is a key target of the increases, the IAM charges, with unjustified price rises costing billions of dollars each year. This country has also been the target of OPEC oil boycotts.

With OPEC price-fixing actions so clearly on public record, Winpisinger said, the chief issue is whether the cartel's activities can be reached by U.S. antitrust laws.

The union's attorneys, he said, are relying on a 1975 law, the Foreign Immunities Act, under which other countries can be sued for actions taken outside of the United States in connection with a commercial activity that has a direct impact in the United States.

Labor Battles Move to Set Funding Lid

(Continued from Page 1)

"State and local governments would face the loss of federal aid for transportation, housing, education, jobs programs and all other categories of assistance. Essential programs for people—federal aid to education, enforcement of civil rights and labor laws, funding for CETA, public works and many others—would feel the fiscal axe. . . . Key federal research and development programs in health, energy, science, agriculture and defense would be significantly curtailed. All regulatory programs in such areas as OSHA, the environment and consumer protection would be severely weakened."

Beyond the effects of its ostensible purpose, a successful right-wing drive to call the first constitutional convention since the 18th Century poses a "real danger" of opening up the Constitution to "any and all issues, no matter how extreme," Meany said. He pointed out that the threat of a "runaway convention" repealing the income tax, overturning Supreme Court decisions or pursuing other favorite goals of extremists is a distinct possibility and would pose a considerable threat to constitutional stability."

"Unfortunately," Meany concluded, "an anti-government sentiment, inflation, taxes and 'proposition 13' fever continue to engender voter discontent which lends support to this right-wing effort.

"We urge you to contact your state legislators and inform them of the AFL-CIO's absolute opposition to a constitutional convention. Given the 22-state head start on this proposal, we hope you will communicate our concern as soon as possible to state legislators and join other groups in vigorously lobbying against it."

Robert Kane Dies, Bakery Union Leader

Robert G. Kane, an executive vice president of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers, died Jan. 22 following a heart attack. He was 64.

Kane held memberships in the Mine Workers and the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union before joining the Bakery & Confectionery Workers in 1949. He was elected a vice president of the B&C in 1958 and an executive vice president in 1969. He was elected executive vice president of the merged BC&T last year.

In Social Security:

Coalition Denounces Plan to Cut Benefits

By John R. Oravec

Deep slashes in social security benefits called for in President Carter's budget will seriously hurt the people who need the assistance the most, a coalition of groups representing the elderly warned.

The Ad Hoc Leadership Council on Aging charged that the proposed cuts would wipe out an estimated $1 billion in benefits during the 1980 calendar year, with additional slashes amounting to $1.5 billion in 1981 and rising to $6.5 billion in five years.

The Administration's plan to reduce and eliminate certain benefits had the full support of Sec. Joseph A. Califano of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, the coalition noted. It also charged that Califano refused to bend when he met with coalition representatives who made a last-ditch effort to head off the proposal.

Wilbur J. Cohen, who headed HEW in the Johnson Administration, termed the cutbacks "tragic, unsound, immoral and unjustified."

The main victims of the benefit reductions will be the elderly, widows with dependent children and the disabled, said William R. Hutton, executive director of the National Council of Senior Citizens. The NCSC and the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security are among the 20 groups that make up the coalition.

The Administration's proposed cuts come in a number of crucial areas. They include the elimination of the minimum social security payment of $122 a month; ending the lump-sum $255 death benefit; halting widows' benefits when children reach age 16, instead of age 18; eliminating benefits for surviving children attending school above the secondary level, and paying benefits to survivors only if a worker is fully insured.

David Crowley, chairman of the coalition, said the group supports the President's efforts to fight inflation, but he warned that proposed social security benefit reductions would affect most those who are the major victims of inflation.

"To tamper with social security for the sake of short-term budgetary, economic or fiscal goals is to tamper with the faith of the people in the promises of government," Crowley declared.

"American workers and their families have made specific sacrifices in anticipation of social security protection in return. To reduce that protection is not only tantamount to changing the rules in the middle of the game, it is also a violation of the public trust."

Hutton termed the Administration's proposals a "gross insult" to the contributory principles on which the social security system is based.

In a subsequent message to NCSC members, Hutton said that any changes in the social security programs should not be made without the review of congressionally mandated commissions, particularly the Social Security Advisory Council.

"Fortunately, the Administration cannot put its proposals into effect without approval of the Congress, through the recommendations of the House Ways & Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee," Hutton observed.

He said that groups representing the elderly now have the task of convincing Congress that if any changes in vital programs are implemented they should be based on the solid principles of the social security system.

Maine Labor Honors Dorsky on Retirement

Bangor, Me.—Delegates to the Maine AFL-CIO honored President Benjamin J. Dorsky on his retirement after heading the state labor federation and its AFL predecessor for the past 42 years and elected Charles O'Leary to succeed him.

O'Leary, director of the Bureau of Labor Education at the University of Maine since 1972, was elected to a four-year term at the State AFL-CIO's 12th biennial convention over Marvin Ewing of the Paperworkers. O'Leary is a member of the State, County & Municipal Employees and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The 220 delegates to the three-day convention also voted to create the post of president-emeritus for Dorsky, who was first elected president at the State AFL-CIO merger convention in 1956 following 30 years as head of the AFL state body. Dorsky has been a member of the Theatrical Stage Employees since 1920.

In a message to Dorsky, AFL-CIO President George Meany expressed his best wishes to the retiring state federation official and said "your leadership, which has spanned over 40 years, will serve as an inspiration to those that follow you."

The convention unanimously approved a 10-cent increase in monthly per capita payments in an effort to put the state federation on a sounder financial footing and in anticipation of a battle in the state legislature over a "right-to-work" measure. Per capita payments will increase from 30 to 40 cents effective Feb. 1.

In an address to a banquet honoring Dorsky, Maine Gov. Joseph E. Brennan (D), pledged to veto any measure outlawing the union shop should it reach his desk. Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Maine) also addressed the convention banquet.

Delegates elected Donald Cates of the Paperworkers as the state federation's vice president and six new members of the executive board. They are Frank Duffy, Jr., IBEW Herbert Clark, Plumbers & Pipe Fitters; Guy Pelletier, UPIU; Edwin Merrill, Plumbers, and Jane Weed, AFSCME. Six incumbent board members were re-elected.

The term of Sec.-Treas. Gary B. Cook has two years remaining.



Rise in Unemployment:

Carter's Economic Report Prescribes Slower Growth

(Continued from Page 1)

responds to the President's anti-inflation program. The Humphrey-Hawkins bill set a goal of reducing unemployment in 1983 to 4 percent for workers aged 16 and over and 3 percent for workers aged 20 and over while setting a goal for inflation in that year of no more than 3 percent.

Success in braking and reducing the rate of inflation "is critical to our ability to attain the unemployment goals" of the Humphrey-Hawkins Act as well as the inflation goal, the President's economic advisers warned.

In his report, Carter said that on most counts the nation's prosperity rests on a solid base but he cited again and again the "serious threat" to the economy posed by rising prices. An international problem, inflation worsened in the United States last year, as consumer prices rose by 9 percent, a rapid acceleration from the 6¾ percent rate in 1977.

The President said, however, that he would not attempt to lower inflation at the expense of the society's most vulnerable members—the poor, the elderly, and those having difficulty finding jobs even in a high-employment economy.

"We will not try to wring inflation out of our economic system by pursuing policies designed to bring about a recession," he sought to assure Congress.

Many private economists, meanwhile, are predicting a recession late this year or early in 1980—a recession brought on by a combination of double-digit interest rates, tightening credit, and growing consumer debt.

In his outlook for 1979, Carter said that inflation should slow to about 7.5 percent over the year as a whole and to "somewhat below 7 percent" by the end of the year. Over the four quarters of 1979, he said, real gross national product—the value of the nation's total goods and services adjusted for inflation—should rise by about 2¼ percent, compared with a rise of about 4¼ percent in 1978.

Real GNP in the fourth quarter of 1978 rose sharply at a seasonally adjusted 6.1 percent annual rate, generating substantial momentum in economic growth in the current quarter. The President's advisers observed that economic expansion should be bolstered this year by the recently enacted tax cut measure, an action aimed largely at sustaining consumer expenditures during the first half of 1978.

Later in the year, however, as the effect of the tax cut wears off, a slower expansion of consumer purchases is foreseen by the Administration. Partly in response to current high interest rates, housing starts are expected to decline and the growth of business fixed investment will likely diminish during the year, the President's economic advisers warned.

New housing starts, which totaled approximately 2.1 million units last year, are expected to fall to the 1.5-to-1.75-million range this year, bottoming out in the fourth quarter, according to Administration economists.

In a discussion of economic objectives and policy over the longer run, the CEA report noted that the rate of real GNP growth for the 1981-83 period that will be needed to lower unemployment to 4 percent by 1983 depends on future growth rates in the labor force and in productivity — variables which they said are hard to predict. Assuming budgetary austerity, reasonable success in reducing inflation, and steadily improving productivity, however, the Administration projects that unemployment will drop to 5.4 percent in 1981, to 4.6 percent in 1982, and to the Humphrey-Hawkins 4 percent goal in 1983.

Consumer prices, forecast to drop to 6.4 percent in 1980, are projected to decline to 5.2 percent in 1981, to 4.1 percent in 1982, and to 3 percent in 1983. Real GNP, meanwhile, is seen rising by 3.2 percent in 1980, by 4.6 percent in both 1981 and 1982, and by 4.2 percent in 1983.

"Jobs and training programs to reduce structural unemployment might make it possible to achieve the goal of a 4 percent overall unemployment rate, and 3 percent for adults, with a somewhat lower rate of real output," the CEA report observed.

While efforts to reduce structural unemployment have long been part of government economic policies, the CEA noted that differential unemployment ratios among groups in the labor force are greater today than 10 years ago.

"Unless these differentials can be reduced, the prospects are dim for making substantial further reductions in the unemployment rate without creating additional inflationary pressures," the CEA said.

In his message, the President noted that while a larger proportion of the population is at work now than at any other time in the nation's history, a disproportionate share of the burden of unemployment is still borne by minority groups. Black teenage workers finished 1978 with a jobless rate of 34.9 percent, compared to 14.2 percent for their white counterparts.

The President, in his report, and Schultze, at his news briefing, dwelt at some length on the nation's "disappointing" productivity growth rate in recent years.

In 1978, the rate across the four quarters was about three-quarters of 1 percent, and the Administration forecast is for a productivity growth rate of 1.5 percent annually over the next five years.

With productivity growth at a low ebb, Carter said, "living standards will not rise as fast as they have in the past two years." Schultze said that the biggest single factor in last year's 9 percent inflation rate was the reduced rate of productivity increase.



THREAT OF LAYOFFS of U.S. workers resulting from imports of specialty steel is spelled out in a billboard campaign launched by the Steelworkers and the Specialty Steel Industry. Featured on the billboards are Rick Honaker and his family. Honaker and his wife, Dawn, display a replica of the billboard along with James M. Coyne, director of USWA District 19. The first billboard was unveiled in Pittsburgh and others are being erected in Washington, D.C., and other communities.

Transit Act Protections Clear High Court Test

The job rights and benefits of Amalgamated Transit Union members employed on public transit systems were solidified when the Supreme Court refused to hear a challenge to the labor protective provisions of the Urban Mass Transportation Act.

The Supreme Court's action left standing a ruling by the 8th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, which ordered the Kansas City Area Transit Authority to submit a new contract dispute with ATU Local 1287 to binding arbitration in accordance with the agreement signed by both parties under Section 13(c) of the act.

That section provides that an employee's terms and conditions of employment will not be adversely affected when a public agency receives federal financial assistance for transit projects. Prior to receiving federal funds, the public agency must enter into a 13(c) agreement with the union representing the workers. More than 80 percent of the 13(c) agreements negotiated by the ATU contain binding arbitration clauses.

The appeals court also rejected the transit authority's contention that state law takes precedence in 13(c) matters, ruling that "when a public agency, in order to obtain (federal funds), enters into a 13(c) agreement that calls for binding interest arbitration, the obligation to arbitrate is binding on the agency, regardless of general state law or policy."

Transit Union President Dan Maroney called the Supreme Court action "a gratifying climax to many years of struggle and sacrifice on the part of ATU members to maintain their basic rights to jobs and dignity. Hopefully, this action signals an end to the costly court fights we have been forced to engage in to ensure the rights of our members."

The Kansas City case arose when Local 1287 and the transit authority reached an impasse in bargaining on a new contract. When the transit authority refused to comply with the binding arbitration provisions of the Section 13(c) agreement, the local filed suit in U.S. District Court, which upheld the union's position. The authority then appealed the decision to the 8th Circuit Court, which rejected the appeal.

More Refiners Reach Accord With OCAW

Denver—The Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers reported that the union has extended its pattern settlements with major petroleum refiners to cover about 85 percent of its members in the industry.

OCAW President A. F. Grospiron said that the union has agreed with 42 companies on two-year contracts affecting a total of 51,095 workers. Contracts covering 9,600 workers have been ratified by the union membership, with the remainder in the process of ratification.

The agreements follow the pattern established earlier this month in the union's settlement with the Gulf Oil Corp. The contracts provide for a 73-cents-an-hour wage increase in the first year of the agreement and 5 percent in the second. They also allow for reopening of negotiations after Jan. 7, 1980, on wages, vacations, and insurance benefits.

The latest contracts to win national approval were with Quaker State, Sun Oil, Exxon, Phillips Petroleum, Champlin, Mobil, and Pennzoil.

Meanwhile, strikes over local issues continued at five locations involving OCAW members employed by Gulf, Amoco, Marathon, and Phillips.

Samuel Wolchok Dies, Pioneer in RWDSU

Samuel Wolchok, the first president of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union and an early leader of the CIO, died at the age of 82.

Wolchok, who was a member of the Ladies' Garment Workers before military service in World War I, later became the president of a Retail Clerks union in New York and helped organize the RWDSU. He was its president from 1937 to 1948, a period covering both rapid initial growth and a bitter but eventually successful battle against Communist takeover attempts.

Wolchok died on a visit to Miami Beach and funeral services were held in New York. He is survived by his wife and two children.

Labor Studies Center Lists February Schedule

The George Meany Center for Labor Studies is offering five institutes for full time union officers, representatives and staff members during February. The schedule:

Psychology of Union Leadership—Includes study of individual psychology and group dynamics, with sessions on public speaking. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, to Friday, Feb. 9.

Labor Journalism—A workshop for union editors in cooperation with the International Labor Press Association on making union publications more readable and more credible. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4 to Friday, Feb. 9.

Effective Speaking—A workshop on the communication process, leadership roles in group meetings, and the techniques of persuasion. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, to Friday, Feb. 16.

Organizing Techniques—A course in the art of organizing the unorganized, including a videotaped organizing exercise that will enable participants to judge their own performance. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11 to Friday, Feb. 16.

Arbitration: Preparation and Presentation. A course in the handling of discharge and discipline cases before an arbitrator, with videotaping and playback of mock cases. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25, to Friday, Mar. 2.

Five AFL-CIO unions and one AFL-CIO department will use the campus facilities during February for their own training programs—the State, County & Municipal Employees, Feb. 4-9; Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization, Feb. 11-16; Building & Construction Trades Dept., Feb. 18-23; Television & Radio Artists, Feb. 19-23; Amalgamated Transit Union, Feb. 25-Mar. 2; and the Newspaper Guild, Feb. 26-Mar. 2.

Beginning Feb. 12, trade unionists from 16 Central and South American countries will be on campus for five weeks training with the American Institute of Free Labor Development. These sessions were formerly held at Front Royal, Va.

Further information on these and other labor studies programs may be obtained from Fred K. Hoehler, executive director, George Meany Center, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Telephone (301) 431-6400.

State-County Names Legislative Director

Anthony P. Carnevale has been appointed legislative director of the State, County & Municipal Employees, AFSCME President Jerry Wurf announced.

Since 1975, Carnevale has been a budget, appropriations and authorization analyst with the Senate Budget Committee, chaired by Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.). He earlier served as senior policy analyst with the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

Seniority Precedent Holds:

House Democrats Choose Chairmen

House Democrats stuck with seniority and backed their party leadership to elect a Mississippi conservative, Jamie L. Whitten, chairman of the important Appropriations Committee.

Whitten was approved, 157-88, after House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill spoke out strongly against a move to bypass the committee's most senior member. Whitten succeeds another conservative, George H. Mahon of Texas, who retired from Congress.

In other House committees where previous chairmen are no longer in Congress, liberal Richard Bolling of Missouri became chairman of the important Rules Committee, Florida's Don Fuqua moved up to chairman of the Science & Technology Committee, and James M. Hanley of New York was named chairman of the Post Office & Civil Service Committee.

The other switch was in the District of Columbia Committee, where Charles C. Diggs, Jr., who is appealing a criminal conviction, was succeeded as chairman by Ronald V. Dellums of California.

In the Senate, the most notable turnabout was in the Judiciary Committee following the retirement of conservative James O. Eastland of Mississippi. His replacement is a political opposite, Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

The other Senate committee change makes Frank Church of Idaho chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. He succeeds John Sparkman of Alabama, who retired.

There was more involved maneuvering in the filling of vacancies on the most important congressional committees, where ideology, geographical distribution, length of service in Congress and personal popularity were all factors.

Within those bounds, liberal Democrats did almost as well as they could hope for in committee appointments. But like a political chess game, Republicans countered by naming some of their most conservative members to key GOP vacancies.

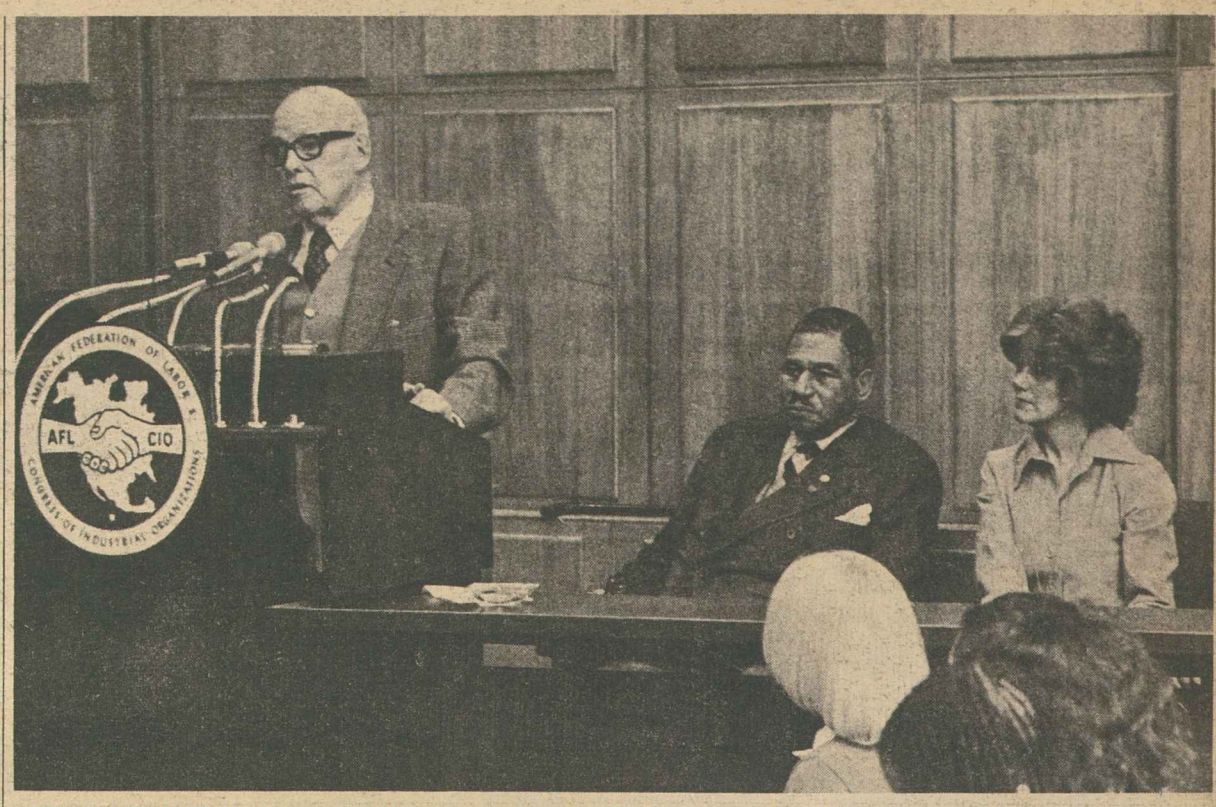
Thus, while five new Democrats on Ways & Means are on balance a notch more liberal, the two new GOP members are about as reactionary as could be found. The combined COPE voting record of California's John H. Rousselot and Louisiana's W. Henson Moore is 208 "wrong" votes to 22 "right" votes by labor's standards.

The Education & Labor Committee retains its liberal Democratic majority.

In the Senate, the Finance Committee is still the power base of Chairman Russell B. Long (D-La.), but new appointments on both the Democratic and Republican side make it a somewhat less conservative body than in the recent past.

The Senate Human Resources Committee remains an oasis of bipartisan liberalism with Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.) continuing as chairman and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) as ranking minority member.

In a switch from previous years, the Senate committee will not have a separate Labor subcommittee. Williams, who previously chaired the subcommittee, said the legislation that would have been referred to it will be taken up directly by the full Human Resources Committee.



FULL SUPPORT of the AFL-CIO is pledged by Federation President George Meany to striking Screen Actors and Television & Radio Artists. With Meany at a Washington press conference were President Frederick O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes and SAG President Kathleen Nolan.

Performers Pledged Full Support In TV, Radio Commercial Strike

AFL-CIO President George Meany pledged the full support of the federation to performing arts unions fighting to negotiate a fair settlement with advertising agencies and producers of television and radio commercials.

Members of the Screen Actors and the Television and Radio Artists have been on strike since Dec. 19 against the commercial makers.

While no meaningful talks have been held since the nationwide strike began, SAG and AFTRA reported that nearly 350 agencies and producers have signed interim agreements pending final settlement.

After meeting with a delegation of performers and officials from SAG and AFTRA, Meany pledged at a Washington press conference to make the full resources of the federation available to the unions in the dispute.

"When we get into a fight like this, we don't get out of it quickly; we stay in it until we win," he stressed. "We'll be right down the line with you in this fight."

The delegation, which included performers Ruth Warrick, Dennis Weaver, Richard Kiley and Kent McCord, noted that the strike was triggered by an employers' ultimatum that actors and actresses working on the commercials would have to appear in "alternate scenes."

In effect, the ultimatum means that they would have to perform in a number of scenes from which several commercials could be made, but be paid for only one.

"It constitutes a blank check" for the producers and a rollback from the unions' previous contracts with the employers, SAG Executive Sec. Chester L. Migden observed.

"For 25 years we have been paid for each commercial we make, and we paid dearly for that with a three-month strike in 1953," Migden said.

Sanford I. Wolff, executive secretary of AFTRA, noted that while a number of leading performers work in commercials, the unions also have members in that line of work who earn as little as $3,000 a year.

Wolff pointed out that about half of the members in SAG and AFTRA must work at other jobs to make ends meet because of their limited earnings from performances. He said about 45 percent of the unions' membership worked less than 50 days in their professions last year.

In observing the media representation of the press conference, Meany noted that the television networks had failed to assign camera crews.

"I hold a lot of press conferences in this room and it's rare when we don't have a lot of network coverage. There could be some reason for that," Meany said in referring to the influence that corporate advertisers have over TV programming cited in the SAG report.

That point was stressed by SAG President Kathleen Nolan, who cited network dependence on corporate sponsorship and ownership of network stock by multinational corporations.

Migden said that the strike had been precipitated by about 400 of the world's largest advertising agencies which represent some 150 large multinational corporate accounts.

Also participating in the press conference were President Frederick O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes, President Joe Slattery of AFTRA, and performers Martha Manning, Robyn Nash, Dee Porter, Terri Moller and Frank Harden, president of the Washington AFTRA local.

Wage Guideline Rules Scored as 'One-Sided'

Procedural rules drawn up by the Council on Wage & Price Stability to implement the Administration's so-called voluntary wage and price standards are "one more example of the one-sided nature" of the program, the AFL-CIO charged.

In a letter to COWPS General Counsel Peter Lowry, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald charged that the rules allow the agency to interfere in even the smallest collective bargaining relationship as it checks whether compliance to the wage standard is being observed, but "not so on prices. Only the largest firms are asked to supply any data on prices."

"These rules are just the latest illustration of the mounting effort by COWPS to unilaterally determine appropriate economic actions throughout the economy on an arbitrary basis," Oswald declared.

In attached comments on the rules, Oswald also questioned the legal basis for COWPS's mandatory procedure for approval of exceptions to the wage and price guidelines.

"COWPS illegally assumes for itself the authority to require prenotification and approval for wage and price exceptions," Oswald charged. The issue of prenotification of wage and price decisions was considered by Congress when it passed legislation establishing and continuing the agency, but not included in the law as finally enacted, he pointed out.

"Without benefit of statutory authority, these rules set up COWPS as rulemaker, prosecutor, judge, and jury," Oswald observed. "There is no procedure to guarantee a fair hearing or a fair determination.

"Contrary to the intent of Congress, they give to one unrepresentative administrative body control over the economic destiny of the country and over the wages earned by millions of workers throughout the country."

Oswald added that the rules of procedure themselves are "exceptionally complex and confusing. The clear right of employee representatives to participate in all proceedings affecting them and to receive all communications concerning pay standards, for example, are not fully and expressly spelled out, he said.

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R-T-W Bill Approved By New Mexico Senate

Sante Fe, N.M.—The New Mexico state senate voted to bypass committee hearings and discussion and approved a so-called "right-to-work" bill by a vote of 22 to 19.

The vote duplicated its action of two years ago when it passed a similar measure 21 to 19. The 1977 effort died when the House rejected the attempt to weaken and cripple unions by a 36 to 31 margin.

The New Mexico AFL-CIO has rallied its forces to block the new RTW move in the House. Gov. Bruce King (D) is on record as opposing "right-to-work" legislation and pledged to veto it.

The "right-to-work" issue was injected into the 1978 elections by New Mexico Citizens for Right to Work and was given major attention and support by Republican candidate Joe Skeen. King defeated Skeen in the November balloting.

The 1979 legislative effort was triggered with the introduction of a bill by Sen. Bob Woods (D). The move to bypass the committee and bring it directly to the floor carried 21 to 20.

New Mexico has been a target state for a number of years for the National Right to Work Committee, and the open shop legislation is a perennial issue.

Real Earnings For '78 Show 3.4% Decline

(Continued from Page 1)

pared with rises of five-tenths of 1 percent and eight-tenths of 1 percent in November and October, respectively.

Food and entertainment costs escalated sharply last month. The cost of food in grocery stores rose eight-tenths of 1 percent, with the prices of meats, fresh milk and other dairy products registering especially large increases. Beef, pork and poultry prices were up substantially for the third straight month. Fresh fruits and vegetables declined, but by less than in the previous month.

A 1.1 percent increase in home prices and a 1.7 percent jump in mortgage interest rates during the month largely were offset by a sharp decline in property taxes in California, a result of last June's passage of Proposition 13, BLS said.

Transportation costs rose a steep 1.2 percent, about the same as in November. For the three months ended in December, transportation costs have risen at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 12.7 percent. BLS said the fourth-quarter rise was primarily due to price increases for used cars, gasoline, and charges for automobile financing.

Medical care costs rose by six-tenths of 1 percent, compared with an increase of nine-tenths of 1 percent in November. Entertainment charges increased 1.2 percent, the largest increase since last February.

Coalition Battles Social Security Slash

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Breach Of Faith Cited By Kirkland

By David L. Perlman

The AFL-CIO joined with a broad-based coalition to fight the Carter Administration's attempt to cut back social security protection in order to achieve a budget savings.

America's workers "paid their share" and have an "earned right" to social security benefits, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said at a news conference marking the establishment of the Save Our Security coalition. The AFL-CIO will "exert every effort" to block legislation reducing social security protection, he pledged.

The new coalition, which uses the symbolic SOS initials, encompasses some 150 organizations with a concern for the social security system. It is headed by Wilbur Cohen, who served as Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare in the Johnson Administration.

Cohen and Robert M. Ball, who headed the Social Security Administration from 1962 to 1973, were sharply critical of the concept of manipulating social security benefits for budget purposes.

If the Administration's proposal were adopted, Cohen warned, it would be "certain to undermine peoples' confidence that their promised benefits actually will be paid."

Ball said he was "deeply disturbed" at the cutback proposal. If the precedent is set, he asked, "what will prevent more drastic proposals next time?"

The cutbacks projected in President Carter's budget message would eliminate benefits now paid to surviving children attending college and to adults caring for dependent children over the age of 15. It would drop the present minimum benefit guarantee, curtail payments to persons also receiving civil service payments, eliminate the present $255 death benefit and tighten requirements for disability payments.

At a White House news conference, Carter rejected criticism of the social security proposals, declaring that the cuts would amount to only one-half of 1 percent of total payments "and they cover benefits that can be derived from some other source" for those who are needy.

But to Archbishop Ignatius J. Strecker, speaking at the SOS news conference as a member of the board of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, the

(Continued on Page 8)

Retail Clerks, Meat Cutters Reach Merger Agreement

Pay Pattern 7.7 Percent In '78 Pacts

Major union contracts negotiated during 1978 provided for average first-year wage increases of 7.7 percent, about the same as the first-year boost in contracts reached in 1977 but below last year's cost-of-living rise.

The 1978 first-year wage boost compared to 7.8 percent in the first-year of agreements negotiated in 1977, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. When measured over the life of the contracts the annual wage increase in contracts negotiated averaged 6.5 percent, compared with a 5.8 percent over-the-life annual boost in 1977 pacts.

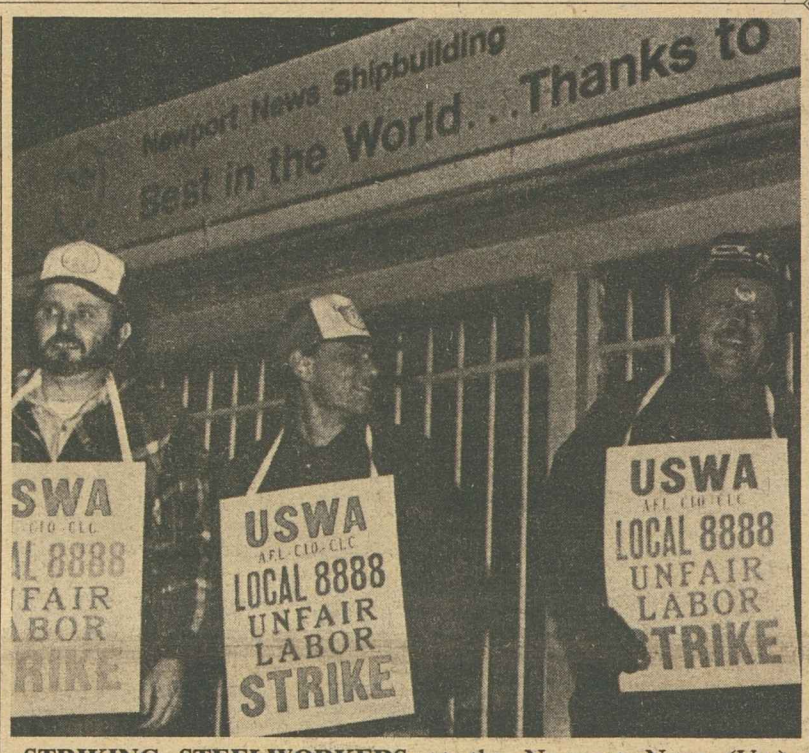
The figures do not include actual or prospective gains under cost-of-living escalator clauses, BLS pointed out. The 1978 settlements involved about 2.5 million workers covered by 680 collective bargaining agreements in the private nonfarm sector. Each contract covered 1,000 or more workers.

About 29 percent of the workers were in the construction industry, with others primarily in transportation, coal, retail food, and transportation equipment.

For the largest contracts, those covering 5,000 or more workers, combined wage and benefit gains averaged 8.4 percent in the first year and 6.5 percent annually over the life of the agreements. The measures compare with 9.6 and 6.2 percent, respectively, in 1977 settlements.

In manufacturing industries, wage-rate adjustments in new settlements last year averaged 8.4

(Continued on Page 2)



STRIKING STEELWORKERS at the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. picket the sprawling complex after walking off their jobs to protest the company's refusal to bargain with the union. The strike began a year after the USWA won a federally supervised representation election. **(Story, Page 3.)**

In AFL-CIO Testimony:

Pay 'Insurance' Plan Called Badly Flawed

America's workers would welcome effective protection against inflation but they aren't likely to find it in the Administration's "real wage insurance" plan, the AFL-CIO told Congress.

Legislative Director Kenneth Young said the AFL-CIO gave careful consideration to the Administration proposal before concluding that its defects outweigh the plan's merits.

"A limited number of workers" would receive "limited protection," he said. But on balance, the plan "contains too many flaws, inequities and complications to make it viable."

Young and AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald testified at House Ways & Means Committee hearings after top Administration officials had called for swift enactment of the wage insurance plan. The legislative proposal would hold out the promise of tax credits if inflation outruns wages, and the Administration hopes this would make the "voluntary" 7 percent ceiling on pay raises more palatable to workers and their unions.

Under the Administration proposal, groups of workers whose average pay increases have not exceeded the 7 percent guideline would be eligible for a tax credit applied to their 1979 income tax. The credit would be the difference between 7 percent and the actual rate of inflation, but not more than 10 percent. Thus, if the annual cost-of-living increase came to 8.5 percent, persons who qualified for the tax credit would be able to subtract 1.5 percent of up to $20,000 in earnings from their income tax obligation.

In practice, the amount they

(Continued on Page 3)

Ratification Conventions Set in June

Miami—The executive boards of the Retail Clerks and the Meat Cutters unanimously approved plans to merge the two unions into a single organization to be named the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union.

The final merger plan, agreed to at a meeting of the two boards here, is subject to ratification by each union at special conventions scheduled separately in Washington, D.C., on June 5 and 6. A founding convention of the new union would then be held in the nation's capital on June 7 and 8.

"This will constitute the largest merger in the entire history of the North American labor movement," RCIU President William H. Wynn and Meat Cutters President Harry R. Poole said in a joint statement. They estimate the new union will have a total of 1.2 million members.

Wynn and Poole cited the following reasons for the merger:

- Improved collective bargaining strength as a result of the unions' combined resources and memberships.
- Better service for members and local unions.
- Broader and more effective organizing programs.
- Increased political effectiveness.
- Internal resolution of juris-

(Continued on Page 2)

U.S. Trade Deficit Soars To New High

The U.S. trade deficit—the margin of imports over exports—rose a seasonally adjusted $2.04 billion in December, pushing the total deficit for the year to a record $28.45 billion.

The Commerce Dept., in releasing the figures, said that exports last year advanced 18.5 percent to $143.57 billion following a 5.2 percent rise to $121.15 billion in 1977. At the same time, imports increased 16.5 percent to $172.03 billion after climbing 21.7 percent to $147.69 billion the year before.

The 1978 red-ink total was $1.9 billion more than the previous $26.53 billion record set in 1977.

(Continued on Page 6)

Meany Scores Kreps's Proposal To Sacrifice U.S. Industry, Jobs

A proposal by Commerce Sec. Juanita Kreps suggesting that America sacrifice its industrial base for "more efficiently" produced imports clearly illustrates the misdirection of U.S. foreign trade policy, AFL-CIO President George Meany said.

Responding to a guest column that Mrs. Kreps had written for the Washington Post, Meany said in a letter to the newspaper that the Secretary of Commerce is almost totally disregarding her obligation to defend and encourage the nation's economy, as well as the well-being and living standards of Americans.

Meany took issue with Kreps's contention that the United States should accept "a shrinking of old industries with all the pain that such decline entails" to promote worldwide economic growth and benefit "all mankind."

To this, Meany asked, "Are American workers and consumers not the particular part of 'all mankind' who deserve first claim on the attention of their own public servants?"

Mrs. Kreps also built her case on the need to increase imports from developing countries because their unemployment rates are higher than that of the United States.

"If the claims of 6 million jobless Americans are 'unpersuasive' compared to India's 100 million, at what point would they deserve consideration?" Meany asked.

He suggested possibly that she might wait until U.S. unemployment rolls reached the level of

(Continued on Page 2)

Retail Clerks, Meat Cutters Okay Merger

(Continued from Page 1)

dictional problems.

The merged union will represent not only workers in the food industry but also employees in retailing, manufacturing, health care, commerce, financial institutions, and other fields.

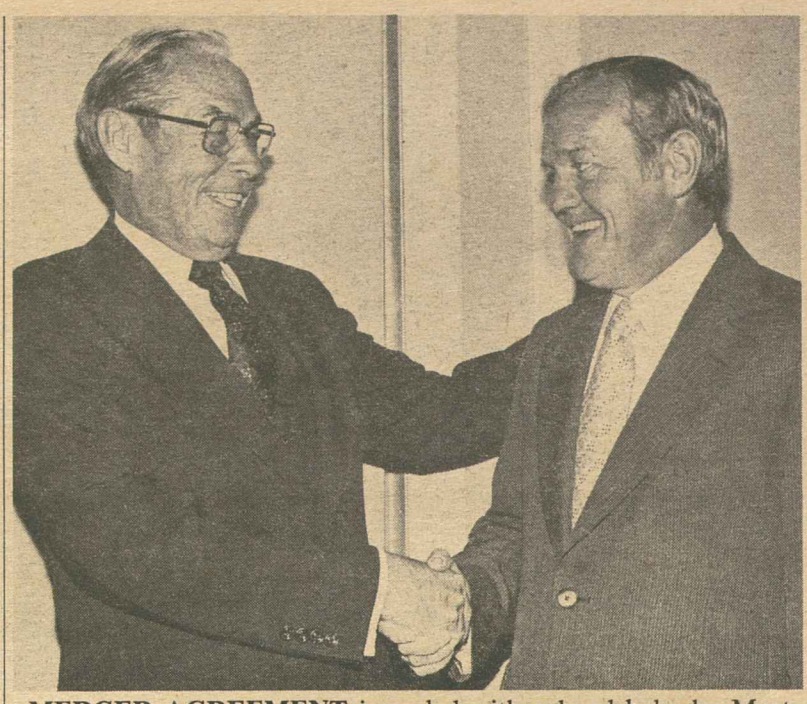
Under the merger plans, Wynn will become president of the new union. Meat Cutters Sec.-Treas. Samuel J. Talarico will become secretary-treasurer while Poole and RCIU Sec.-Treas. Thomas G. Whaley will both become executive vice presidents.

All other international officers of both unions will be officers of the merged union, and will cast votes at international executive board meetings in proportion to the memberships of their respective unions just prior to the merger.

An executive committee will be created consisting of the president, secretary-treasurer, two executive vice presidents, and an international vice president elected by the executive board.

The merged union will maintain its headquarters in the Washington area. RCIU now has its offices in Washington, while the Meat Cutters' headquarters are in Chicago. Under the merger agreement, the headquarters and field staffs of both unions will be assured employment in the merged union comparable to present positions.

The merged union will honor all obligations and assume all assets of the two unions. In addition, the constitutional autonomy of local unions and other chartered bodies will be continued, and local unions and chartered bodies will not be required to merge.



MERGER AGREEMENT is sealed with a handshake by Meat Cutters President Harry R. Poole, left, and Retail Clerks President William H. Wynn. Under the agreement, Wynn will become president of the merged union and Poole will become an executive vice president.

Index Points To Possibility Of Downturn

A sign of possible economic decline in the months ahead showed up in the government's composite index of leading indicators, which fell five-tenths of 1 percent in December.

The index has 12 components which, taken together, serve as a barometer of future trends in the economy. The December decline was identical to November's week performance.

The Commerce Dept., which reported the dip, said that the leading indicators stood at 137.3 percent of the 1967 average, down from 138 in November. The drops in December and November were the first back-to-back declines since the summer of 1977, when the index fell three months in a row.

The index is highly volatile and subject to revision, but it is considered the most accurate advance measure of economic performance.

Of the 10 indicators available for December, six declined, the Commerce Dept. said. They were the average workweek, the layoff rate, change in total liquid assets, contracts and orders for plant and equipment, the money supply, and building permits.

The four that increased were vendor performance, change in sensistive prices, stock prices and new orders, adjusted for inflation.

The component that contributed most strongly to the decline in the index was the change in liquid assets.

In his recent Economic Report to Congress, President Carter acknowledged that the economy will expand less this year than in 1978.

Liberals Secure Posts On Health Care Panels

Comprehensive national health insurance legislation appeared assured of at least a sympathetic hearing from the two House committees that share jurisdiction.

That was an important issue, although not the only one, in a close Commerce Committee contest for the chairmanship of the Health & Environment Subcommittee. The winner, in a secret-ballot poll of committee Democrats, was Rep. Henry A. Waxman of California.

Waxman, an outspoken supporter of national health insurance, defeated Richardson Preyer of North Carolina on a 15-12 vote. Preyer had greater seniority in both the committee and Congress, but was handicapped by family connections with the pharmaceutical industry despite his promise to abstain from voting on drug regulation issues.

The Ways & Means Subcommittee on Health also is headed by a liberal who is considered friendly to the national health insurance concept. The chairman is Rep. Charles B. Rangel of New York.

In the Senate, Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) has used his chairmanship of the Human Resources Subcommittee on Health to hold nationwide hearings focusing on the need for comprehensive health security.

The once-ironclad seniority principle has proved easier to breach in the election of subcommittee chairmen than in the selection of chairmen of full committees.

Thus at the Commerce Commitee Democratic caucus, Rep. David E. Satterfield III of Virginia didn't even try for the chairmanship of the Health Subcommittee even though he is the panel's most senior member. Satterfield's extremely conservative voting record has been so out of line with his fellow Democrats that it was clear he had no chance of election.

The alignment of House and Senate committees was nearly complete, and the first hearings were under way although it will be weeks before more than a trickle of minor bills is sent to the floor.

In the Senate, Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd was negotiating for Republican support necessary to bring to a vote his proposals to tighten the Senate's rules to thwart delaying tactics before and after a vote to invoke cloture against a filibuster. Meanwhile, unions and the civil rights groups are backing Byrd's efforts by seeking commitments from senators if it is necessary to adopt a procedure based on a constitutional claim that only a simple majority of the Senate is needed to adopt rules at the start of a new Congress.



EXECUTIVE BOARDS of the Retail Clerks and the Meat Cutters, meeting in Miami, agreed to merge the two unions into a new 1.2 million-member organization to be called the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union. Merger committees of the unions—Meat Cutters on the left, Retail Clerks on the right—are shown as they met prior to the executive board sessions.

Major Contract Settlements:

Average Pay Gain 7.7 Percent in 1978

(Continued from Page 1)

percent in the first year of the agreement and 6.6 percent annually over the life of the contract. In 1977, the figures were 8.4 and 5.5 percent, respectively.

In non-manufacturing industries, the average increase was 7.5 percent for the first year and 6.4 percent a year over the life of the contract, compared with 7.4 and 6 percent, respectively, in 1977.

Construction settlements averaged 6.6 percent for the first year of the contract and 6.2 percent annually over the life of the pacts, compared with 6.3 percent both in the first year and annually over the life of the contracts in 1977.

"The construction averages had a moderating effect on the all-industries and non-manufacturing measures in 1978," BLS observed.

Major contracts concluded last year had an average duration of 31.4 months, compared to 29.1 months when the same parties negotiated previously, BLS said. The size of first-year wage adjustments tended to increase as contract duration grew, the agency noted.

"Average adjustments over the life of the contract had no consistent relationship with contract duration, however," BLS said.

BLS also noted that the size of the settlements appeared to have been influenced by the possibility of additional wage increases under COL escalator clauses.

Contracts containing such clauses provided for annual wage-rate adjustments of 5.3 percent over the life of the contracts. Those without COL clauses provided for annual adjustments averaging 7.1 percent. These gains compared with 5 and 6.9 percent, respectively, in 1977.

BLS said that contracts containing escalator clauses covered 37 percent of workers under major settlements concluded during 1978. During the period, COL clauses were introduced in 17 settlements covering 45,700 workers, and dropped in 14 agreements affecting 231,000 workers.

Escalator clauses now cover approximately 58 percent, or 5.6 million, of all workers in major bargaining units, BLS said.

In the first three months of 1979, the government said, 149 major agreements covering 835,000 workers are due to expire or permit reopening of wage negotiations. Key agreements are in trucking, retail trade, and the petroleum industry, where pattern settlements were reached by the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers last month.

Some 1.4 million workers will receive deferred wage-rate increases averaging 4.1 percent during the January-March period, BLS said. In addition, 2.7 million workers will be affected by cost-of-living escalator reviews, mainly in the auto, steel, and electrical-equipment industries.

Meany Scores Proposal To Sacrifice U.S. Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

India's and American living standards dropped equally as far.

Meany questioned Mrs. Kreps's interpretation of trade dealings between totalitarian states, such as China and the Soviet Union, and western profit-making corporations.

"It is precisely America's highest technology—much of it developed at public expense—that is being exported for private profit, undermining both national security and national welfare," Meany declared.

"It is the outflow of American capital to build industrial capacity of other nations and the abject surrender of American markets to the products of those nations that has weakened the dollar and sent America's balance of payments into a tailspin."

Meany expressed concern about the future conditions of trade relations with totalitarian countries after the United States loses its industrial capacity and is relegated to a service economy.

He questioned whether China, Russia and other manufacturing countries would provide America with needed goods at competitive prices, or whether the U.S. would encounter political and financial tactics similar to those experienced in the nation's dealings with the Arab oil cartel.

"We need to have an industrial economy along with everyone else in the world," Meany stressed. "We need to have U.S. trade laws enforced so that steel and other products are not dumped into the U.S. market."

Meany said he agreed with Mrs. Kreps's observation that countries that seek to enter U.S. markets must open theirs to U.S. products.

"But the utter failure—so far—of this and previous administrations to even try to bring the flood of imports and the outflow of technology, capital and jobs into any sort of rational balance, makes her words meaningless," Meany said.

Unionist Reappointed To Pension Council

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall has announced the reappointment of Thomas F. Duzak, director of the Steelworkers Insurance, Pension & Unemployment Benefits Dept., to the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare & Pension Benefit Plans.

In AFL-CIO Testimony:

Pay 'Insurance' Plan Called Badly Flawed

(Continued from Page 1)

receive would be smaller since the tax credit in turn would be subject to taxation as additional income.

Because of the group averaging concept, and the fact that smaller firms would have no obligation to certify eligible employees, not everyone whose pay raise met the guidelines would be eligible for a tax credit.

Young said the AFL-CIO would be the "most outspoken advocate" of the real wage insurance plan if it could be accomplished in "a workable and equitable way."

But "even if it worked without a hitch," an unlikely prospect, "it could be incredibly costly and only transfer the bite of inflation from the private sector to the taxpayer."

The Administration's admittedly "uncertain" estimate of the cost of the program is $2.5 billion, Young noted. That amount, he urged, "would be far better spent on essential programs."

As the AFL-CIO sees it, Young testified, the Administration plan would "add to government costs but not reduce prices." It would add to the pressure on Congress "to seek even further reductions in needed social programs."

Young and Oswald reiterated the AFL-CIO's call for enactment of "full economic controls, covering all costs and all sources of income — profits, dividends, rents, interest rates, executive compensation, professional fees, as well as wages and prices."

The one-time tax credit gimmick would leave those workers who are held to a 7 percent wage ceiling permanently behind in terms of future purchasing power, Young noted. With the biggest price increases in the "necessity" areas of food, shelter, energy and medical care, the long-term effect of holding wages below living costs will fall hardest on lower-income workers and minority groups.

Under the wage insurance proposal, only employers of 50 or more workers would be required to certify groups of employees as eligible for tax credits because they didn't exceed the pay guideline.

But smaller groups of workers would receive nothing if their employer chose not to bother with the paperwork of certification, the AFL-CIO noted.

Also, since eligibility is based on the average for a unit, a worker at one establishment might be eligible for a tax credit even if he had gotten a 20 percent pay increase. But another worker might not qualify for a credit even if his raise was below the guideline.

Federal employees, who would be held to a 5.5 percent raise under President Carter's budget ceiling, would only qualify for a tax credit based on the difference between 7 percent and the actual inflation rate for the year, the AFL-CIO pointed out. The same "fundamental inequity" would apply to all other workers whose pay raise was below the 7 percent ceiling.

In terms of tax policy, the AFL-CIO found the wage insurance plan a conflict with the principle of ability to pay and adding to taxpayer confusion.

"Under this program, those with the highest incomes receive the biggest tax credits," the federation protested.

If Congress wants to use tax policy to help ease the burden of inflation, the AFL-CIO suggested, it should consider a general tax credit similar to the $35-a-person credit repealed last year that could be triggered by the rate of inflation.

"Such a measure would help those who need help the most and should be coupled with the most logical and appropriate tax measure consistent with assuring equity when economic controls are needed—an excess profits tax."

Treasury Sec. W. Michael Blumenthal opened the Administration case for its wage insurance plan, followed by Charles Schultze, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers; Alfred Kahn, chairman of the Council on Wage & Price Stability, and Labor Sec. Ray Marshall.

The committee, headed by Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.), has been generally skeptical about the feasibility of the Administration plan, although a number of members indicated they are willing to give it a try rather than do nothing.

Young told the panel that such an approach carries hazards. Thus "if it should fail as an anti-inflation device—and we are convinced it would — precious time will have been wasted, and citizen disillusionment with their government's ability to meet economic problems will increase."



LAST-MINUTE EFFORT to avert a strike at the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. failed because shipyard management refused to meet with union officials, Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride told reporters at a news conference. The meeting had been called by the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

Shipyard's Refusal to Bargain Forces Strike by Steelworkers

Newport News, Va.—Its patience exhausted by management stalling tactics, the Steelworkers struck the huge Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. here, a year to the date the union was chosen to represent the shipyard's 19,000 workers.

"We've got unity," said Wayne Crosby, president of USWA Local 8888. "And I think we'll win."

Ever since the union won a Jan. 31, 1978, representation election over an entrenched "company" union, the firm has flatly refused to bargain. Owned by the Tenneco Corp., a conglomerate, the shipyard alleged irregularities in the election, which was supervised by the National Labor Relations Board.

The NLRB rejected all of the company's complaints in December, and ordered it to bargain with the Steelworkers. The company, meanwhile, appealed to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond. The litigation is expected to result in a hearing in early March, and last for several more months.

Two days before the strike began, shipyard president Edward J. Campbell declined to meet with union officials at a last-ditch meeting in Washington arranged by the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service in an effort to head off the strike.

"In the face of this continuing refusal to bargain, we see a company long-range plan to erode the strength of the local union at Newport News," USWA President Lloyd McBride declared. "The United Steelworkers has no intention of permitting this to happen."

The strike is one of the largest ever against a single employer in the South. The shipyard is the largest private builder of new vessels for the Navy as well as the largest employer in Virginia, a so-called "right-to-work" state.

The picketing got under way at about 30 sites near the shipyard. The Steelworkers set up strike headquarters several blocks from the main gate of the facility, signing up members for strike benefits and distributing picketing instructions.

McBride pledged the full resources of the international union during the walkout.

Anticipating the strike, the company surrounded its parking lots with fences topped by barbed wire and reinforced its armed security guard with a water cannon mounted atop a fire truck for crowd control use. Local police were issued helmets, riot sticks, and gas masks while state police were ordered to the scene by Gov. John N. Dalton, a Republican.

Until the Steelworkers' election victory, the company had enjoyed a passive relationship with the Peninsula Shipbuilders Association, an unaffiliated union which has since joined management in contesting the USWA win. The Steelworkers defeated PSA by a substantial margin, 9,093 to 7,548.

In authorizing the strike, McBride charged that the company had used "every possible legal maneuver to frustrate the will of its employees." He pointed out that in the 12 months since the USWA won the election over 100 workers were fired with no right of appeal since the company refused to meet with the union to hear their grievances.

"The union cannot ask its members for further patience," he declared, "as their patience to date has only been rewarded with further delay. Delay has become the company's tactic to force its employees to abandon their hopes, and thus to destroy their union."

He said that he was confident that the entire labor movement would join in supporting the Newport News workers in their struggle. Aware of the national dimensions of the strike and its possible repercussions on the economy, McBride earlier informed President Carter that the union could no longer ignore the "shabby treatment" its members have received from Tenneco.

"To do so would only allow Tenneco to continue thumbing its corporate nose at the law and encourage hundreds of other employers to do the same," he said in a letter to the President.

New NLRB Order Hits J. P. Stevens Violations

J. P. Stevens & Co., the nation's second largest textile firm, has once again been found guilty of violating its workers' rights, this time at its Tifton, Ga., plant.

The National Labor Relations Board, upholding the 1977 decision of one of its administrative law judges, agreed that the company had coercively interrogated several of its employees about their union activities during 1976 and 1977.

In a Dec. 22, 1977 decision, Judge Jerry B. Stone also found that the workers had been threatened with reprisals for their activities in connection with a Clothing & Textile Workers organizing campaign.

The NLRB order, signed by Chairman John H. Fanning and Members Howard Jenkins, Jr., and John C. Truesdale, stipulates remedies to correct the unfair labor practices that are applicable to all of Stevens's plants, in accordance with the request of the NLRB general counsel.

The action marks the second time in two months that the board has upheld a determination of one of its administrative law judges against the company's illegal practices. ACTWU is engaged in a global boycott of Stevens products in an effort to bring an end to the labor-law violations.

Citing the firm's "long history of violation of employee rights and its flagrant disregard of board decisions and court orders," the NLRB granted additional remedies to those ordered by Judge Stone. The remedies require Stevens to:

- Mail a notice to all company employees that it will cease and desist from engaging in unfair labor practices on a corporate-wide basis.
- Read the notice to all employees.
- Give ACTWU access to company bulletin boards.
- Make available to the union the names and addresses of employees.
- Give union representatives the right to talk to workers in non-work areas and during non-work periods.

The board also ordered the company to give its Tifton supervisors written instructions to comply with the notice to employees listing the company violations and the various remedies.

ACTWU plans to appeal the NLRB decision on the grounds that it does not go far enough and will ask the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals to open the record to hear additional evidence.

Cyanamid Strike Accord Improves Safety Clauses

Bound Brook, N.J.—American Cyanamid Co. has agreed to improve health and safety conditions at its giant chemical complex here and grant across-the-board wage increases, bringing an end to a seven-week strike by more than 1,000 members of Chemical Workers Local 111.

The local's membership ratified the two-year contract by a vote of 651 to 150, Local President Donald Lore reported. The economic package provides an immediate raise of 54 cents an hour and a 42-cent increase next Jan. 25.

Lore said that Cyanamid agreed to major concessions on health and safety provisions which had been a major issue in the dispute.

The company has agreed to provide the union with a list of all hazardous substances that workers encounter on the job. It also must label all containers with generic names so workers may be made aware of health risks.

Results of physical examinations certified by company doctors must be made available to workers or the union, and company representatives are also required to meet with the union's industrial hygienist over questions or hazardous work operations.

Lore said the settlement came after the company significantly changed its attitude on the health and safety problems.

The contract also provides an additionally paid holiday, Columbus Day, for a total of 11 per year.

A Breach of Faith

NEARLY EVERY AMERICAN worker has a personal stake in the social security system. Workers have paid their share in the full expectation of an earned right to social security protection.

Now that personal stake and right are in jeopardy because of Administration proposals to cut back on benefits.

Congress has made clear its pledge to the American people that the social security commitment will be honored. Though the Administration proposes to impair that commitment, we are sure the Congress will not. We intend to exert every effort to achieve that result.

The unions of the AFL-CIO have many retired members. Most union members are contributors to—not beneficiaries of—the social security program, but there will be no breach between contributors and beneficiaries over this issue. All of us will be senior citizens some day and all of us have a stake in making this retirement system as good as it can be and keeping it secure.

But social security is more than retirement or pensions. It provides a guaranteed income for the spouse and children when a younger worker dies and the same sort of income in the event of his or her total disability. These safeguards are not for those retired but for those still at work. Since the Administration proposals are prospective, it is those presently employed who would bear the brunt of these cutbacks.

THESE WORKERS have paid contributions during their working lives confident of receiving specified benefits. It would be a breach of faith to deprive them of these benefits. Nothing would do more to shatter the confidence of the American people in the social security program.

The AFL-CIO is anxious to relieve the burden of the social security tax on low and middle-income workers. That is why we still advocate the use of general revenues to partially finance social security with this revenue based on progressive taxation—the position advocated by the Administration when it first took office. But we object to any solutions that cut back benefits at the expense of some of the nation's most economically vulnerable groups.

The AFL-CIO intends to join with other groups, many of whom are represented here today, not only to vigorously fight against these proposals but to improve the law as well. For American workers know there is no better buy than social security.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at formation of "Save Our Security" group.

A Symbol of Failure

FEW THINGS have done more to bring the national legislative processes into disrepute than the filibuster in the Senate. In a period of growing public frustration with the waste of governmental resources, the picture of the Senate spinning its wheels by droning on and on constitutes a symbol of democratic failure. The new method of filibuster by repetitious amendment, even after debate has been shut off by far more than a majority of the senators, exacerbates the public spectacle of Senate waste and helplessness.

The filibuster has defeated legislation by preventing a vote, has postponed desperately needed legislation and has changed legislation from what the majority wanted to what the minority would yield. This minority veto over the Senate majority has added to the frustrations not only of senators, but of those who choose them. To make our democracy work, we have to make the Senate a vehicle of the majority rather than an obstruction by the minority.

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'And One for You!'



Sweet-Sounding Catchpenny:

Brown's Balanced Budget Plan Would Stifle Federal Initiative

By Gus Tyler

BECAUSE HE IS GOVERNOR of colossal California and a possible presidential candidate, Jerry Brown and his views cannot be ignored by Congress in the upcoming battle of the budget. In the spirit of Proposition 13, Brown proposes a constitutional amendment that will mandate a balanced budget—a sweet-sounding catchpenny.

But is such a gimmick possible, necessary or desirable?

To balance a budget, you have to know more than how much you plan to spend; you must also know how much you will take in. Congress can—at the beginning of a year—determine its expenditures; but it cannot determine income that depends entirely on the state of the economy in the next 12 months.

Thus Congress may decide to spend X number of dollars on the assumption that its income will be Y dollars. But, if the economy fails, that income may only be X minus Y dollars and the budget will fall into imbalance. So what do we do: put Congress and the President in jail for violating the Constitution?

The reason Brown's kind of measure is popular is the widespread fear that if we do not stop running up deficits we soon will be bankrupt.

Thus, former Treasury Sec. William E. Simon, who served under Nixon and Ford, in his book "A Time for Truth" warns that we are headed for fiscal ruin: "Total federal debt has increased from $238 billion in 1966 to an estimated $633 billion at the end of 1976—a rise of 92 percent in only ten years." If we continue with this "lethal pattern," Simon writes, "this nation will be destroyed."

But will we? The size of the debt we carry depends on our strength as a nation. In the years between 1966 and 1976, our economy (gross national product) grew by 130 percent—far more rapidly than our debt. Consequently, in the last three decades, our debt—as a percentage of our GNP—has been shrinking, from 132 percent of the GNP in 1946 to only 37 percent in 1976.

The larger our debt, the lighter has it become because we are that much stronger: a bigger body can carry a bigger burden without being "destroyed."

A constitutional provision to balance the national budget is not only impractical and unnecessary but also undesirable.

Where would this nation have been today if, in 1933, the year Roosevelt came into office, he had been forced to balance the budget?

That was a time when we faced the threat of true economic destruction. We were rescued because FDR had incurred debts through which government put buying power into the hands of people who then spent that money to set the wheels of industry in motion again.

And what would we have done in the war years of the early 1940s if Uncle Sam could not incur debt to win the war?

This does not mean that a debt is always desirable. But to make it impossible to incur debt is certainly most undesirable.

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The Imbalance In U.S. Trade

It is the outflow of American capital to build the industrial capacity of other nations and the abject surrender of American markets to the products of those nations that has weakened the dollar and sent America's balance of payments into a tailspin.

It is precisely America's highest technology—much of it developed at public expense—that is being exported for private profit, undermining both national security and national welfare.

We need to have an industrial economy along with everyone else in the world. We need to have U.S. trade laws enforced so that steel and other products are not dumped into the U.S. market. The subsidies of exports must be halted by enforcement of our countervailing duty laws—not by another extension of the waiver of that law.

—From AFL-CIO President George Meany's reply to a column by Commerce Sec. Juanita M. Kreps in the Washington Post.

Won't Curb Inflation:

Real Wage Insurance Plan Flawed, Costly, Inequitable

The following is excerpted from testimony by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young before the House Ways & Means Committee on the President's real wage insurance proposal.

AMERICA'S WORKERS are among inflation's chief victims and would, therefore, eagerly support a proposal which would make them whole in the face of the ravages of inflation. The maintenance of real income is a prime objective of organized labor and efforts to "catch up" with inflation-eroded paychecks and protect against future living standard losses are key factors in collective bargaining.

That's why unions have long fought for "cost-of-living" clauses in labor-management contracts. Of course, even the best of these programs never makes the worker whole, for the wage increases trail the living cost increases by several months, and only a minority of these contracts provide full catch-up.

The Administration's program provides limited protection to a limited number of workers under confusing and inequitable conditions, and even if it worked without a hitch, it could be incredibly costly and only transfer the bite of inflation from the private sector to the taxpayer.

Even though many workers would get something from this measure, it contains too many flaws, inequities and complications to make it viable. The $2.5 billion estimated as its cost would be far better spent on essential programs. The Administration admits the cost of the program "is uncertain." It is based on estimates of inflation far more optimistic than those of the Congressional Budget Office and many private forecasters. According to the Administration's own estimates, if food prices increased by 10 percent rather than its estimate of 8 percent, then the program would cost an additional $2 billion.

If it should fail as an anti-inflation device—and we are convinced it would—precious time will have been wasted, and citizen disillusionment with their government's ability to meet economic problems will increase. We remain convinced that the nation and the workers we represent will be much better served through a fully legislated program of economic controls.

Although we find many features of the overall anti-inflation program objectionable, the 7 percent wage control standard—which the proposal before this committee is specifically designed to help enforce—is below both the current rate of inflation and the rate forecast by the Administration for the next one to one and a half years. As a result, workers would be left behind in terms of purchasing power and would be called upon to forego any share in productivity gains.

In addition, unlike all other features of the President's program, the wage standard is rigid and inflexible. It provides no leeway for correcting inequities and since the standard will be eagerly enforced by employers, it clearly cannot be considered "voluntary."

Since the measure before you is based on essentially the same criteria as the 7 percent standard, use of the standard as a trigger for tax benefits would entrench this arbitrary number into law and exaggerate inequities in the anti-inflation program as well as the tax structure.

In that light, one of the most obvious examples is that of the clearly discriminatory double standard that applies to federal workers. Their wage control figure—5.5 percent—is 1.5 percent below the standard for everyone else. Under the proposal you are considering, federal workers would also be denied a comparable degree of "insurance" protection. Since the tax credit triggers-in above a 7 percent inflation rate, federal workers would receive no "insurance" for the difference between their 5.5 percent standard and the 7 percent threshhold.

THIS SAME FUNDAMENTAL INEQUITY applies to all workers whose wages do not increase at all or who fall behind the 7 percent standard—an inequity which would most adversely affect lower paid workers, the unskilled and minority groups.

There is no question in our minds that inflation is now the nation's most important economic problem. It is directly affecting workers, those on fixed incomes and those in society whose health and welfare is directly determined by the costs of the basic necessities of life. Inflation also affects the nation's ability to solve its international economic problems and the nation's willingness to continue its commitment to the eradication of poverty, to full employment and public investment programs essential to progress.

The idea of insuring the real income of workers is consistent with trade union goals. We have examined this measure in that light and have tried to find ways to blunt its flaws and inequities and make it work. Although we have not succeeded, our minds are not closed. We would be happy to work with the committee in developing a workable and equitable way to insure real wages and, if one could be found, we would be its most outspoken advocate. Unfortunately, that is not the case today.

This program, alone, will not control inflation. It will add to government costs but not reduce prices. The only way to control inflation is to control the price of everything and the income of everybody. Unless Congress bites the bullet and enacts mandatory across-the-board controls, this program will be extremely expensive, reduce revenues, and add to the deficit—placing additional pressure on Congress to seek even further reductions in needed social programs.

Byrd Proposal Backed:

Reform of Senate Filibuster Rule Key to Vital Social Programs

THE FATE of social and economic proposals ranging from job-creation and tax reform to social security program cuts and updated trade policies may well hinge on the outcome of the fight to reform the Senate filibuster rules, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said.

"That's a battle we're into right now," Young stressed, noting that every progressive proposal in recent Congresses "has been threatened by a serious filibuster." Young said that the AFL-CIO strongly supports the rules proposals shaped by Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D-W. Va.).

"There must be a way that the Senate majority can eventually work its way," he asserted. He noted that the labor movement has been working for that goal since "the very beginning of the civil rights struggle."

Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, Young said that labor law reform, federal standards in workers' compensation and "a good start on national health insurance" will be among the top items on organized labor's agenda in the 96th Congress. He said that "the severe problems facing public employees and the people in the maritime industries" and the "fight to make sure that all Americans share equally in the sacrifices that will have to be made to stem inflation," will also be major issues.

Young said the AFL-CIO will vigorously oppose "any effort to either defer scheduled minimum wage increases or to create a special subminimum for youth"—items that some have urged be made part of the anti-inflation package. Attempting to water down or roll back minimum wage protection "is just one more effort by the business community to make working people share the biggest brunt of inflation," he charged.

"People at the minimum wage level clearly suffer the most from the high rate of inflation," he declared. "To make them pay for the present economic problems is obviously unfair."

He said that the Carter Administration has assured the labor movement and other groups that it will join with them in the effort to ward off such attacks on the minimum wage law.

Ingredient Lists Inadequate:

Product Labels Keep Consumers in Dark

By Sidney Margolius

CONSUMERS WANT TO KNOW what is in the processed foods they eat and are angry that package labels do not give them complete information. That is the conclusion of investigators who recently conducted hearings for three government agencies in five cities.

Witness after witness complained to the investigators that current government labeling standards are inadequate. They do not require companies to reveal the amounts of percentages of each product ingredient. This makes it impossible for consumers to decide which is the best buy.

In this era of processed and ready-to-eat foods, many manufacturers tend to use more of cheaper ingredients such as sugar, starches, even water, and less of the more expensive, but more nutritious ingredients. If content percentages are not listed on the label, consumers have no way of knowing which brand contains more of the better ingredients. (Actually, once one company switches to cheaper ingredients, the other companies generally follow suit, and federal labeling requirements allow all the firms to hide this fact.)

Lack of information on the label may also be detrimental to consumers' health. For example, people with diabetes, high blood pressure, or kidney problems should know how much sugar, sodium and carbohydrates are in the food they eat. If this information is not on the label, people with such ailments could be misled into consuming food that is harmful to them. Similarly, people allergic to foods such as eggs, milk, nuts and monosodium glutamate should be able to tell from the label how much of these substances are in the products they buy.

Moreover, chemical additives in food are suspected of being a cause of hyperactivity in children. Parents should be able to tell if such additives are in food they buy for their children.

At the government hearings, consumers voiced strong support for moves to require that food labels list the exact amounts of sodium, sweeteners, fat, cholesterol, colorings and additives contained in the product.

Consumers also asked for mandatory open labeling, preferable with a "use by" date.

AT PRESENT the government does require partial ingredient labeling, though many people don't understand how the system works and don't use it:

On so-called "nonstandardized" products, the labels must list ingredients in descending order of quantity.

Thus, a cereal that lists sugar first has more sugar than cereal. A canned "punch" or fruit "drink" that lists water first, sugar and corn syrup second, and fruit juices third has less real juice than water and sugar. A can of "spaghetti and meat balls in sauce" that lists "tomatoes, spaghetti, water, beef, sugar, salt," etc., has more sauce than spaghetti or meat.

But these lists are not required to show the actual percentages of each ingredient. Therefore, they fail to provide information vital to consumers both for comparing values and health reasons. If a presweetened cereal lists sugar second, you can't tell if it has 40 percent sugar or 20 percent. You can't even tell how much chicken there is in products called "chicken soup" (usually around 2 percent).

Hopefully the agencies involved in the hearings will heed the public's desire for information and not be distracted by the industry arguments that more complete labeling will add to costs. It's hard to see why there would be significant additional expense since the manufacturers already know what they're putting into their products. We just want them to tell us.

Unfortunately, it will take months, perhaps even years, on top of the eight years this issue has been studied, before the agencies decide and then put new label laws into effect.

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EFFECTIVE REFORM of the Senate's filibuster rules will have a major impact on key social programs and labor-backed measures in the 96th Congress, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young, center, said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Philip Shabecoff, left, of the New York Times and Robert Barr of U.S. News & World Report. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO and aired weekly on Mutual radio.



FOURTH-GRADE STUDENTS from the United Nations International School in New York were on hand for the opening of an exhibition of paintings by children from more than 70 countries at Gallery 1199, which is housed at the headquarters of District 1199 of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union. The exhibition is the first event of a two-year $1.3 million cultural arts project sponsored by the RWDSU health care division.

Nation's Trade Deficit Highest Ever in 1978

(Continued from Page 1)

It was swelled by an increase of nearly one-third in imports of manufactured products — from $76.5 billion to $100.3 billion.

Shortly after the December figures were published, Commerce Sec. Juanita M. Kreps predicted in a statement that this year's deficit would be "substantially lower" despite an expected jump in oil imports.

The December deficit was the 31st monthly trade deficit in a row. The export-import imbalance is a major factor behind the decline in the dollar's international value and a cause for the nation's continuing inflation.

Among the nation's trading partners, the full-year trade deficit with Japan was the largest, swelling to $11.57 billion from $8.02 billion in 1977. The 1978 deficit with West Germany widened to $3 billion from $1.25 billion the year before. The deficit with Communist countries last year rose to $2.68 billion from a surplus of $1.37 billion in 1977.

The December deficit, while slightly higher than the $1.95 billion deficit registered during November, was still considerably lower than the deficits recorded in the first six months of 1978 when the monthly average was over $2.7 billion. In the last half of the year, the deficit averaged a bit more than $2 billion, a sign of a possible narrowing trend this year.

Both the volume and cost of oil imports fell last year, but foreign oil still represents a major problem for the U.S. economy. Oil imports declined 6.8 percent over the year, down to $39.5 billion from $42.4 billion the year before. But, Mrs. Kreps cautioned:

"The cost of oil imports must be expected to increase in 1979, bringing us another reminder that we still face a difficult long-term energy problem." The higher oil prices this year will flow from price boosts already announced by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

During December, total U.S. exports fell nine-tenths of 1 percent to an adjusted $13.15 billion after rising 1.9 percent to $13.26 billion the month before. Imports slipped one-tenth of 1 percent to an adjusted $15.19 billion, following a five-tenths of 1 percent increase in November to $15.21 billion.

UFWA Leader Joins Panel on Handicapped

Furniture Workers President Carl Scarbrough has been appointed to the labor advisory group of the President's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped.

Intimidation Device:

Use of Lie Detectors Grows As Weapon Against Workers

The growing employer practice of subjecting workers to lie detector and psychological tests, even though such tests have been proven highly unreliable indicates that they are being used mainly as a means of intimidating employees.

By some counts as many as 400,000 polygraph tests were administered by private firms last year, an article in the American Federationist notes. A similar number of written tests that are supposed to give a "reliable personality profile" of workers or potential employees were also administered.

But reputable psychologists have found that such tests have little merit, according to the article which was based on a report by the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. compiled and written by Andrew Kahn, Peter Allstrom and James Donovan.

It cites a House subcommittee study that concluded: "There is no 'lie detector,' neither machine nor human. People have been deceived by a myth that a metal box in the hands of an investigator can detect truth or falsehood."

Even so, surveys by university researchers found that one-fifth of the country's major corporations are now using polygraphs in personnel operations, while about half of the retail companies surveyed use such "lie detectors."

There are two basic types of lie detector machines in current use. One is the polygraph, which requires the subject to be attached to devices that measure heartbeat, blood pressure and respiration while answering a series of questions. The other is the voice stress analyzer, or PSE, which is supposed to interpret a person's stress as reflected by his voice.

Application of the machines is based on the assumption that the act of lying induces a state of emotional arousal or agitation—bringing changes in heart beat, respiration, perspiration and microtremors in the voice.

Yet neither claims to give an objective determination of truth or falsehood, nor even to look at psychological phenomena, the article points out, since the machines simply gauge physical effects.

"The theoretical underpinnings of these gadgets do not account for situations in which the subject experiences no emotional response," the writers note.

The machines cannot detect these physical changes if a person has no feelings aroused by lying or if the subject simply doesn't believe the machine can detect deception and hence has no fear.

"Ironically, lie detector testing for employment is thus open to the possibility of rejecting normal individuals while the jobs go to amoral, calculating or more calloused types," the article points out.

Noting that the machines are used widely in the retail and food industry, President William H. Wynn of the Retail Clerks termed the tests an "insult to human dignity."

Wynn said the devices are not only highly unreliable, but also deny workers their right to privacy and other constitutional rights. He warned that such unfair intimidation by employers suggests an alarming trend toward psychological manipulation of workers.

According to research studies conducted at the University of Minnesota and Fordham University, polygraphs were found wrong 25 percent of the time and PSE tests were correct only about half of the time.

The accuracy of the machines also suffers greatly because most operators are not properly qualified, the article maintains. Fewer than 1 percent of the polygraph operators have had any training in psychology, testing or psychophysiology.

The writers quote one operator who seriously questioned the abilities of his peers, asserting that only about 50 of the 3,000 operators in the country are competent to interpret the devices.

The questions posed by lie detector operators go far beyond the realm of work-related situations—often delving into the worker's sexual relations and political preferences.

In an accompanying article, David Sickler, a former Coors brewery worker and now boycott coordinator, recalled some of the questions he was subjected to at the Coors personnel office. They included:

"Are you having sex with your girlfriend?"

"What kind of sex?"

"Are you a Communist?"

"Have you ever committed an undetected crime?"

"Have you ever stolen anything from anyone in your life?"

Job applicants are often questioned about their marital relationships, use of alcohol or drugs, personal problems, and their fears and inner feelings.

"Workers are forced to endure the indignity of these tests in order to 'prove' that the answers they give on the application are true," the writers observe. "Thus the worker is presumed guilty unless and until the electronic gadget determines innocence.

"Coercion results in part from the operator's myth of infallibility. More importantly, it stems from the use of the test: No lie detector test is voluntary if the test subject faces the alternative of being fired or not being employed."

The article also charges that polygraph tests constitute unreasonable search and questions whether the Fourth Amendment is limited to preventing an employer from searching a worker's desk or home, but not his mind.

Demeaning psychological tests are not limited to electronic devices, the article points out. Numerous paper-and-pencil, multiple choice personality or attitude tests also have been devised to get similar results.

Some psychological consultants have refined these tests to help non-union employers weed out workers who might be potentially effective in a union organizing drive.

The AFL-CIO magazine also cites labor's efforts to have states enact legislation restricting the use of polygraphs. Sixteen states currently have these laws in effect. Of the 34 states that still license polygraph operators, only three have restrictions on the types of questions that may be asked.

The article stresses the need for federal legislation to sort out the tangle of conflicting state laws while closing loopholes, tightening enforcement and providing stiffer penalties.

Pacific Northwest Labor College Promotes Lifelong Learning Goal

Marylhurst, Ore.—The trade union movement knows best how to train workers to cope with the realties of life on the job. That premise is one of the cornerstones of the union-run Pacific Northwest Labor College (PNLC). The school was established in April 1977 by AFL-CIO unions, unaffilated labor organizations and employee associations.

Its first office was in the Portland headquarters of the Woodworkers, but recently the school moved its office to the campus of Marylhurst Education Center in this Portland suburb along the Willamette River. Established in 1893 as a secular women's college, Marylhurst is now a lifelong learning center catering to the educational needs of both men and women. PNLC rents space for its office and classrooms.

In the words of one of PNLC's founders, Roy Ockert: "Labor education programs have been so badly neglected by established universities and colleges that we felt we had to strike out on our own."

Ockert, who is research and education coordinator for the Woodworkers, runs the day-to-day operations of PNLC as its executive director. A research economist, he formerly worked at the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. in Washington and with the Rubber Workers in Akron. He has taught at the Institute of Industrial Relations at the University of California's Berkeley campus.

PNLC is a non-profit organization incorporated under Oregon laws. Its board chairman is Michael Hereford, president of Retail Employees Local 1092 of Portland. A support group, Pacific Northwest Labor College Association, is headed by Robert Gerwig, international secretary-treasurer of the Woodworkers, also of Portland. The school, along with the University of Oregon's Labor Education & Research Center has strong support from the state AFL-CIO.

Fees from charter memberships and tuition monies from students, supplemented by donations from unions, financed the first 18 months of PNLC's operations. In late 1978 the school obtained a grant of $61,250 from the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration to study health problems of workers in Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho, western Montana and northern Utah. PNLC also received a grant of nearly $5,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to act as a consultant in studies of labor history and union philosophies.

The basic mission of PNLC is to provide lifelong learning programs for workers of all ages, conduct safety, health, economic and other research for unions, and to carry on whatever educational efforts are needed to advance and enhance the lives of workers.

PNLC has offered a variety of seminars to date. Subjects include the staples of worker schools: Collective bargaining in private and public sectors, occupational safety and health, rights of injured workers and their spouses, grievance and arbitration procedures, labor law and history, basic operational skills for local union officers and other bread and butter topics.

If enough interest is exhibited in a subject, PNLC puts together a seminar to address the need for information. Most of the school's seminars and workshops have been conducted at Marylhurst, but the school will conduct worker education programs in any community where sufficient students can be mustered.

For instructors, PNLC draws on trade union leaders, researchers and educators, government officials, conventional college faculty members and private citizens with an expertise in a particular field.

In addition to the practical knowledge gained from PNLC's classes, college credits are available to those pursuing a degree.

Assumptions Challenged:

Economic Forecast Termed Optimistic

President Carter's assumptions and forecasts about the economy over the next two years were challenged by the Congressional Budget Office, which labeled them overly "optimistic" and warned of leaner days ahead.

In contrast to the Administration's forecast that unemployment will level off at 6.2 percent by the end of 1979, the CBO predicted that the nation's jobless rate will rise to a range of 6.2 to 7.2 percent, with the midpoint—6.7 percent—a "best guess." Unemployment in 1978 averaged 6 percent.

In addition, CBO Director Alice M. Rivlin told a House Budget Committee hearing, "inflation is expected to remain stubbornly high" both this year and next. The increase in the government's consumer price index will range between 7 and 9 percent this year, with 8 percent the "best guess," and between 6.5 and 8.5 percent in 1980, she predicted.

The Administration expects an increase of 7.4 percent in the CPI in 1979, following a 9 percent jump last year.

The nonpartisan CBO also forecast that the nation's "real" gross national product will "slow significantly" at a zero-to-2-percent rate in 1979, with "a small downturn beginning in the second half of the year." President Carter predicted in his annual Economic Report to Congress last week that real GNP, or total national output adjusted for inflation, will rise by about 2¼ percent this year, compared to about 4¼ percent over the four quarters of 1978.

Chairman G. William Miller of the Federal Reserve Board, testifying before the same House panel, similarly labeled the Administration's views with respect to inflation, unemployment, and economic growth "a bit optimistic." Miller conceded that unemployment this year "could well drift upward" from the 6.2 percent rate forecast by the Administration, and that the President's spending restraints entail "the risk of a recession."

Mrs. Rivlin testified that her staff had "re-estimated" Carter's budget for the fiscal year beginning next Oct. 1 using its own economic assumptions and a somewhat different method of calculating outlays. By this methodology, she said, revenues would amount to $499 billion while outlays would total $540 billion instead of the $503 billion in revenues and $532 bilion in outlays anticipated by the Administration, giving the nation a deficit of almost $41 billion instead of $29 billion estimated by the President.

Mrs. Rivlin told the congressional unit that if Congress wants to meet Carter's $29 billion deficit target it will "have to recommend deeper spending cuts than proposed by the President," a move she said would result in a deeper recession than that widely anticipated by private forecasters this year.

On the inflation issues, the CBO chief observed that despite relatively slack labor and product markets the rise in consumer prices is not expected to moderate significantly.

"Policies that increase unemployment are likely to slow the pace of inflation but this will not happen quickly," she warned. Simulations carried out by the CBO suggest that five years of unemployment at about 7 percent would be necessary —in the absence of outside shocks —to bring inflation down to about 4 percent, she said.

"Therefore, the attempt to cure rapid inflation with restrictive monetary and fiscal policies alone has considerable costs in terms of lost employment and production," she said. "Furthermore, experience shows that these costs are distributed very unevenly over the population."

Mrs. Rivlin was just as doubtful over the Administration's other anti-inflation approach, its so-called voluntary wage and price "standards."

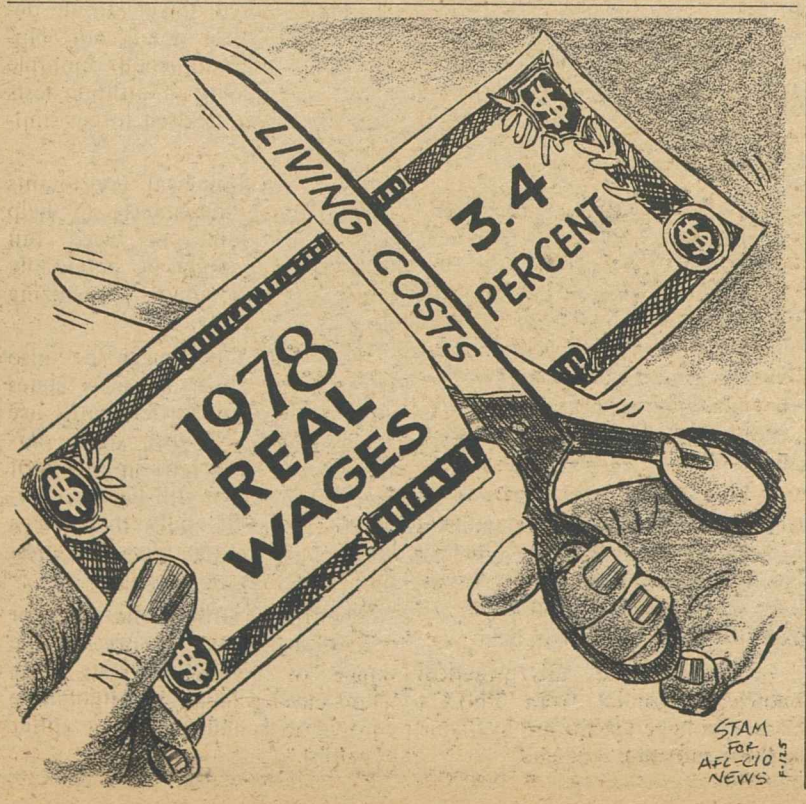
Even with widespread compliance, she said, it is doubtful that the program could slow inflation quickly. For one thing, about 60 percent of all consumer goods and services are either formally or tacitly exempt from the price guideline, she noted.

"If the prices for these exempt goods and services continue to rise as fast as they did last year, the consumer price index would increase by 8.75 percent in 1979," she said.

CONVENTIONS

The United Transportation Union convention will open June 11, 1979, in Miami Beach, Fla.

The date of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO convention has been changed to Sept. 25-28, 1979, in Boston.





REAL PINS AND NEEDLES will be given to theater-goers for a special performance of the labor musical, "Pins and Needles," at the Jewish Community Center in Cleveland. When it was discovered there were no pins included in sewing kits donated by the Ladies' Garment Workers, volunteers from Cleveland's Federation of Retired Union Workers spent many hours inserting them. The opening performance was sponsored by the ILGWU and Cleveland's United Labor Agency.

Rigid Air Quality Schedule Seen Threatening Construction Layoffs

San Francisco—The nation's commitment to curbing air pollution must not be carried out at the expense of economic growth and jobs, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. declared.

Speaking at a national air quality conference here, Georgine warned that enforcement of rigid timetables under the 1977 amendments to the Clean Air Act could have a devastating effect on the construction industry and result in severe layoffs of building trades craftsmen.

Georgine said the Environmental Protection Agency is threatening a complete embargo on construction with its "all-or-nothing" regulatory approach to the administration of the law.

If the country's five largest industrial states fail to submit air quality plans by a July 1 deadline Georgine said that 1.5 million construction workers could lose their jobs and billions of dollars worth of production would be halted because of EPA's threatened crackdown.

He called for a more reasoned and productive approach to meeting the goals of the 1970 Clean Air Act.

"It is far more important to accomplish a steady year-by-year improvement in air quality with a program that can absorb factors of work preservation and economic growth than to try—and fail—to meet some mystical deadline," Georgine declared.

He pointed out that the labor movement, including the BCTD, has supported the purposes of the clean air law from the beginning. He noted, however, that "between supporting the objectives of the act and agreeing to the process that has developed from the 1977 amendments to the act, there is a wide—perhaps unbridgeable—distance."

Georgine said that errors in administration of the act fall into three categories: rigid time limits, an all-or-nothing regulatory format that precludes incremental gains, and harsh enforcement policies.

With the passage of the 1970 law, Georgine said, Congress contemplated a much wider range of voluntary action than was subsequently achieved, and this led to adoption of the strict 1977 amendments.

But the congressional action in 1977 "narrowed the discretionary scope for states, local governments and industry to the vanishing point," he said.

"It would have been far more logical and livable if Congress has set minimum standards of progress rather than blanket deadlines for the states to meet," Georgine said.

"State implementation plans could then be written in terms of steady year-by-year reductions in the total volume of air pollutant emissions leading to compliance with national ambient air quality standards.

"Under those circumstances, reasonable allowance could be made for preserving jobs, new growth and air quality," Georgine stressed.

He called on labor and industry groups to join in efforts to ease the adverse impact of the clean air provisions. But he stressed that labor would not participate in any effort to repeal the act.

Unions Ask New Funds For Radiation Research

Three AFL-CIO unions are pressing the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to reinstate a federal grant for the research of cancer hazards workers encounter at low levels of nuclear radiation.

Funds for the study by Dr. Thomas Mancuso, an occupational health specialist at the University of Pittsburgh and a consultant to the Machinists, were abruptly cut off five years ago.

The IAM, Steelworkers and the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers are appealing to HEW Sec. Joseph A. Califano to reinstate the study because of the seriousness of the cancer hazard.

The Atomic Energy Commission, now a part of the Dept. of Energy, terminated the grant after the Mancuso study disclosed that radiation-induced cancer was occurring in workers at levels 10 to 20 times below the federal exposure limit.

The study by Mancuso and Dr. Alice Stewart involved an examination of records of some 37,000 workers at the federal nuclear facility in Hanford, Wash., who have been absorbing low levels of radiation.

Last February, the AFL-CIO Standing Committee on Safety & Occupational Health urged that the study be reinstated and expanded. It also called for shifting the study from the Dept. of Energy to "a more appropriate federal agency."

Since then, Mancuso has acquired documents under the Freedom of Information Act which revealed that the AEC was funding the study to build a defense against worker compensation claims, rather than to develop knowledge of radiation effects on humans.

In a letter to Califano, the Steelworkers expressed concern over the Energy Dept.'s capability to conduct an objective study into the radiation effects, since it also is responsible for the development of nuclear technology.

"As long as the DOE is involved with both endeavors, a conflict will exist and health concerns can be expected to be compromised within the department," the USWA said.

IAM President William W. Winpisinger said that the circumstance under which the Mancuso study was halted is "most alarming."

"We cannot permit political abuse of our basic research institutions, particularly of this magnitude," Winpisinger declared.

The USWA said it is essential that the federal grant be reinstated to help restore public confidence, which was shaken by termination of the Mancuso study.

Rockefeller Called Friend to Labor

With the death of Nelson A. Rockefeller, "America has lost a devoted and distinguished servant and the trade union movement has lost a good friend," AFL-CIO President George Meany said.

Rockefeller, a four-term governor of New York and Vice President under former President Ford, died Jan. 26 in New York following a heart attack. He was 70.

Meany said Rockefeller understood the problems and aspirations of working people and that "in every office he held, did his level best to translate their goals into reality. He brought honor and class to public life, and like all who shared his friendship, I am shocked and saddened."

Breach of Faith Charged:

Coalition Assails Social Security Cut

(Continued from Page 1)

social security system represents a "moral compact between the generations," and the budget proposals amount to "a major incursion into our moral compact."

He said the attempt to renege on promised benefits "can only result in pitting generation against generation and lead to a most serious social upheaval."

UAW President Douglas Fraser charged that the Administration proposal would amount to imposing a means test for social security. He warned that tampering with social security would put an additional burden on collective bargaining if it is necessary to recoup protections removed from the law.

The National Council of Senior Citizens helped set up the protest against the budget proposal, and one of the participating groups was the Ad Hoc Leadership Council on Aging Organizations, itself a coalition representing millions of older Americans as well as institutions providing services for the elderly. Its chairman, David C. Crowley, took up the theme of President Carter's State of the Union message to ask whether America's "new foundation" requires abandonment of social security principles.

Others who spoke at the news conference in opposition to the cutback proposal were Aaron Henry for the National Caucus on the Black Aged; Arlie Scott for the National Organization of Women, Lawrence Roffee, Jr., for the Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Elizabeth Wickenden, a leading authority on the social security system.

Kirkland told the news conference that the AFL-CIO will work with other concerned organizations "not only to vigorously fight against these proposals but to improve the law as well."

He stressed that social security is not just for those who are retired, that it provides essential insurance protection for workers against the risk of death or disability. And "since the Administration proposals are prospective, it is those presently employed who would bear the brunt of these cutbacks."

Kirkland said the AFL-CIO favors easing the burden of the payroll tax on low-income and middle-income workers.



ADMINISTRATION ATTEMPT to cut back social security benefits to achieve a budget savings was challenged by a newly-formed Save Our Security coalition. Three of the participants at a Washington news conference are, from left: UAW President Douglas Fraser, William R. Hutton of the National Council of Senior Citizens and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

Senate Labor Panel Acts to Change Name

The Senate Human Resources Committee is in the process of changing its official title to the Labor & Human Resources Committee.

A proposal to that effect was made by Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr., and adopted at the panel's first meeting of the 96th Congress. But the change in title must be cleared by the Senate Rules Committee and then adopted by the full Senate before it can become official. Until that process is completed, it's still the Human Resources Committee.

A more substantive change was the designation of Richard S. Schweiker of Pennsylvania as the committee's "ranking" Republican member—in effect the chairman for the minority with influence over staff appointments and committee organization.

Sen. Jacob K. Javits of New York is still the most senior Republican on the committee. But Javits also is the most senior Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee this year. Since Senate rules allow a member to chair or serve as ranking minority member of only one committee, Javits chose to move up in the Foreign Relations panel.

On direct labor issues, Schweiker has a generally liberal voting record, not greatly different from that of Javits. He has announced that he will not seek re-election when his term expires in two years, so this is his last Congress. Behind him on the Republican seniority list is Sen. Robert T. Stafford of Vermont.

Earlier, the committee decided to drop its separate Subcommittee on Labor, which Williams had headed, and bring the legislation that would have been sent to the subcommittee directly before the full committee.

AIW, Molders Launch Joint Safety Effort

The Allied Industrial Workers and the Molders are developing a joint occupational safety and health training program with the assistance of a federal grant.

Announcing staffing assignments, the two unions said that Jane W. Brown has been hired as an industrial hygienist, working at the Molders' headquarters in Cincinnati, and David W. Ortlieb as a training specialist, who will work at AIW headquarters in Milwaukee.

Brown was formerly with the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health where she handled research in long-term job health hazards. Ortlieb comes from Wisconsin's Dept. of Industry & Human Relations where he had been a research analyst and occupational safety and health consultant.

The two specialists were hired for the program to train members of both unions on job safety and health problems under a $161,000 grant from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

$1.5 Million in Backpay Given Yonkers Teachers

Yonkers, N.Y.—Nearly $1.5 million in back pay benefits were distributed to 151 members of the Yonkers Federation of Teachers fired illegally in late 1975 and early 1976.

The payments, which represent only partial awards under two landmark grievance settlements concerning job security clauses, ranged from under $1,000 to over $32,000, with the average about $9,806.

YFT President Walter Tice said that final awards in the two cases affecting 407 teachers will amount to $8.5 million. He estimated that some teachers will receive total payments of well over $50,000 each.

AFT President Albert Shanker said that the "judgments prove that a negotiated contract is binding and that our highest courts insist school boards honor contracts to which they have agreed."

The teachers' organization, AFT Local 860, had negotiated a job security clause in 1972 and again in 1974, that provided that "no person in this bargaining unit shall be terminated due to budgetary reasons or abolition of programs but only for unsatisfactory job performance." The clause was effective through June 30, 1977.

In 1975, as a result of New York City's fiscal difficulties, neighboring Yonkers encountered problems selling its municipal bonds. To control the situation, the city council asked the board of education to cut its budget by $9 million.

When the board cancelled the hiring of 29 teachers in October—they had been on the job since September—the union grieved over the firings. The N.Y. Supreme Court upheld the board's action, ruling that job security provisions in the public sector were unenforceable as a matter of public policy.

The board laid off another 500 teachers in the winter of 1975-76. Of these, 122 were employed under federal financing arrangements which allowed for terminations under certain circumstances. The terminations also were upheld by the New York Appellate division.

The union, however, took both cases to New York's highest court, the State Court of Appeals, and in July 1976 the lower court's decision was overturned with both cases ordered to arbitration.

An impartial arbitrator in August 1976 found in favor of the union and ordered the board to reinstate the 378 illegally fired teachers from the second group with back pay plus 6 percent interest. Another arbitrator issued an identical decision regarding the first 29 teachers.

As of last month, all but 59 of the 407 illegally fired teachers had been rehired. The two sides agreed that each of the teachers with a valid back pay claim would receive payments in two installments.

Guild Calls for Curb On Giant Media Chains

The Newspaper Guild expressed concern at the concentration of newspaper ownership in a few giant chains and asked Congress to impose legislative curbs.

"Domination of the U.S. press by fewer and fewer media conglomerates threatens to stifle the very freedom and diversity protected by the First Amendment," the Guild's executive board declared.

It asked Congress to put a ceiling on the number of newspapers or total circulation a single media company could control. Such a bill should be drawn up with "full consideration" of freedom of the press guarantees, the union said. It asked that consideration be given to limiting acquisitions of existing newspapers but allowing chains to establish new newspapers without limit.

The executive board resolution said the current attempt of the American Express Co. to take over McGraw-Hill lends "chilling substance" to concerns that a multinational conglomerate might acquire a major newspaper chain.

Another resolution urged a new effort to enact a federal law protecting the confidentiality of a reporter's information and sources.

The board said the need for a federal law is "acute" in the wake of an "alarming train of judicial decisions" forcing newspeople to choose between going to jail or turning over personal notes and revealing confidential sources.

In a related area, the Guild urged legislation that would protect everyone, not just the press, from police searches without subpoena.

It welcomed the Carter Administration's support for a law barring newsroom searches and asked that it be expanded to give "every American protection against unreasonable search."

Court Moves to Protect Lettuce Strikers' Safety

El Centro, Calif.—Members of the United Farm Workers union striking eight lettuce growers in California and Arizona won a round in court here when a California judge ordered all private security guards hired by the growers to be disarmed and kept at least 200 feet from any roadway to avoid confrontations with the strikers.

The order, issued by Superior Court Judge Don Work, had been sought by the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board.

One picket was shot and about 20 others injured in a confrontation at the edge of the Vessey Farm near Holtville in Imperial County on Jan. 30.

UFW spokesman Marc Grossman charged that the guards "were armed to the teeth with pistols, shotguns and clubs" and that they were sent in "to provoke violence and revive racial antagonisms that have long existed in Imperial Valley."

Imperial County Sheriff Orren Fox took the position that the guards shouldn't be there at all, Grossman said.

The basic issue in the strike, which began Jan. 19, is wages. Some 3,100 UFW members are involved in the strike.

The UFW is seeking a boost in the hourly rate from $3.70 to $5.25 and an increase in piece rates from 57 cents to 68 cents a box.

The growers have offered only a 7 percent pay hike over three years claiming that they want to stay within President Carter's wage guideline despite the fact that the farm workers are exempt from the guidelines because their incomes are so low, the UFW said.

The union described as "nonsense" a grower claim that "every day our crop is lost, the chances for higher consumer prices multiplies."

In fact, the UFW said, "you could triple the wages of farm workers and it would justify less than a one-cent increase in the price of a head of lettuce in the store. Lettuce harvesters receive only 8/100ths of one cent of the price of a head of lettuce selling for 89 cents."

Arne Geijer Mourned, Former Head of ICFTU

AFL-CIO President George Meany expressed sadness on behalf of the federation at the death of Arne Geijer, former president of the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO).

Geijer, who died Jan. 27 at the age of 68, also was a former president of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and had served as a member of the Swedish parliament.

In a message to the LO, Meany said that Geijer's accomplishments "on behalf of free trade unionism and his participation in the government of Sweden always benefited" workers and their families.

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Profits Up Sharply for 4th Quarter

Profits fairly blossomed for American business and industrial firms in the final quarter of 1978 according to a new Wall Street Journal survey, which showed after-tax earnings for 449 major companies averaging 28 percent during the period.

The year-to-year surge follows a series of quarterly rises and marks the 13th consecutive quarter in which earnings have risen over the like quarter a year earlier. Analysts see another rosy profits picture in the current quarter.

Official Commerce Dept. estimates of fourth-quarter 1978 profits are not due to be released until late next month. Third-quarter earnings were up 16.4 percent, second-quarter profits rose 17.2 percent, and first-quarter gains averaged 5.8 percent.

All but two of the 21 major industries in the Journal sampling showed substantial increases in profits, reflecting the widespread nature of the earnings climb. Airlines were off 27.5 percent while farm equipment manufacturers reported a drop of 84.7 percent.

On the plus side, profits rose 51.1 percent for aerospace firms, 49 percent among building material companies, 37 percent in the chain-store industry, 169 percent in the mining and non-ferrous metals industry, and 220.9 percent among steel makers.

William Cox, the Commerce Dept.'s deputy chief economist, said that he expects corporate profits in the first three months of 1979 to increase about 30-35 percent from a year ago, and to rise 17 percent for all of 1979. Spurring the hefty earnings gain will be a cut in corporate taxes this year.

Looking at specific industries, the Journal survey reported sharply higher earnings for crude oil, natural gas and refined products. The petroleum industry as a whole posted a 37 percent increase during the fourth quarter.

The steel industry's huge gain was particularly impressive since the 1977 fourth quarter with which it compared was weak. Bethlehem Steel had higher than usual profits for the quarter and the year because of plant closings in Johns-

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Labor Calls for Scrapping Wage-Price Controls Unit



AT HEARINGS on the Administration's "real wage insurance" proposal, House Ways & Means Committee Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) welcomes AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald and Legislative Director Kenneth Young, right. Rep. Barber B. Conable (R-N.Y.) is shown in the background. The AFL-CIO witnesses said the Administration plan is flawed by inequities.

Misdirected Policies Seen Fueling Inflation

The AFL-CIO termed the Council on Wage & Price Stability "an inglorious failure" and called on Congress to scrap it along with its lopsided system of partial controls.

In its place, Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged Congress to enact comprehensive economic controls and set up an agency capable of administering them fairly.

But if Congress should choose to salvage the existing controls machinery, he said, the expiring 1974 law that established the wage-price council should be substantially strengthened to make the government's anti-inflation program more equitable and more effective.

Young's testimony before the Banking Committees of both the House and Senate objected strongly to any mere extension of the legislative authority for COWPS, the initials by which the Council on Wage & Price Stability is known.

COWPS has "virtually ignored prices" in order to focus its efforts on "the easiest target" of holding down wages, Young said. By this misdirection and by "creating the illusion" that the government is dealing with the problem, COWPS "contributes to the continuation of inflation, rather than to its cure."

Young said the labor movement accepts the need for "sacrifices" to defuse inflation but demands equality of sacrifice.

It rejects, he said, the assumption of the wage-price council "that those who have the least shall sacrifice the most so that those who have the most can have more."

The AFL-CIO's clear preference is for legislation establishing "universal, across-the-board controls on the price of everything and the income of everybody."

Pending that, he said, "equity

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Joblessness Dips to 5.8% In January

Unemployment in January declined slightly to 5.8 percent from 5.9 percent the month before, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The January level was virtually the same as that for the last six months. Overall employment went up by 445,000 jobs to 96.3 million over the month.

Acting BLS Commissioner Janet L. Norwood, in testimony before the congressional Joint Economic Committee, pointed out that "the employment expansion has been strong enough to absorb a rapidly growing labor force but has made no further inroads on the unemployment rate."

The nation's jobless rate has alternated between 5.8 and 5.9 percent since August. The level was 6.3 percent in January 1978 and averaged 6.1 percent in the first seven months of last year.

The January decline was statistically insignificant. Blacks continued to bear the brunt of unemployment, however, BLS reported. Last month's jobless rate for black workers was 11.2 percent, compared to 5.1 percent for white

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Cruikshank Assails Plan:

Benefit Experts Hit Social Security Cuts

The President's Counselor on the Aging has taken sharp issue with the Administration over its proposal to cut back social security benefits.

Nelson H. Cruikshank, who played a major role in the development and improvement of the social security system and who now heads the Federal Council on the Aging while serving as a presidential counselor, attacked both the substance of the proposed reductions and the procedures under which they were put forward.

Cruikshank, who retired in 1965 as director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security and later headed the National Council of Senior Citizens, charged that the proposals had their origin in the search for budget savings that would bring the total 1980 federal deficit below $30 billion.

This "ill-advised" budgetary approach, he said, tends to obscure the distinction between the government's general funds and its trust funds, which "represent a compact between working people of this nation and their government."

"In my view," Cruikshank said, "reducing benefits on a budgetary consideration represents a breach of faith between the government and those millions of social security contributors and could go far toward eroding the confidence people have in their government."

Cruikshank's views, presented to the House Select Committee on the Aging headed by Rep. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.), were supported by three former government officials who took part in the formulation and administration of the social security program — Wilbur J. Cohen, former Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare; Robert M. Ball, former social security commissioner, and Robert Myers, former chief actuary of the Social Security Administration.

All three attacked the budgetary approach to social security benefit

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High Interest Rates Send Bank Earnings Rocketing

New York—Business is booming for the big banks.

The New York Times reports that "some of the most extraordinary earnings in years" were posted by the nation's largest banks during the fourth quarter of 1978.

BankAmerica Corp., parent of the largest U.S. bank, reported a 34 percent increase in operating earnings before securities transactions. Citicorp, parent of Citibank, New York's largest bank, reported a 28 percent rise in earnings.

A tabulation of the 98 largest banks in the country, compiled by the investment banking firm of Salomon Brothers, showed an average gain of 25.8 percent in earnings over the final quarter and a 29.6 percent average increase for all of 1978.

The major factors in the higher profits, the Times says, were sharply increased interest rates and strong loan demand, especially among regional banks.

"Bankers and bank analysts cited the absence of 'jawboning,' or public urgings from Washington, for banks to hold down their interest rates as a major reason for the impressive earnings," the Times article observed. "As interest rates surged throughout the economy, banks were able to keep pace by raising their own rates—in particular, the prime rate, the rate charged their most creditworthy corporate customers."

Congress Urged to Keep Curb on Unfair Imports

The United States should not merely turn the other cheek when American jobs are lost because foreign nations unfairly subsidize exports to this country, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald testified.

Oswald asked the House Ways & Means Committee to reject an Administration bill that would allow the Secretary of the Treasury to ignore a law requiring him to impose a "countervailing duty" to offset any unfair penetrations of the U.S. market.

Congress in the 1974 Trade Act granted a waiver authority to the Secretary of the Treasury for a four-year period, anticipating negotiation of an international code dealing with export subsidies. But the authority expired this January and Congress last year failed to complete action on the Administration's request for an extension.

Oswald reminded the Ways & Means Committee that the U.S. trade deficit has more than tripled since the authority to waive countervailing duties was first enacted. The waiver authority, he said, has encouraged "nations all over the world" to use export subsidies to "undercut U.S. production and cost U.S. jobs."

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Labor Urges Retention of Import Curb

(Continued from Page 1)

Negotiations on international codes are continuing, Oswald noted. But the American position, he suggested, would be strengthened and not weakened if Congress made clear that this country is not going to give up its legal right to combat subsidies with higher tariffs unless satisfactory alternative protection is negotiated.

Direct export subsidies aren't the only form of competitive advantage, Oswald noted. The United States is still at a disadvantage against indirect forms of subsidy such as the value added tax used by nations in the European Economic Community. While it amounts to an export subsidy, no countervailing duty is charged against it or has any been proposed.

Oswald urged Congress not to give up, even temporarily, a tool that can be used to preserve jobs.

"Over the past two years, the value of subsidized products for which countervailing duty waivers were granted amounted to about $1.2 billion," he noted.

The "lost jobs and production" from these imports, Oswald said, weakens the U.S. economy and requires government expenditures to make up for the drain.

"If the U.S. enforced its existing laws and curbed unfair imports," he testified, "budget pressures for welfare and tax incentives to encourage business could be reduced.

United Airlines Pact Reached By Machinists

The Machinists reached tentative agreement with United Airlines on a new three-year contract covering about 18,000 ground personnel.

Details of the pact were not disclosed while terms of the agreement were put before IAM members for approval. The ratification process, which will be conducted by a mail ballot, is expected to take three to four weeks.

The agreement replaces a contract that expired last September. The union was prepared to strike the carrier at midnight Feb. 2 at the end of a "cooling-off" period set by the National Mediation Board under federal law. The federal agency mediates labor disputes in the railroad and airline industries.

The Machinists had already negotiated a new contract with Trans World Airlines. Traditionally, the first contract settlement that the union reaches with a major air carrier sets the pattern for its negotiations with other airlines. The TWA pact, concluded last October, provided for a 30 percent wage increase over three years, plus cost-of-living adjustments.

Rail Clerks Vote Contract Approval

Members of the Railway Clerks approved the union's new national wage contract with the railroad industry by a margin of about 5 to 1.

Mail balloting completed Jan. 31 showed some 50,000 votes to ratify the 39-month agreement and about 10,000 against. The settlement, reached on Jan. 13, is similar to those between other rail unions and the carriers with some modifications.

Only one union remains without a new agreement with the industry. The Train Dispatchers' dispute is in the process of mediation.



COMEDIAN BOB HOPE, the first recipient of the Washington, D.C., Touchdown Club's Hubert Humphrey Award, receives a drawing of the late senator from Retail Clerks President William H. Wynn, right, and Graphic Arts Union Vice Pres. William Schroeder at the club's annual banquet. Schroeder made the drawing on the day of Humphrey's death.

R-T-W Law Opposition Urged by Jewish Group

Cincinnati—National and local Jewish groups have been urged to join with the labor movement in opposing "right-to-work" laws as part of the continuing campaign for social and economic justice.

A proposition spelling out the position of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council on the "right-to-work" issue was adopted without dissent by some 400 representatives of Jewish organizations participating in a four-day plenary session here.

The resolution points out that laws impeding the right of workers to organize conflict with the advisory council's 1974-75 program supporting "unionization of the working poor 'as an avenue out of poverty' and 'the way to a decent standard of living and dignified social status.' "

The resolution was based on a background paper presented by Emanuel Muravchik, executive director of the Jewish Labor Committee. Nine national Jewish groups, including the JLC, and 102 local Jewish community groups comprise the advisory council.

Muravchik noted that over the years, trade unions have helped Jewish emigrants to America to escape poverty, and that today they are among the major non-sectarian, broad-based organizations allied with the Jewish community in support of Israel, Soviet Jewry and key social welfare issues.

"If we recognize . . . that poverty, exploitation and a sense of powerlessness is at the root of social disorganization, discrimination, prejudice and group conflict, then support for unionization is a mandate, not simply a sentiment," he stressed.

Muravchik pointed out that union members and American Jews share common interests and goals, citing in particular such objectives as full employment, welfare reform, federal aid to education, national health insurance and subsidized low-income housing.

Stressing those ties, Muravchik called for "a shift in the Jewish community from neutrality toward the American labor movement to a more positive relationship."

Support for the unionization of all workers by the Jewish community is vital, Muravchik said, and would be mutually beneficial.

Also participating in the advisory council's session was Don Slaiman, deputy director of the Dept. of Organization & Field Services, who is first vice president of the JLC.

'One-Sided' Controls Hit:

Labor Scores Lack Of Curbs on Prices

The Carter Administration's anti-inflation program is ineffective as well as unfair, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald testified at House hearings.

It suffers, he said, from "the mistaken notion that wages are the primary cause of the current inflation" and that therefore holding down workers' paychecks will curb inflation. That fallacy is at the root of the government's "one-sided wage control program," he said.

A House Government Operations subcommittee which is trying to assess the effectiveness of the anti-inflation program heard criticism from both union and consumer groups of the lack of any effective means of holding down price increases.

"Such price guidelines as do exist are so flexible as to allow companies to put virtually any price increases they wish into effect," Oswald said. He and a panel of witnesses from COIN—the initials of Consumers Opposed to Inflation in the Necessities—stressed that the biggest price increases have been in the key ingredients of the cost-of-living, food, shelter, energy and medical care.

Oswald challenged the legal authority for the wage-price guidelines the Administration has sought to enforce through the pressure of government contracts.

"It is in reality a system of rigid, universally applicable controls for wages on the one hand and a flimsy patchwork of unenforceable, piecemeal guidelines for prices on the other," he noted. But while the program is described as voluntary, "it establishes various penalties for those failing to comply." And penalties are "the antithesis of a voluntary program."

Oswald's view that the attempt to use government procurement contracts as "the enforcement tool" for the Administration's program is unlawful was backed by testimony from the General Accounting Office.

GAO General Counsel Milton J. Socolar told the subcommittee that there is a "serious question" about the legality of the Administration's pressure tactics.

Existing law clearly prohibits mandatory controls, the GAO witness said. And so-called guidelines that are backed by the threat of loss of government contracts that determine a company's ability to stay in business "can hardly be labeled voluntary," he testified

The American Bar Association's Economic Controls Committee also challenged the Administration position.

Oswald told the panel what the AFL-CIO expects from a comprehensive anti-inflation program.

"It must be a program that treats all Americans equally," he said. "It must control prices for everything. And it must last only for the duration of the inflation emergency."

Benefit Experts Hit Social Security Cuts

(Continued from Page 1)

reductions as "unsound" and "a serious mistake."

Cruikshank made clear that his testimony represented his own views. He expressed appreciation that the White House was not asking him "to defend positions which I cannot in good conscience defend, and that I am permitted even to criticize proposals which in my personal view are ill-advised."

Discussing the Administration's specific proposals for reductions, Cruikshank said they had been presented in the budget message in "euphemistic terms" that "tend very much to obscure their true nature."

For example, the minimum benefit (currently $122 a month) which the Administration wants to eliminate for future retirees, is not for the great majority of workers the "unnecessary windfall" that the Administration claims it to be, but a major expectation for many low-income people who have built it into their retirement plans, Cruikshank observed.

Similarly, the plan to phase out benefits for children of disabled or retired beneficiaries who attend school beyond age 18 "arises from a misunderstanding of the nature of the social security benefits," he said. "They are not educational grants to needy students, but benefits to make up for the loss of support of a parent. . . . The fact that there are other programs available on a needs-tested basis is irrelevant."

Cruikshank noted that Administration budget-drafters argue the proposed changes are minor and will have a relatively small impact on 1980 expenditures while holding the potential for future reductions in the social security tax.

"If the reductions are in fact small, harmless changes for improved administration," he said, "then they will not be meaningful at all in any effort to reduce the social security taxes. If on the other hand, there is any validity to the claim that the cuts in social security benefits can be a significant factor in reducing future social security taxes, the cuts in future years must be sizable indeed."



LEADERS OF THE FRENCH LABOR federation, Force Ouvriere, present AFL-CIO President George Meany with a Corot print during a courtesy visit. Meany, who is himself an accomplished painter, joined the two officials in a wide-ranging discussion of the international labor scene, particularly as it relates to France and the United States. Antoine Laval, an FO confederal secretary, watches as FO Sec.-Gen. Andre Bergeron makes the presentation.

Bargaining Rights at Issue:

Shipyard Strikers Cite Wide Support

Newport News, Va.—The Steelworkers' 10-day-old strike against the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., has won the support of 85 percent of the company's work force, despite the presence of arrest-happy policemen, the union reported.

USWA's Bill Edwards, southern editor of the union publication Steel Labor, said that the small percentage of workers on the job includes diehard supporters of the Peninsula Shipbuilders Association, the company union that the Steelworkers defeated to become bargaining agent for the shipyard's 15,500 production and maintenance workers.

"The old PSA are scabbing," Edwards said. "They promised they would, and they kept their promise."

Meanwhile, police arrested a total of 24 pickets—including President Wayne Crosby of the striking USWA Local 8888—since the strike began on Jan. 31. Most were charged with violations of Virginia's "right-to-work" law which imposes severe restrictions on picketing. The union has picket lines spread over a two-mile area around the mammoth shipyard.

For its part the Steelworkers challenged three Virginia statutes, sueing Republican Gov. John N. Dalton and the local police chief for preventing its members from exercising the lawful right of peaceful assembly.

Attorneys for the union are also looking into a possible action resulting from an incident in which a woman picket, Betty Jackson of Hampton, was badly bitten by a police dog.

A substantial majority of the shipyard's workers voted over a year ago to join the Steelworkers, but the company's owner, Tenneco, Inc., has refused to bargain. The Texas-based conglomerate has challenged the election, which the National Labor Relations Board upheld, and its appeal will be heard on Feb. 22 by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond.

The USWA and other organizations in the Virginia Tidewater area sharply criticized the local governments of neighboring Virginia Beach and Portsmouth for permitting 65 of their off-duty policemen to moonlight at the shipyard.

To allow the off-duty policemen "to support one of the world's largest conglomerates to violate the law is beyond our understanding," President Paul A. Askew of the AFL-CIO Central Labor Council declared in a letter to the Virginia Beach City Council. He said the police officers, in effect, become strikebreakers in "aiding and abetting Tenneco to defy the laws of our country which guarantee working people the right to collective bargaining."



STRIKING STEELWORKERS picket a Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. gate as the union's walkout entered its second week. While the Steelworkers won a federally-supervised representation election a year ago, the Tenneco, Inc.-owned company refuses to negotiate a contract.

Profits Show Sharp Surge In 4th Quarter

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town, Pa., and Lackawanna, N.Y., in 1977.

Among railroads, 11 major carriers posted gains in fourth-quarter earnings averaging 29 percent. Most lines, the Journal said, view the current quarter optimistically despite bad winter weather, expecting the record traffic in the last half of 1978 to spill over into 1979.

Also anticipating strong increases in the current quarter, the tire and rubber industry registered steady profit gains in the fourth quarter on the basis of gradual price increases throughout 1978.

The banking industry turned in a 27 percent earnings gain in the last quarter and looks forward to continued profits this year despite a widely anticipated economic slowdown, the Journal said.

State-County Supports Wage Insurance Concept

The State, County & Municipal Employees announced support for the Carter Administration's "real wage insurance" concept and asked Congress to remedy some defects in the legislation.

AFSCME President Jerry Wurf said the union's executive committee considers the proposal a "creative" effort to assure that workers aren't saddled with an "unfair burden" in the drive to curb inflation.

The Administration proposal would give a one-time tax credit for eligible groups of workers that is intended to make up the difference between the 7 percent "guideline" ceiling on pay raises and the actual rise in the consumer price index. The AFL-CIO has been critical of the plan as overly complex and flawed by various inequities.

Wurf said the union considers enactment of an "equitable and comprehensive real wage insurance program" a prerequisite for cooperation with other aspects of the Administration's anti-inflation program.

He listed these changes that AFSCME will seek from Congress:

- Coverage for all low-wage workers, including those making less than $4 an hour who are exempt from wage controls but still subject to the 7 percent ceiling in order to qualify for a tax credit.
- Mandatory coverage for employees of smaller establishments who qualify for the tax credit. The Administration bill would exempt employers of fewer than 50 workers from having to certify them as eligible for the tax credit.
- Continuation of the tax credit beyond one year. Otherwise, AFSCME said, workers covered by multi-year contracts would be subject to wage restraints for more than one year but could count on wage insurance only for the first year.
- A stricter limitation of wage insurance credits to the first $20,000 of total wages.
- Assurance that union members who typically bargain together or in tandem with the same employer and who agree to the same settlement would receive equal treatment on eligibility for tax credits.

High Court Urged to Uphold Right To Bargain on Cafeteria Prices

The AFL-CIO has asked the Supreme Court to uphold the right of a union to bargain over food prices charged in plant cafeterias and vending machine facilities.

Food facilities and prices are a facet of the employer-employee relationship, comparable to health and pension benefits, the federation declared in a brief.

In the case that reached the Supreme Court, the Ford Motor Co. is challenging a National Labor Relations Board order that it negotiate with a UAW local over in-plant food costs.

The AFL-CIO's supporting brief viewed a subsidized lunch as a form of employee compensation, while a setup that enabled an employer to profit from his in-plant food services woud amount to a reduction in compensation.

Requiring bargaining on the issue doesn't obligate an employer to agree to a union's proposals, the AFL-CIO noted. As in other negotiations, the outcome will depend on "the parties' relative strength, their evaluation of the relative importance of the issue and, to the extent a compromise is reached, their ingenuity and flexibility."

The NLRB has consistently taken the position that in-plant food services are a subject for mandatory bargaining if a union raises the issue, but several federal appellate courts have ruled otherwise.

In this case, the first to reach the Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit modified a position it had taken in an earlier case and supported the NLRB's bargaining order.

Taking what it described as a case-by-case approach, the appellate court did not reverse its earlier ruling but said the different conditions in the Ford case compelled a different conclusion.

The distinction the court made was that at the Ford parts stamping plant in Chicago, there were no practical alternatives to purchasing lunches and snacks at in-plant facilities. The only place workers could store lunches brought from home, the court noted, was in locker rooms that weren't air-conditioned and had severe food spoilage and vermin problems.

The AFL-CIO brief agreed with Ford's contention that the issue of whether management was obligated to bargain over food prices is not dependent on such matters as whether employees can conveniently brown-bag their lunches. But the federation came to the opposite conclusion than management from that premise, declaring that the earlier appellate court decisions rejecting the mandatory bargaining obligation were "erroneous."

It is also irrelevant, the AFL-CIO contended, that the food service is provided through a caterer under contract to the company rather than directly by the employer.

The details of the contract and the amount of subsidy paid by the company largely determine food prices and are proper economic issues for the bargaining table, the AFL-CIO held.

As for the right of a union to bargain over prices, the AFL-CIO pointed out the clear distinction between bargaining over an attempt to negotiate the price at which Ford cars are sold to the public and bargaining over the prices employees pay in-plant cafeterias.

"Ford provides the cafeteria and makes the vending machines available as part of its labor relations policy," the AFL-CIO stressed. The company's right to set that policy unilaterally was nullified "when its employees exercised their statutory right to bargain through a representative of their own choosing."

Herling Retires As Bakers' Editor

Albert K. Herling has retired as managing editor of the BC&T News, the publication of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers, and as the union's public relations director.

Herling served as president of the International Labor Press Association from 1975 to 1977 and was an ILPA board member for many years. He is a former Unitarian minister and a onetime music professor.

Carolyn Jacobson, the newspaper's assistant editor, has been named to succeed Herling. She is a former AFL-CIO intern who joined the union's staff in 1973.

Job Security Tops Goals For Rubber Union Talks

Atlanta—Improved job security will be a major goal of the Rubber Workers in their round of negotiations with the nation's leading tire makers this spring.

URW President Peter Bommarito, following a two-day meeting of the union's international policy committee here, said that the Rubber Workers will seek pensions and supplemental unemployment benefits for workers displaced by plant closings, higher severance pay, extended medical-care benefits, hiring preference at other company plants, and liberal relocation expenses.

The union's master contracts with the Big Four rubber companies—Goodyear, Goodrich, Firestone and Uniroyal—expire at 12:01 a.m., Apr. 21. A month later, contracts with General Tire will expire.

Altogether, about 70,000 URW members are covered by the contracts. Besides tires, a number of the firms' plants produce belting, hose, and other industrial rubber products.

Several tire and rubber products plants have closed over the past 10 years, including some last year. The Akron area, where the union has its headquarters, has been especially hard hit.

While expressing hope that the union may reach agreement without a strike, Bommarito said that URW negotiators would not be bound by the 7 percent annual pay increase called for under the Carter Administration's wage guidelines. He charged that the guidelines are unfair to workers. Legislatively mandated wage-and-price controls would be more equitable than the guidelines since they would do a better job of holding down prices, he said.

In its last round of bargaining with the Big Four, the union struck the industry for 130 days, the longest strike in the URW's history.

An Inglorious Failure

THE AFL-CIO has come to the reluctant but firm conclusion that the Council on Wage & Price Stability has been an inglorious failure and should be abolished. The time has come for the Congress to legislate a full program of economic controls and to create an agency capable of administering that program across the board. In our judgment these are the steps necessary to end the present inflationary emergency on an equitable basis.

The council was created in 1974 as a small group within the President's office to secure information on the causes of inflation, analyze that data, publicize its findings and conclusions, and work with industry, labor and the agencies of government to correct the economic malfunctions the council had isolated.

Congress in passing the Act made it perfectly plain that "nothing in this Act . . . authorizes the continuation, imposition, or reimposition of any mandatory economic controls with respect to prices, rents, wages, salaries, corporate dividends, or any similar transfers."

It is in the nature of things that an agency will concentrate its limited authority and resources on the easiest target. And, in a huge complicated economic system, that target is wages. Because controlling prices is bigger and tougher, the council has virtually ignored prices. Yet prices—particularly the prices of the necessities, food, shelter, energy and medical care—are the cause of the present inflation.

By misdirecting the nation's attention and by creating the illusion that the government has a means of attacking the number one economic problem, the council contributes to the continuation of inflation, rather than to its cure.

A successful effort to control inflation requires sacrifices, at least in the short run. The dilemma is who shall sacrifice how much for how long. COWP's answer is that those who have the least shall sacrifice the most so that those who have the most can have more.

The proposal we have made—that the Congress legislate universal, across-the-board controls on the price of everything and the income of everybody—would provide COWPS with a legitimate role and the ability to do what it now only pretends to do.

UNTIL CONGRESS DOES SO, we believe that the 1974 law should be strengthened:

First, equity demands at the very least, that the council be directed to adopt wage standards that permit American workers to maintain their real purchasing power as of the date the original standards were issued. That congressional direction to COWPS not only provides a modicum of fairness, it makes perfect economic sense. Not allowing workers to stay even makes them the scapegoats of inflation.

Second, it is morally wrong to control inflation by freezing the working poor at substandard levels.

Third, COWPS has established a dispute settlement machinery which makes the Council the lawgiver, prosecutor, judge and jury. We believe the Act should guarantee a hearing on the record, strict time limits for agency decisions and prompt judicial review.

Fourth, COWPS needs additional manpower to begin to effectively monitor prices. The authorization should be increased to provide a staff of 1,000—that is, two staff people to monitor each of the Fortune 500 corporations.

—Testimony by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young.

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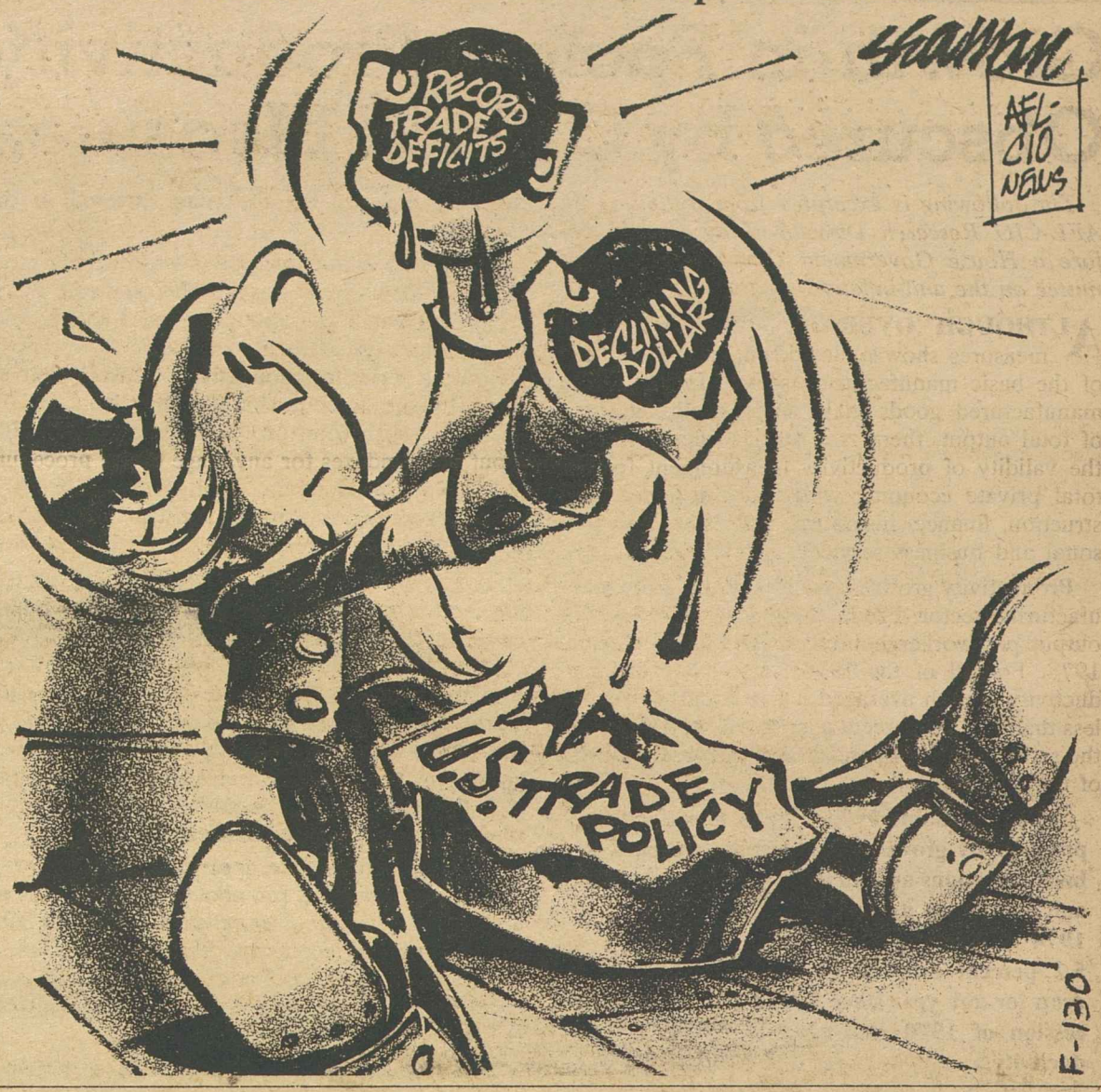
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'. . . And He Pulled Out a Couple of Prunes!'



Conspiracy Probed:

Did American Bank Capers Help Undermine U.S. Dollar?

TO UNCOVER THE TRUTH about whether or not some U.S. banks have been in a conspiracy to undermine the value of the dollar, the Dept. of Justice is checking up on the charges of a one-time employee of America's—perhaps the world's—biggest single bank.

The name of the institution is not important, because it was but one of several; moreover, the charges have not been proven and it would be pointless to name the alleged villain. But the way in which the bank conspiracy is supposed to have operated is so intriguing that the sly scheme is a worthy story in and of itself.

The caper revolves around the specialized business of buying and selling money—a thought that, in itself, is mind-boggling to most of us. For the average citizen, money is something with which you buy things and not something that is itself bought and sold.

But for banks, especially those that operate on a world scale, the sale and purchase of money is a major business.

In the case under investigation, it is alleged that the American banks both sold and bought American dollars within the tight space of a few days and realized significant sums in the transactions that depended on the decline of the dollar. Here's the way the story goes:

The "conspirators" had to know when European banks holding American dollars would trade them in for marks, lire, and francs. Such sales would be a signal that the dollar was about to go down.

The American banks got this tip from their man in Zurich, where the Swiss banks—it appears—had the necessary advance info about when the dollars would be released. With this "dope" in hand, the American banks would borrow huge sums of American dollars from European banks on a very short-term basis.

Now the U.S. banks had foreign currency in hand which they held as they watched the dollar slide. The decline was helped along by the banks' advice to their clients to unload their dollars for foreign currency.

The very size of the transactions was enough to devalue the dollar. The charge is that U.S. banks were borrowing as much as $70 million a day to play this money game.

Once the dollar fell low enough on the world market, the U.S. banks bought them back with foreign currency. They were now able to repay their short-term loans with devalued dollars.

The profit was easy to calculate: it was the difference between the cost of borrowing the dollars and the gains made by borrowing strong dollars and paying back with weaker dollars.

The charm of this plot is that it reveals the power to profit of those who really know the money game—whether the value of the dollar goes up or the value of the dollar goes down. The tale also reveals a like power to push the dollar up or down. So, if you wonder why these masters of money are such consistent winners, just remember that they are not simply lucky at placing their bets, but also adept at fixing the dice.

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The Compact On Social Security

The current budgetary approach to social security legislation . . . tends to obscure the distinction between the trust funds and the general funds of the government. The trust funds . . . represent a compact between working people of this nation and their government.

In my view, reducing benefits on a budgetary consideration represents a breach of faith between the government and those millions of social security contributors and could go far toward eroding the confidence people have in their government.

Secondly, arguments now being put forward in support of these reductions and the euphemistic terms used to describe them in the budget message tend very much to obscure their true nature. Various terms have been used with reference to the benefits nominated for reduction or elimination, such as: "unnecessary" or "windfall." The cuts are described as necessary "to improve administration." Upon examination, and as viewed by potential beneficiaries, those descriptions are at the very least disingenuous.

—From testimony of Nelson H. Cruikshank, Counselor to the President on the Aging, before the House Select Committee on Aging.

Poor Data Cited:

Growth in Factory Productivity Obscured by Overall Measures

The following is excerpted from testimony by AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald before a House Government Operations subcommittee on the anti-inflation program.

ALTHOUGH OVERALL PRODUCTIVITY measures show a slowdown, this is not true of the basic manufacturing sector. In fact, since manufactured goods make up a declining share of total output, there is a serious question about the validity of productivity measurement for the total private economy which also includes construction, finance, insurance, real estate and personal and business services.

Productivity growth has not slowed in the manufacturing sector. Productivity growth in terms of output per worker hour increased 3.5 percent in 1978. For all of the 1970s, manufacturing productivity growth averaged 2.4 percent per year—less than the 3.0 percent average of the 1960s, but the same as the 2.4 percent average yearly growth of the 1950s.

The respectable 1970s rate of manufacturing productivity growth came despite two back-to-back recessions and an underutilization of plant and equipment during most of the 1970s. The 1974 recession was so severe that it caused a 5.2 percent drop in productivity, the largest drop for any year since World War II. The recession of 1970 also caused a drop in productivity.

Despite the severe recessions of the 1970s and the low utilization of plant, equipment and labor, productivity growth in manufacturing in the 1970s fared as well as that of the 1950s. And considering the marked difference in economic climate, the 1970s productivity growth compared very well to that of the 1960s.

Productivity in manufacturing is not slowing down—but manufactured goods are a declining share of total output and manufacturing now accounts for only 29 percent of total hours of work in the private business economy. The slowdown in measured productivity for the total private business economy results primarily from non-manufacturing data which do not have the reliability of manufacturing data. The data are so poor for construction, finance, insurance, real estate, services, and other sectors that the slowdown in productivity may be entirely a measurement problem rather than an actual slowdown.

The productivity data for construction shows an average 2.7 percent per year decline in construction productivity from 1968 to 1977, with productivity declining in each of these years except 1976. This incredible result contradicts all of the Bureau of Labor statistics studies including those for single family homes, office buildings, sewer and water systems, and apartment houses. Each of these studies indicates a positive productivity increase for the years covered in the studies.

The problem in construction productivity measurement stems from the use of Commerce Dept. GNP data which use input price indexes to correct for inflation. These data do not give an appropriate output series for productivity measurement. A study by the Institute for Defense Analysis for BLS on construction productivity states, "To use input price indexes for any stage of the procedure to measure productivity is illogical." The IDA study recommends using a construction productivity figure of 2.5 percent, based on BLS studies.

The output of finance, insurance, and real estate and other services such as health, legal and repair services is difficult to measure. Unfortunately, productivity data for these sectors are constructed using Commerce Dept. GNP data. These data are based on gross receipts, not output. The large amounts of computerized equipment going into the financial and service sectors indicate that productivity is advancing much more rapidly than the figures indicate.

Construction, finance, insurance and real estate and services account for about 23 percent of all hours used for measuring productivity in the total private business economy. The growth of these sectors and relative decline of manufacturing adds a downward bias to measurement of productivity in the total private economy.

PROBLEMS ALSO EXIST in the measurement of output in wholesale and retail trade, and it is difficult to correct the measurement of this output for inflation and for quality change. It's likely that output is understated because of insufficient data for correcting for inflation in wholesale and retail trade.

Overall, these problematical sectors account for most of the measurement of productivity for the total private economy. The inadequacies of measurement of productivity in these sectors and the probability that productivity is vastly understated in these sectors mean that the downturn in productivity in the 1970s may be a problem of measurement and not reality. The lack of any decrease in the more reliably measured manufacturing productivity despite the poor economic climate of the 1970's strengthens this conclusion.

Concentration on doubtful statistics concerning productivity growth, and unit labor costs for the total private economy may seriously distort an understanding of inflationary pressures in the economy. Productivity has been robust in manufacturing and continues to contribute substantial real gains to the economy. In the non-manufacturing sectors, the true extent of productivity growth may have been seriously understated.

Funding Problems Cited:

'Status Quo' Budget Hampers Nation's Job Safety Efforts

THE NEW CARTER BUDGET does nothing to improve job health and safety enforcement beyond what Congress authorized last year, but the Administration froze, Director George H. R. Taylor of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health declared in a Labor News Conference radio interview.

"It's a status quo budget," Taylor stressed, noting that even the stand-still Administration proposal will have to weather "inevitable amendments aimed at restricting OSHA's authority, particularly in enforcement aimed at small business." He said that OSHA has faced the same kind of attacks on its funding every year since the law was put on the books in 1972.

Taylor said that the labor movement will continue to press in the new Congress—as it has through the years—to "maintain the integrity" of the job health and safety law, consistent with the intent of Congress in shaping the legislation.

Taylor said that the AFL-CIO is deeply concerned about the court-ordered delay of the OSHA lead-exposure standard, particularly in light of the very serious situation at American Cyanamid's Willow Island, W.Va., plant, where he said workers have, in effect, been forced to "choose between their reproductive ability and their jobs." He said there are indications that workers in other plants and industries may be suffering the same exposure and that several major unions are "attempting to get this message across to their locals." He said the unions are closely monitoring other plants to guard against "a pattern of discrimination" through layoffs and "downgradings of workers who happen to have high blood level tests."

If such a pattern is found, Taylor asserted, the AFL-CIO will demand that the federal Occupational Safety & Health Administration initiate "protective measures" to safeguard those workers during the period that the lead standard is held in abeyance awaiting the court's action on the issue.

Reporters questioning Taylor on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Stan Pond of the Bureau of National Affairs and Jean White of Press Associates, Inc.



By Press Associates, Inc.

A SECOND CONGRESSIONAL STUDY has estimated there were 2 million unnecessary operations wasting more than $4 billion and costing 10,000 lives in 1977.

When a House subcommittee in 1976 reported its initial findings —some 2.4 million unnecessary surgeries in 1974 at a cost of $4 billion and 11,900 deaths—organized medicine hit the ceiling.

The American Medical Association attacked the 1976 study and whipped up a survey that claimed between zero to 1 percent unnecessary surgery instead of the 17 percent estimated by the committee.

The committee had experts examine the AMA evidence and found it "faulty in methodology and imprecise in execution." Indeed, the panel said close study of the AMA data yielded a rate of needless surgery in the same range as the subcommittee's.

The chief finding of the congressional investigators was that unnecessary surgery is "a major national problem." It said the claims by organized medicine that such surgery cannot be defined are "diversions and obfuscations."

The House subcommittee found wide variations in the quality of surgery, based on studies by the National Academy of Sciences and the surgical community. An individual may have twice the chance of dying simply by having an operation at one hospital rather than another.

For example, one study by medical specialists showed that, of open heart operations at Malden Hospital in Massachusetts from 1968 to 1975, 49 percent resulted in patient deaths. In nearby Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, the mortality rates were about 22 percent. Open heart surgery at other major medical centers in Boston showed mortality rates in the 10 percent range.

The subcommittee also found that many surgeries end in what are called "misadventures" or, delicately put, "unexpected adverse results." One-third of misadventures are preventable and a majority of these are surgeon-related, the report said.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE also reported that a majority of tonsillectomies performed in 1977 were unnecessary. A medical expert testified that national data showed the rate of operations per 100,000 population ranged from 84.6 in the South to 137.5 in the North Central region. A study of a federal employee program showed the probability of having a tonsillectomy varied from 41.3 percent for Blue Cross subscribers to 10.5 percent for prepaid group practice subscribers.

Dr. Kenneth J. Ryan, chairman of the Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynecology at Harvard University and chief of staff at the Boston Hospital for Women, testified that hysterectomies in the United States, at a rate of 647 per 100,000 females, is "staggering."

The subcommittee report also criticized state licensing agencies and medical societies for failing to control unnecessary or incompetent surgery.

One physician in Chicago liked to perform multiple tonsillectomies for families on welfare. In one case, on the same day a family of five brothers had their tonsils and adenoids removed. They also had three circumcisions, an umbilical hernia repaired and a cyst removed.

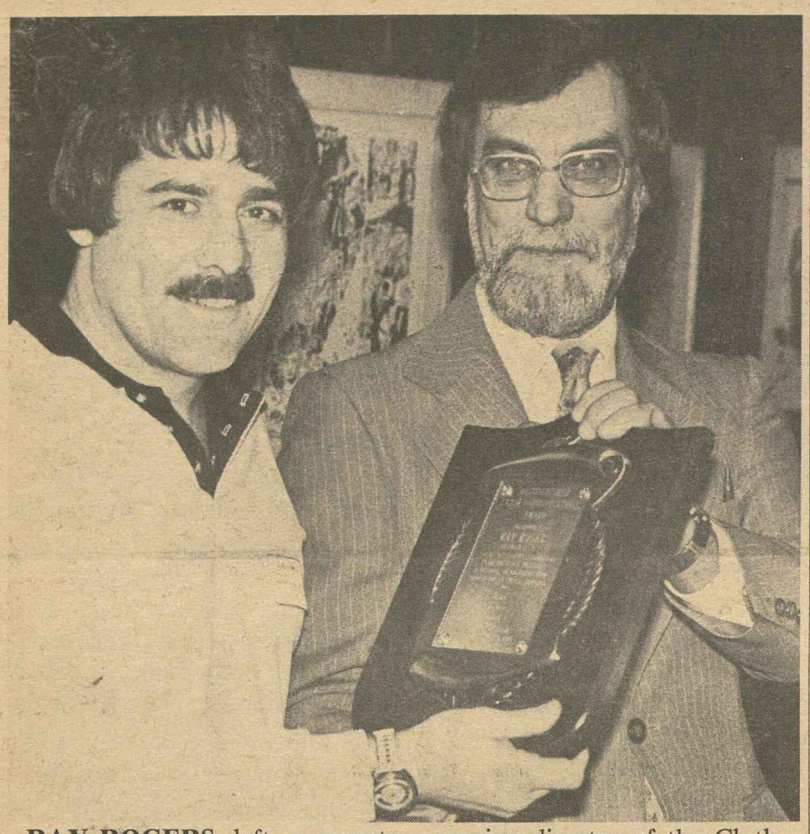
This enterprising doctor, in readying six-year-old children for tonsil removal, gave them electrocardiograms (EKGs) to build up his bill. This doctor received $119,000 from the Medicaid program in 1976.

The subcommittee concluded that second consultations would sharply reduce unnecessary operations. The panel said the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare should promptly create a program to require mandatory independent second opinions on highly elective procedures such as hysterectomies and tonsillectomies paid for by the federal government.

The panel also urged legislation to require minimum competency standards and rapped HEW for negligence in overseeing professional standards.



ATTEMPTS TO WEAKEN the Occupational Safety & Health Act will be fought by the AFL-CIO in and out of Congress, George H. R. Taylor said on Labor News Conference. Taylor, center, is director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health. He was questioned by Stan Pond of the Bureau of National Affairs and Jean White of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.



RAY ROGERS, left, corporate campaign director of the Clothing & Textile Workers' J. P. Stevens Boycott Committee, receives the Distinguished Labor Communications Award of the Labor Press Council of Metropolitan New York from Matthew Doherty, president of the council and editor of the New York Teacher, a publication of the New York State United Teachers. ACTWU's highly successful corporate campaign led to the resignation of several Stevens directors with ties to other firms and banks.

Unions, Industry Seek New Maritime Policy

Unions and management in the U.S. shipping industry have proposed a new regulatory policy intended to assure "even-handed treatment" for both American-flag and foreign-flag vessels engaged in U.S. trade.

As proposed by the National Maritime Council, shipping of all countries would be governed by the same rules, and there would be safeguards against "dumping" to squeeze out competition.

If such a maritime policy were adopted, the council said, it would no longer be necessary to press for mandatory cargo preference to assure a fair share of U.S. cargo for American-flag shipping.

the council's board of governors, said the United States should set "a clear objective" of carrying at least 40 percent of commercial cargo in American-flag shipping.

But he stressed that "we are not asking for a guaranteed share" and contended that such a goal "can be substantially achieved through competition within a regulatory system that does not treat U.S. and foreign countries differently."

The National Maritime Council is the recognized spokesman for the American shipping industry. Its board of governors includes, from the union side, Seafarers President Paul Hall, who is also president of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept., National Maritime Union President Shannon J. Wall, Marine Engineers President Jesse M. Calhoon, Longshoremen's President Thomas W. Gleason, American Radio Association President William R. Steinberg, and H. Page Groton, director of the Shipbuilding & Marine Division of the Boilermakers.

The council said a key prerequisite of setting a uniform policy is amendment of the antitrust laws to allow formation of national shippers councils, which it said most other nations already have. It said this would allow "direct consultation between shippers and carriers with respect to rates and service."

It also proposed a statutory policy encouraging "bilateral shipping agreements between nations that would preserve competition among U.S.-flag ships as well as the vessels of the trading partner and third-flag vessels."

Barker said the council has delivered its proposals to the Administration's Interagency Maritime Task Force.

Fire Academy Site Praised By McClennan

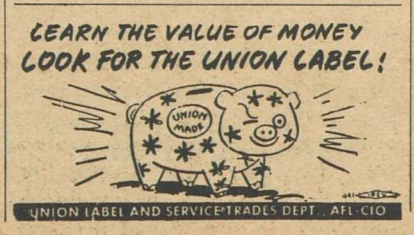
A former college campus has been chosen as the site of the new National Academy for Fire Prevention & Control, and Fire Fighters President William H. McClennan termed it "a dream come true."

The union was an early advocate of the concept of a national fire academy and helped push the legislation through Congress. The U.S. Fire Administration has now selected an Emmitsburg, Md., site that once was the campus of St. Joseph College. The first courses are expected to be given later this year to both paid and volunteer fire fighters and administrators.

McClennan said the academy has been urgently needed because fire fighting is "the most hazardous job in the nation" and most fires are still being fought the way they were 30 to 40 years ago.

Meanwhile, he noted, new materials used in home furnishings and increasing numbers of high rise buildings have complicated the problems of preventing and putting out fires.

The academy will include a school on arson, McClennan said, pointing to a 400 percent increase over the past 10 years in the number of fires deliberately started. There will also be courses and seminars in subjects ranging from executive development and labor-management relations to fire-safe building design.



Key Committees of Congress

All congressional committees deal with legislation affecting various groups of union members. The committees below have the broadest impact on labor's legislative program. New committee members are identified by asterisks.

Senate

Appropriations

Democrats

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Robert C. Byrd (W.Va.)
William Proxmire (Wis.)
Daniel K. Inouye (Hawaii)
Ernest F. Hollings (S.C.)
Birch Bayh (Ind.)
Thomas F. Eagleton (Mo.)
Lawton Chiles (Fla.)
J. Bennett Johnston (La.)
Walter "Dee" Huddleston (Ky.)
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Mark O. Hatfield (Ore.)
Ted Stevens (Alaska)
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Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. (Conn.)
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Labor & Human Resources

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House

Appropriations

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Constitutional Straitjacket:

GOP Leaders Hit Budget Limit Plan

A proposed "balanced budget" amendment to the Constitution is starting to worry even conservative Republicans as it continues to pick up support in state legislatures.

Such a constitutional straitjacket on the budget could plunge the nation into an economic tailspin, AFL-CIO President George Meany warned in a recent alert to state labor federations. And the unprecedented summoning of a constitutional convention carries the "real danger" of opening the Constitution to an array of radical right proposals.

Concern over both these dangers spread beyond labor and liberal ranks, as the number of states petitioning for a constitutional convention to act on the budget proposal grew to 26. Action by 34 states is necessary to summon a convention and thus bypass the role of Congress in initiating a constitutional amendment.

Both the amendment and the constitutional convention procedure met with unexpectedly strong opposition at a three-day national conference of Republican officeholders, held at Easton, Md.

Republican National Chairman Bill Brock told the group that the idea of tampering with the Constitution to alter the budget process "scares me to death" and would be "a very, very hazardous" position for Republicans to take.

Some diehard supporters of budget restrictions complained that failure to support such an amendment would allow a supposedly popular position to be preempted by Democrats such as California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., who has embraced the balanced budget amendment, even though it would cost his state huge amounts in federal funds.

To appease that concern, the conference adopted a deliberately vague resolution calling for "consideration of a constitutional amendment to limit federal spending."

But back in Washington, House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes told reporters he has "grave reservations" about any constitutional limitations on the budget process. It would be unworkable and subject to enormous difficulties in definitions, he warned.

There are differences in the resolutions passed by the 26 states that bring into question the validity of a constitutional call. Congress has never passed legislation spelling out the procedure for such a convention, and constitutional lawyers differ on whether the subject matter could be restricted if a convention were called. In the 1960s, after the Supreme Court had mandated one-man, one-vote apportionment of state legislatures, 33 states passed resolutions calling for a constitutional amendment to allow one house to be apportioned on a basis other than population. But by that time, states had already been reapportioned and the effort to turn the clock back lost its impetus.

Apart from the constitutional hazards involved, Meany's letter to state central bodies stressed the "catastrophic" economic impact of a balanced budget requirement.

If such an amendment had been in effect this fiscal year, the nearly $40 billion cut in federal spending would have "devastated" needed programs, increased unemployment and threatened national security, he said.

Also, Meany noted, it would have compelled "significant increases in state and local taxes" to compensate even partially for the loss of federal payments.

TWU Vice President John O'Connell Retires

New York—John J. O'Connell, a vice president of the Transport Workers for the past nine years, retired Jan. 1. O'Connell has been a member of TWU Local 100 since 1941.



PINS AND NEEDLES, the hit Broadway show of 1937 initiated by the Ladies' Garment Workers, got an enthusiastic welcome when it was revived in Cleveland in a community theater production. The opening night was sponsored by the Cleveland United Labor Agency's Cultural Arts Committee with cooperation from ILGWU locals in the area.

'Pins and Needles' Revival Captures Garment Union Spirit of the 1930s

Cleveland—More than 250 union officials and members braved a heavy snow to pack a community theater for an opening night performance of the Broadway labor musical "Pins and Needles."

The 1937 play that went from the garment shops to Broadway as a theater project of the Ladies' Garment Workers received a warm response from the labor audience and Cleveland theater critics.

The play was revived off Broadway this fall. The Jewish Community Theater here received special permission to stage it from Harold Rome, who wrote the music and lyrics for the ILGWU members during the Depression.

Opening night was sponsored by the United Labor Agency's Cultural Arts Committee with the cooperation of the ILGWU's Ohio Area and Cleveland Joint Board and Knit Goods Council.

The money raised will fund the commissioning of an artistic photographer to spend a year producing photographs depicting union workers and their lives. A photography show will be mounted for Cleveland and sent across the nation. The United Labor Agency is the community services and cultural arts arm of the Cleveland AFL-CIO.

Dorothy Silver, producer and artistic director of the Jewish Community Center, said the young community actors really got into the union spirit performing the show.

"To quote some lyrics from the show, 'Pins and Needles' still retains its 'social significance' and is very much alive with the union spirit that launched it," she said.

ILGWU President Sol Chaikin told the audience at a reception after the show that while "Pins and Needles" uniquely was created "out of the depths of the dark and ugly Depression, it was a strong statement of union workers' defiance against those employers or dictators who would enslave free men and women.

"The union movement was born to rebel against man's inhumanity to man," he said. "While nobody denies that mistakes are made from time to time, there has been, and will be, good done for every community and society by a free union movement."

Chaikin, who noted the play was produced originally just before the start of World War II, said that "every country that put out the lights of freedom lacked a free trade union movement."

He said the community actors captured the spirit and the vitality of the original production and complimented the Cleveland labor committee for its cultural arts work in the great tradition of "Pins and Needles."

The entire stage was dominated by a hugh ILGWU label hand sewn by the community theater wardrobe volunteers. The Cleveland ILGWU staff served as consultants so that it would be an exact replica of the official label.

Mel Witt, Cleveland federation president, said the play showed that union officials and the workers are greatly interested in the theater, the arts and their own unique history. He said Cleveland followed in the ILGWU tradition when it commissioned and produced the original play, "John L. Lewis, Disciple of Discontent," which Time magazine is predicting might go to Broadway this year. This play, starring Robert Lansing, was in Cleveland four weeks and was presented as a special performance for the AFL-CIO Community Services Conference in Washington last May. It also played to excellent reviews at the Berkshire Theater Festival in Stockbridge, Mass. last summer.

"Pins and Needles" ran for 1,108 performances on Broadway, and was the longest-running musical in New York theater history until it was overtaken by "Oklahoma!" in 1947. It also was presented in the White House for President Franklin D. Roosevelt and toured America.

Labor Dept. Announces Job Training Revisions

The Labor Dept. announced extensive changes in its administration of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act, which is designed to assist jobless Americans in finding work.

In a statement read at a news conference for him by Assistant Labor Sec. Ernest Green, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall said that the "new" CETA "will target our efforts to assure that we provide jobs and training to those who really need it." Marshall was unable to attend the conference due to the illness of his 16-year-old son, who is being treated for cancer.

He said that changes in the program will channel more effort into providing public service employment opportunities and training for the structurally unemployed, improve management, and crack down on fraud and abuse.

"After two years of experience with the old CETA we inherited, we have learned many lessons," the statement observed. "We have identified the basic problems, and I believe we have developed a program that will provide solutions."

The policy changes were first reflected in the Administration's budget proposals for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. The Administration is asking for a $1.3 billion reduction in CETA funds, accompanied by a cut in jobs from 625,000 to 467,000.

Under the reauthorized CETA program, eligibility requirements have been changed. In most cases, the Labor Dept. said, local governments will no longer be permitted to supplement the salaries of CETA workers. In addition, the majority of participants will be required to leave the program after 18 months.

Two new programs are being developed to open more job opportunities in the private sector. One is a "targeted jobs tax credit," which will offer tax reductions to employers who hire and train the disadvantaged. The other program is called the "private sector initiative" and calls for a $400 million supplemental appropriation this year to establish private industry councils to work with local government agencies to help locate job and training opportunities for members of various "target" groups, including minorities, the handicapped, and youths.

AFT Affirms Stand on Dept. Of Education

The American Federation of Teachers remains firmly opposed to establishment of a separate Cabinet-level Dept. of Education, AFT President Albert Shanker said.

The union has opposed splitting up the broader constituency of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to carve out a separate department.

Shanker said Congress made it clear last year that it would not put education-related activities of other agencies in a new Cabinet department. Thus, he said, the only argument that proponents of a separate department have been able to make is that somehow it would enhance the "prestige" and "status" of education matters.

The Administration reiterated its support for a Dept. of Education this year, and the Senate Government Operations Committee has begun hearings on the legislation.

Interim Report:

Jobless Data Panel Asks Hardship Index

A study commission examining the methods used to compile the government's unemployment statistics says that an economic "hardship" index should be developed to supplement current jobless data.

The National Commission on Employment & Unemployment, in a 348-page interim report, notes that while current Labor Dept. statistics measure whether individuals are working or not working they tell nothing about "how well or badly they are doing in their economic requirements and those of their families."

Many fulltime workers require public welfare to supplement inadequate wages, the commission pointed out. On the other hand, some workers suffer little hardship even when they are unemployed because they remain part of a family with an adequate or even ample income, the panel said.

"Our present statistics on employment do not accurately measure the full extent of economic well-being, and our statistics on unemployment do not accurately measure the full extent of economic hardship," the commission declared.

The commission said that it had not decided on any single approach to measure hardship, but suggested a variety of ways to develop a hardship index by interrelating the labor force count with earnings and family income.

The panel noted that the national unemployment rate, announced monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, is not nearly so crucial in determining the allocation of federal grants as are the official estimates of state and local unemployment. It gave the national figure, derived from a monthly Census Bureau survey of 56,000 households, high marks for accuracy but expressed no similar confidence in the state and local figures.

The accuracy of the statistics is extremely important, since the figures determine how more than $10 billion a year in federal dollars are distributed among states and localities for public service jobs, economic development, and other programs.

To improve state reporting, one recommendation would allocate funds to train state officers.

Other recommendations include:

- Broadening the size of the Census Bureau survey on which BLS derives its monthly jobless data, from the present 56,000 households to 160,000 at a cost of about $36 million a year. The expanded sampling would provide more data for states and metropolitan areas and cities with over 1 million residents, particularly regarding blacks and Hispanics.
- Counting military personnel when computing the number of jobholders—and thus the jobless rate. The abolition of the draft and the establishment of a voluntary military force have "outdated the idea that military personnel should be excluded from the official employment figures," the panel said.

"Employment in the volunteer armed forces no longer appears to be substantively different from other employment situations," it observed. "Individuals are free to choose between employment in the military or civilian sector. Pay scales between the two sectors have become more competitive."

But the commission stressed that the military should not be included in figures on localities because it would distort the status of job opportunities in a community, and military personnel generally leave the area at the end of their tour of duty.

The commission found too many technical difficulties in labor's proposal that so-called "discouraged" workers be counted as unemployed. These are workers who give up looking for employment in the belief that there are no jobs to be found.

It said that it had not yet decided whether to recommend that 16- and 17-year-olds be excluded from the official labor force count. Nearly 90 percent of all workers in this age category are in school, and most have only a "casual" attachment to the labor force, the panel observed.

The commission noted, however, that age 16 is a standard in many labor-market matters, and made recommendations for the collection of additional data to clarify the job needs of teenagers, particularly those in minority and low-income families.

Created by Congress in October 1976, the nine-member panel is to submit a final report to President Carter in September. It has invited public comment on its interim report through Apr. 2.

Members of the panel include AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald. Chaired by Sar Levitan, director of George Washington University's Center for Social Policy Studies, the commission represents the business and academic communities as well as labor.



COORDINATED ORGANIZING efforts of the AFL-CIO and affiliates were explored by the federation's Standing Committee on Organization & Field Services. Discussions also covered developments on state "right-to-work" measures and the impact of boycotts against Coors beer and J. P. Stevens products. Federation Vice President Lloyd McBride, third from left, is chairman of the committee. Alan Kistler, second from left, is director of organization and field services.

Jobless Rate Dips to 5.8% In January

(Continued from Page 1)

workers. For black teenagers, the jobless rate was 32.7 percent.

Although adult men accounted for most of the 445,000 gain in total employment for the month, adult women have comprised half of the 3.4 million increase in the number of jobholders since January 1978, BLS noted.

The civilian labor force grew by more than 300,000 from December to January to 102,183,000, an increase of 2.9 million over the year-earlier level. The ratio of workers to the working population reached a new high of 59.3 percent.

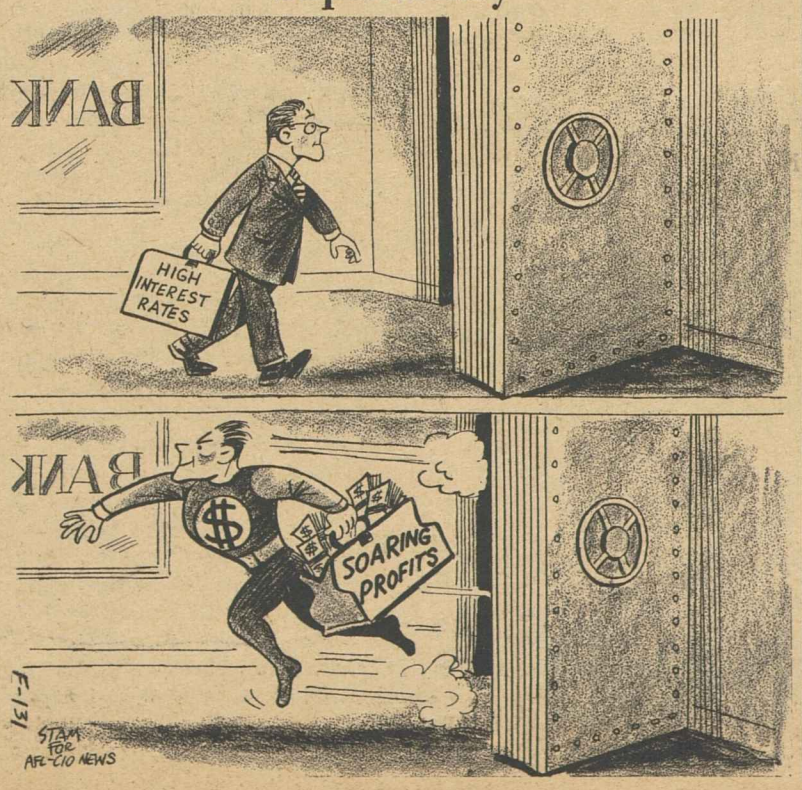
The jobless rates for the major labor categories were about unchanged over the month. The biggest change occurred in the rate for teenagers, which fell to 15.7 percent from 16.5 percent the month before. The 11.2 percent jobless rate for blacks was three-tenths of 1 percent below December.

Adult men had a jobless rate of 4 percent in January while the rate for adult women was 5.7 percent, both a tenth of 1 percent below their December levels.

The number of workers on nonfarm payrolls increased by 325,000 to 87.6 million in January, with over-the-month gains occurring in nearly all major industries, BLS said. The largest increase was in retail trade, 130,000.

Manufacturing industries added about 65,000 workers to their payrolls, a smaller increase than in the previous three months.

Supermoney



Performers Win Gains In Broadcast Ad Pacts

New York—Members of the Radio & Television Artists and the Screen Actors Guild returned to their jobs following acceptance of new three-year contracts with the major advertising agencies and producers of radio and TV commercials.

The return to work was announced by AFTRA National Executive Sec. Sanford I. Wolff and SAG National Executive Sec. Chester L. Migden at the conclusion of joint board meetings of the two unions here, in Chicago and in Los Angeles.

Agreement on the new contracts, which must be ratified by members of both unions, ended an eight-week strike by performers in the broadcast commercials field. The settlements were to take effect on Feb. 7, when the performers ended their strike, and expire on Feb. 6, 1982.

Ratification of the contracts by AFTRA members will take place at membership meetings now being scheduled throughout the country. SAG members will vote by mail referendum.

Highlights of the agreement include the following terms:

- Session fees for radio performers are increased approximately 17 percent, with unit rates rising approximately 25 percent. Significant boosts also were achieved in contractor fees for singers and for foreign use.
- Session fees for TV performers are increased 15 percent. Fees for use are increased from 15 to 32 percent, depending on the market. An additional 50 percent increase was gained for joint promotions, a provision which the unions had been trying to achieve for more than 20 years.
- Cost-of-living escalator clauses apply to both radio and TV contracts, and will be triggered on May 16, 1980.
- Extra players involved in the production of TV commercials will receive an initial increase of 10 percent in all fees during the first 18 months of the contract and an additional 5 percent increase in the second 18 months.

For TV performers, pension and welfare contributions were raised from 8.5 to 9 percent.

One of the issues that precipitated the strike was the industry's demand for complete freedom to make "creative" changes that the unions feared could be used to make new commercials.

The new contracts permit the companies to make only minor alterations in a commercial, and then only for legal or "network continuity" reasons. In regard to the latter, one network may permit the broadcast of a commercial that another network may not allow; thus, continuity refers exclusively to the network's programming policy.

In other areas, many working conditions important to dancers were agreed upon in the new contracts. Also, the proposals of singers regarding voice overdubbing were accepted by the companies.

Labor Urges Scrapping Of Controls Unit

(Continued from Page 1)

demands at the very least that COWPS be directed to adopt wage standards that permit American workers to maintain their real purchasing power as of the date the original standards were issued."

Otherwise, Young contended, America's workers would be made "the scapegoats of inflation."

As for the rigid $4-an-hour ceiling on the low-wage exemption from pay guidelines, "it is morally wrong to control inflation by freezing the working poor at substandard levels." Merely keeping up with the government's lowest family budget, he noted, would require a $5.64 hourly pay rate.

Young objected to a dispute settlement mechanism that makes COWPS "the lawgiver, prosecutor, judge and jury." The AFL-CIO believes the law should "guarantee a hearing on the record, strict time limits for agency decisions and prompt judicial review."

And finally, the AFL-CIO urged, "COWPS needs additional manpower to begin to effectively monitor prices." It needs a staff of 1,000 just to provide two staff people to monitor each of "The Fortune 500," the list of the nation's 500 largest corporations that Fortune magazine compiles each year.

Young stressed, however, the AFL-CIO's strong belief that economic controls can be fair only if they cover "all prices and all forms of income—profits, dividends, rents, interest rates, executive compensation, professional fees . . . as well as wages and prices."

The system should be spelled out by Congress, he said, rather than give the President "a standby grant of broad, unspecified authority."

Above all, "it must be a program that treats all Americans equally," he declared.

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Aid Pushed To Fill Gap In Housing

Congress should step up federal housing assistance in order to take up the slack of an anticipated drop in private housing starts later this year, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry Schechter urged.

Schechter expressed labor's concern at the impact of lagging housing construction on jobs, on inflation and on the unmet needs of "a population tidal wave entering adulthood."

The AFL-CIO testimony, before a House Subcommittee on Employment Opportunities, examined the Carter Administration's budget proposals in relation to housing needs and to the job goals of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment & Balanced Growth Act.

Subcommittee Chairman Augustus F. Hawkins (D-Calif.) was the chief House sponsor of the bill, which sets a goal of not more than 4 percent unemployment.

A shortage of housing has contributed to pushing up rents and home costs, Schechter noted. And to the extent that the President's budget is keyed to a slowdown in the economy, the effect on housing will be to add to inflation as well as unemployment.

While the President's budget would cut back future funding of most federal housing programs, the impact would not be felt this year because of carryover funding authority in the pipeline. But Schechter warned that such a reduction would perpetuate the economic downturn and enlarge the rental housing gap.

Economic predictions call for housing construction to drop sharply from current levels by the last quarter of calendar year 1979, Schechter testified. In employment, he said, it would mean the loss of between 375,000 and 500,000 jobs both on and off construction sites.

To soften the impact, he urged budget decisions and administrative actions "that could quickly accelerate assisted housing production."

One step that could maintain momentum for construction of needed rental apartments, Schechter said, would be to raise the budget authority for rental housing programs "from 300,000 to at least 400,000 units, with the bulk of the increase designated for new construction."

In other testimony, Director Alice Rivlin of the Congressional Budget Office said achievement of the Humphrey-Hawkins goals has become more unlikely "because inflation has accelerated and because unemployment is moving in the wrong direction."

Sharp New Price Surge Undercuts Workers' Pay



SENIOR CITIZENS express their concern over threatened cuts in social security benefits stemming from budget proposals by the Carter Administration and Sec. Joseph A. Califano of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. Leading demonstrators outside a Washington hotel where Califano was speaking is William Hutton, director of the National Council of Senior Citizens.

Food Leads Wholesale Index Rise

By James M. Shevis

American workers faced the bitter prospect of a new surge in living costs undermining their paychecks as the government's wholesale price index for finished goods soared 1.3 percent in January. It was the largest one-month increase in over four years, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

High food prices, especially for meat, led the monthly advance in producer prices, but the increase pervaded the entire spectrum of goods at all stages of production. The January rise was considerably more than the average increase of eight-tenths of 1 percent during the last four months of 1978.

Chairman Alfred Kahn of the Council on Wage & Price Stability called the January increase a "catastrophe." Courtenay Slater, the Commerce Dept.'s chief economist, warned that it portends "fairly large increases in the consumer price index in the next few months."

Kahn, appearing before the Senate Banking Committee to discuss the Carter Administration's proposed "real" wage insurance, noted that the wholesale price increases were "obviously widespread and clearly troublesome." He also observed:

"How long can union labor be willing to settle for 7 percent (pay increases) when we're predicting 7.5 percent (consumer price increases) and that looks like it'll be on the low side?" Last year's

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$20 Million Awarded for Lockout Pay

Chicago—The 7th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals upheld a National Labor Relations Board ruling requiring the American Cyanamid Co. to pay back wages totaling as much as $20 million to 441 members of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers and return them to their jobs.

The court found that nine months after the workers struck the company in April 1975 management turned the dispute into a lockout through its unfair labor practices. Under the NLRB ruling reaffirmed by the court, the company must reinstate the workers in their jobs with full back pay and benefits

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Joint Bargaining Pledge:

Shutdowns Barred By Union, Firestone

Akron, Ohio—The Rubber Workers announced a no-strike, no-lockout agreement with Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. in connection with this year's round of bargaining with the rubber industry.

A letter of agreement signed by the union and the company also provides that Firestone will not participate in a mutual assistance program with other major rubber companies in the event of a strike in the industry. Under the program, which the union has blamed for impeding past negotiations, tiremakers that are not struck make payments or furnish tires to companies that are struck.

In a joint announcement, Firestone said that it "recognizes that there is no longer a need to be associated with any other company in any form of 'financial or product assistance' in the case of a URW strike against any other company in the rubber industry, and will remove itself from any such association."

The agreement also states that if Firestone and the URW do not reach agreement on their own, the company has committed itself "to accept, as a pattern for settlement, the URW-designated industry settlement."

The union's contracts with Firestone and the other three major tiremakers — Goodyear, Uniroyal, and Goodrich—expire at midnight on Apr. 20. The union bargains separately with each company, but traditionally selects one of the Big Four as the target for a contract to set the pattern for the rest of the industry.

In the last round of negotiations in 1976, the URW struck all four firms even though Firestone was the target company. In other bargaining years, the union had struck only the target company.

The letter of agreement, hailed by both sides as "a historic milestone in rubber industry labor-

(Continued on Page 2)

Labor Offers To Aid Price Monitoring

The AFL-CIO has offered to enlist thousands of volunteers in a nationwide price monitoring campaign if the Administration is serious about spotlighting price-gouging and draws up price standards that can be verified by consumers.

Such a 'price watch' was mounted by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services during the Nixon Administration's economic stabilization program. The AFL-CIO is willing to undertake a comparable effort now, President George Meany said.

Meany made the offer of cooperation after reading news accounts that Alfred E. Kahn, chairman of the Council on Wage & Price Stability, was interested in enlisting

(Continued on Page 7)

Sen. Garn Produces Horror Script To Scare Up Funds for Right Wing

By David L. Perlman

Sen. Jake Garn (R-Utah) and the right-wing Heritage Foundation know there's nothing like a good scare to make contributors to conservative causes reach for their checkbooks.

Garn has been a loyal fund-raiser for the Heritage Foundation because, he says, it provides "the kind of research ammunition we conservatives in Congress need to take on the powerful labor lobby."

Two years ago, Garn's fund-raising message was a real bell-ringer. It told potential contributors their help was "desperately needed" to keep Congress from imposing "compulsory unionism of our armed forces." It pictured soldiers "going on strike before a combat alert" and "shutting down a strategic airbase during contract negotiations." And it asked $150,000 for a special "Fund to Stop Big Labor."

Well, even right-wing groups get hit by inflation, and Garn's current soliciation for the Heritage Foundation asks "$185,000 within the next 60 days."

The scare tactics are updated also. This time, the money is needed to stop what Garn calls "nationalized medicine."

"Will bureaucrats tell you how to take care of your own body in order for you to meet minimum federal health standards? Will HEW employees set up preventive medicine programs telling you whether or not you can smoke, what you can eat and when and

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Firestone Pact Pledges Ban On Shutdowns

(Continued from Page 1)

management relations," also provides for an early start on master contract negotiations. The parties are scheduled to open talks in Cleveland on Feb. 26. The union's agreement with Firestone covers 16,000 workers in 11 plants.

URW President Peter Bommarito said that he welcomed Firestone's decision to withdraw from the mutual assistance program, which he said "has worked to the detriment of our membership as we sought agreements" with the industry in the past.

Firestone's vice president for employee relations, John H. Zimmerman said that "our mutual best interests are making it evident that there are more forces bringing us together than there are driving us apart, and this agreement marks the start of a new era in labor relations between the URW and our company."

The letter of agreement stemmed from the recognition by the company and the union of "the potential benefits which would result from improvements in the bargaining process," and the realization that "this is but one further step in a continually improving relationship," the two sides said.

The agreement does not preclude strikes at Firestone plants over work rules or other local issues, but applies to the general wage-and-benefits package drawn up at the national level.

Unionists Reappointed As Safety Advisers

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall has reappointed Emmet Andrews, president of the Postal Workers, and Robert L. Crum, international representative with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, to three-year terms on the Federal Advisory Council on Occupational Safety & Health.

The 15-member council of government management and union representatives advises the Labor Dept. on safety and health matters affecting federal employees.



FARM WORKERS will have to expand their lettuce strike to other locales if growers in California's Imperial Valley continue their resistance to good-faith bargaining, UFW President Cesar Chavez said at a Los Angeles press conference. He was joined by William Robertson, right, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO.

Farm Workers Mourn Slain Lettuce Striker

El Centro, Calif.—Some 10,000 Farm Workers left their jobs to join in a day of mourning for a UFW striker who was fatally shot at an Imperial Valley lettuce field.

Rufino Contreras was gunned down on the picket line at the Mario Saikhom Farm, one of eight growers that 3,100 UFW lettuce harvesters are striking in the valley in the union's effort to negotiate new contracts.

The UFW is seeking an increase in the hourly wage rate from $3.70 to $5.25 and a boost in the piece rate from 57 cents to 68 cents for a box of lettuce.

The UFW has pointed out that increased wage rates will have little impact on consumer prices since lettuce pickers receive less than one-tenth of 1 cent per head. Even if wage rates tripled, the UFW noted, a 1-cent increase in the store price could not be justified.

UFW President Cesar Chavez said that if no settlement comes with Imperial Valley growers, the strike is likely to spread to Arizona, as well as to California's San Joaquin Valley and the Salinas area.

Speaking at a Los Angeles press conference, Chavez pointed out that lettuce workers are earning less than $4 an hour but that the growers want to hold wage increases to 7 percent even though they have raised their prices 110 percent over the past year.

William Robertson, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO, pledged the moral and financial support of the labor movement to the striking UFW members.

Robertson and Chavez assailed the Imperial Valley growers for resisting efforts of the UFW to bargain in good faith. By their tactics, they said, the growers are blocking economic progress of the field workers seeking to approach gains made by workers in other industries over the years.

Chavez also has called for a judicial review of the bail procedures in Imperial County courts as a result of circumstances stemming from the Contreras killing.

Three employees of the Saikhom company—two foremen and a "replacement worker"—were arrested in conection with the killing, but were later released on unusually low bail by County Superior Court Justice George Kirk.

The UFW noted that bail for a homicide in the county is normally $250,000. However, two of the suspects in the Contreras killing were released in $7,000 bond, the other in $8,100 bond.

The UFW has also expressed concern that local chapters of the Ku Klux Klan are aiding growers in the contract dispute. It reported that white KKK crosses have been placed in some fields and that local Klan groups are soliciting volunteers to come to the lettuce field as "replacement workers" or as armed guards.

In another development, a restraining order was issued by an Imperial Valley court prohibiting Holtville High School from recruiting strikebreakers.

The suit, filed by the California Rural Legal Assistance agency, charged that school officials had violated state labor law and the state education code by helping students to harvest lettuce during the UFW strike.

National Policy Pressed:

Child Care Needs Grow More Urgent

The children of millions of America's working mothers are the victims of a 1971 veto by President Nixon, an incredible extremist attack on child care centers as a plot to "communalize" America's children, and the economy mood in the Administration and in Congress.

An article in the January issue of the AFL-CIO American Federationist explores the progress and setbacks of the labor-supported campaign to make comprehensive child care services available and affordable to all who need them.

The author is Rochelle Beck of the Children's Defense Fund, which is trying to translate a growing need into political support in Congress and the state legislatures. For despite some progress, the gap between facilities at an affordable cost and the demand continues to widen as the labor force participation of women with children grows.

In 1970, the year before Congress passed the Comprehensive Child Care Development Act, 42 percent of all mothers and 32 percent of mothers with children were in the workforce, more than double the ratio of 1950.

By last year, the figures had risen to 53 percent of all women with children and 44 percent of all women with children under six.

The need was pressing when the 1971 bill—co-sponsored by then-Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.) and Rep. John Brademas (D-Ind.)—was vetoed by Nixon in a message that echoed the extreme right-wing rhetoric against the legislation. And it is even more pressing today.

For the poorest families, a limited federally-funded program of social services grants to the states—under Title XX of the Social Security Act—provides services in a number of communities, as does the Head Start program.

More affluent families have been able to pay the cost of quality care and at the same time benefit from income tax credits to cover part of the cost.

Left out are working mothers who are neither poor nor affluent.

"For all the families in the middle, some sort of care that does not eat up all the woman's earnings must be found," the article stresses. It notes that "it is the children who suffer" from the makeshift and often temporary arrangements that a large portion of working mothers must make.

Even for the publicly funded or assisted programs, there are continuing problems of standards, and Congress has repeatedly delayed implementing day care standards for states using federal funds.

"Most women work out of economic necessity," Beck writes, and accept makeshift child care arrangements only because there is no feasible alternative.

A vocal fringe minority that floods Congress with letters attacking federal child care programs as akin to communism must be met by building more vocal public support, the article urges.

"Passage of a comprehensive child development program will not come about solely through moral entreaties, logical arguments, research findings, demonstration projects that have worked, or analyses that show feasibility or cost effectiveness," Beck says.

"All these are necessary but not sufficient. Programs are passed when the public makes its preferences known to policymakers."

J. P. Stevens Subsidiary Slapped by Board Order

The National Labor Relations Board has upheld the finding of an administrative law judge that a wholly-owned subsidiary of J. P. Stevens & Co., violated federal labor laws in firing two members of the Rubber Workers for union activity four years ago.

A three-member panel of the board, headed by Chairman John H. Fanning, agreed that employees Kenneth Cross and Gary Wallace were discharged in violation of Section 8(a)(1) of the National Labor Relations Act for their role in initiating a plant inspection by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration and their involvement in union activities in 1976.

The board agreed with Judge John M. Dyer that management at the Stevens Elastomeric & Plastic Products plant in Northampton, Mass., enforced a no-talking rule only against the two workers so as to "inhibit and harass them because of their status as principal union proponents."

Because of flagrant violations of labor law by the parent company over the years, the board said that the customary cease-and-desist order was not sufficient in the case. Instead of limiting the order to the New England area, as recommended by the administrative law judge, the board expanded its scope to include all of Stevens's 85 plants and facilities across the country.

It cited prior court opinions that "the company's policies were not determined at individual plant levels alone," and that Stevens had earned the reputation of the " 'most notorious recidivist' in the field of labor law."

The board ordered Stevens to offer Wallace and Cross reinstatement with back pay, cease and desist from further such violations corporate-wide, mail and read its findings to all of its employees, and include them in company publications, such as employee newsletters.

Stevens's "corporate proclivity to avoid its statutory obligations" to employees heretofore has been most visible at the company's textile plants in the South. The firm's gross violations of workers' rights led the Clothing & Textile Workers to mount a worldwide boycott of Stevens products to obtain economic justice for the union's members.

For Professional Care!



Trade Imbalance Seen Hurting Both U.S., Japan

Tokyo—The large imbalance of trade between the United States and Japan is not healthy for the economy of either nation, AFL-CIO Vice President William W. Winpisinger told the 15th annual convention of DOMEI, the Japanese Confederation of Labor.

Winpisinger, who is president of the Machinists, spoke for an AFL-CIO delegation that included President John DeConcini of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers and President James E. Hatfield of the Glass Bottle Blowers.

The $13 billion trade surplus Japan had with the United States last year was larger than the combined surplus for all of the oil-exporting OPEC countries, Winpisinger noted.

The solution to trade imbalance obviously has to come from governmental actions, Winpisinger said. "No amount of 'trade union diplomacy' will solve these problems." But there still must be mutual understanding of problems and maximum cooperation between the two labor movements and the workers they represent, he urged.

Winpisinger reminded the DOMEI delegates that the advocates of "free trade" and "open access" to the American market "are not the ones whose jobs are on the line." Those who bear the impact are the "millions of American workers who have seen their factories close and their jobs exported."

The AFL-CIO supports expanded trade, he said, but "insists that trade be based on fairness" and will continue to fight further erosion of manufacturing jobs and the destruction of industry.

Japan is not immune to such problems, Winpisinger observed. And the American labor movement is aware of the difficulties ahead "as Japanese multinational corporations relocate abroad and other companies compete with your products internationally."

On the broader area of international trade union cooperation, Winpisinger told the DOMEI convention that "our two federations have been engaged in a dialogue and a fraternal exchange that has no equal in the world of free trade unionism."

He noted that last October, after consultation with DOMEI, an AFL-CIO delegation met in Washington with officials of SOHYO, the other large Japanese union federation. While there remain "several fundamental and serious disagreements" with SOHYO, he said, "we hope that the climate for a more friendly relationship can continue to improve."

Statement to Senate:

Labor Opposes Plan To Split HEW Dept.

The AFL-CIO urged Congress to reject a proposal to create a new federal Dept. of Education by splitting the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

In a statement to the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis declared that the scheme would do "very little, if anything," to improve the nation's educational system, while sacrificing real benefits inherent in the "coordinated approach" of the present HEW system.

"Education, if it is to be successful, can never be considered in isolation," Davis said. "To set education off by itself, while the children federal programs seek to help still must deal with poverty, a lack of health care and family instability would be counterproductive, to say the least."

Among other considerations, Davis said, "the possibility of implementing immunization and other health programs through the schools, and the need for coordinating childhood education with health and welfare components are all creative ideas that mandate comprehensive integrated approaches, rather than isolated independent ones."

The ardor of those who advocated "closer coordination" of federal education programs has been cooled by "the spectacle of one constituency after another lobbying their program out of the proposed department," Davis said, but "there is good reason for many education programs to remain in agencies where they now rest. Education is a concern of many separate and important interests." For instance, the education and training programs operated by the Dept. of Labor "should remain in that agency," he said.

Proponents of a separate department have not shown concern for the interests of students and other consumers, Davis charged. "Instead, the record speaks of 'status' and a desire for 'visibility' and other issues that have nothing to do with education." When such persons speak of "prestige" and "priorities," he said, "what they really mean is money. However, the belief that the creation of a federal Dept. of Education automatically means an increase in federal dollars is naive," he observed.

Education's needs are not shortchanged under the HEW structure, Davis said, pointing out that Sec. Joseph Califano succeeded in persuading President Carter to send Congress in fiscal year 1979 "the most progressive education budget since the Johnson years." And for fiscal 1980, "the year of austerity," he noted, the Administration's education budget "has fared better than many other programs housed in HEW."

"We believe that adequate federal aid, competent teachers and good programs, together with effective administration, will move the nation's educational system further toward the goal of a quality education for all Americans," Davis said. "We are not persuaded that shuffling the cards on the federal level will achieve that goal." He concluded:

"We urge this committee to reject the bill before you. . . . We consider the bill both unnecessary and unwise, and we look forward to its rejection by the Congress."



WIDE-RANGING IMPACT of the new Civil Service Reorganization Act on federal workers was reviewed at a two-day seminar sponsored by the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. Addressing one of the sessions is PED Executive Director John McCart. Others addressing the 100 representatives of federal employee unions included Rep. James Hanley (D-N.Y.), chairman of the House Post Office & Civil Service Committee, and Government Employees President Kenneth T. Blaylock.

Court Rejects Suit Contesting Steel Election

A federal district court judge has dismissed a suit challenging the Steelworkers' 1977 election of President Lloyd McBride, who defeated former USWA district director Edward Sadlowski.

Sadlowski sued after the Labor Dept. upheld the election following a five-month investigation of Sadlowski's charges of vote fraud. The Labor Dept. had concluded that it found no evidence of Landrum-Griffin Act irregularities that would have affected the outcome of the election.

In his ruling, Judge Oliver T. Gasch rejected Sadlowski's accusations that the investigation was "slipshod" and "half-hearted."

McBride termed the decision "further proof that the union's election was an honest and democratic expression of the wishes of the membership."



NEITHER RAIN NOR SLEET kept striking Steelworkers from picketing the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Drydock Co. To let those who crossed the picket line know their feelings, they put up this snowman appropriately described.

Strong Support Builds For Shipyard Strikers

Newport News, Va.—Support for the Steelworkers' strike against the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. gathered momentum as the walkout continued into its third week.

USWA Local 8888 members, who are seeking to bargain on an initial contract after winning a National Labor Relations Board election more than a year ago, were joined on the picket line by members of the Communications Workers, Boilermakers, and other unions.

Students from William & Mary College in nearby Williamsburg also plan to participate in the picketing, and a State AFL-CIO rally has been set for Feb. 24.

Meanwhile, the Steelworkers' executive board, meeting in Pittsburgh, pledged the full resources of the union "for as long as it takes for the successful resolution of the strike by members of Local 8888 for their right to have the union of their choice." Strike benefits, totaling a half-million dollars a week, are scheduled to begin on Feb. 20.

In a strongly worded resolution, the 31-member board congratulated the Newport News members for their successful strike against the shipyard, a subsidiary of Tenneco, Inc. The resolution accused the company of "consistent violation" of its workers' rights.

The board also strongly condemned "the massive display of police power and open police intimidation and harassment of the strikers who are conducting a legitimate strike as the result of a democratic right to organize a union of their choice."

Since Jan. 31, when virtually all of the shipyard's 19,000 workers went out on strike, police—with the aid of dogs—have arrested 28 pickets. Those arrested include Local 8888 President Wayne Crosby, who with three others has been charged with violating Virginia's so-called right-to-work law.

The USWA executive board charged in its resolution that the company, with the willing help of Gov. John N. Dalton (R), the state police, and Newport News city police, have combined to mount "a shameful display of massive police power in a throwback to the '30s when management and police relied on intimidation and harassment to thwart workers' rights."

State AFL-CIO President Julian F. Carper deplored the use of state police in the immediate area of the picketing, and charged that their presence only builds tensions and creates resentment. In a letter to Dalton, he called upon the governor to either withdraw them or hold them in reserve as a show of the state's neutrality in the dispute.

Staff Changes Set By Rail Waymen

Detroit—President O. M. Berge of the Maintenance of Way Employees has named Claude E. Henderson as assistant to the president in charge of BMWE's Chicago office and Maxton M. Allcox as national legislative representative.

Henderson, a staff assistant in the Chicago office since 1968, succeeds J. J. Berta, who retired after holding the post since 1952. Allcox takes over the post held by the late J. R. McGlaughlin.

Berge also announced the retirement of A. J. Cunningham, who has served since 1959 as assistant to the president to handle union grievance cases involving BMWE members before special adjustment boards.

Major OSHA Violations Up Sharply in '78

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration reported a 57 percent increase in serious violations of federal job safety regulations during fiscal year 1978 even though OSHA conducted fewer inspections than in fiscal 1977.

The number of total violations declined in fiscal 1978 to 134,484 from 181,942 in the preceding year as the federal safety agency made 57,242 inspections, compared with 59,932 a year earlier.

But OSHA issued 33,155 citations for serious violations of safety and health standards in 1978, compared with 20,914 in 1977.

The total amount of penalties proposed by OSHA in 1978 was $19.8 million, although the safety agency collected only $8 million in fines. Employers contested 5,483 cases, or about 10 percent, to the Occupational Safety & Health Review Commission.

In fiscal 1977, OSHA levied fines of $11.6 million and collected $7 million. Employers appealed 4,214 cases, or 7 percent.

OSHA reported that it received 27,565 complaints in 1978 dealing with probable violations of safety, and health standards and charges of discrimination. In 1977 complaints totaled 23,336, the safety agency said.

Pilots Reach Settlement of Alaska Strike

A Presidential emergency board created to resolve an 18-month strike by the Air Line Pilots against Wien Air Alaska announced a compromise settlement in the dispute.

The board said in a lengthy report that, "after a long and bitter controversy" and following "concessions on each side, hardline positions were modified, confrontation was replaced by conciliation, and economic peace will replace economic warfare."

The ALPA struck the airline in May 1977 after contract talks between the parties broke down. Wien hired non-union pilots and continued to operate some of its routes while "sporadic negotiations" took place. Last November, under provisions of the Railway Labor Act governing air as well as rail transportation, the emergency board was appointed by President Carter to investigate and report on the dispute.

In its announcement, the panel said that both sides had reached agreement on terms of a new four-year contract, including a pension plan, and had accepted its recommendation that the striking pilots be restored to full seniority and job rights over the replacement pilots.

The board also recommended that since the strike had caused financial problems to the carrier, "it is, therefore, appropriate" that the federal government make available "a long-term, relatively low-interest loan" to Wien.

Other details of the contract and the back-to-work agreement were not made known.

A main cause of the dispute involved the number of pilots required to crew the airline's B-737 jet aircraft. ALPA, concerned about safety, had wanted a larger crew than Wien would agree to. In its report, the board urged acceptance of a two-pilot operation as part of an overall settlement.

Chairman of the emergency panel—the first to be appointed in an airline dispute since 1966—was Paul Guthrie. Its other members were Ralph Yarborough and Laurence Seibel.

Carter Names Lyons To Pension Commission

John H. Lyons, president of the Iron Workers, has been appointed to the President's Commission on Pension Policy.

The 11-member commission will conduct a two-year study of private and public pension programs to determine gaps and overlaps of coverage and to determine benefit needs of retirees, survivors and disabled persons.

The Job in Congress

TWO YEARS AGO, the opening of the 95th Congress was marked by almost buoyant optimism within labor, liberal and civil rights groups. After all, the people had elected a liberal President to go along with what were believed to be substantial liberal majorities in both houses of Congress.

But rather than positively address long-standing social and economic problems in this country which had festered during eight years of Republican Administrations, the 95th Congress compiled a record that was a disappointment to labor and its allies.

Therefore, an assessment of the prospects for the 96th Congress must be tempered with the realities of the past two years. That assessment must also consider the perception of a political swing to the right, an anti-government mood, and the apparent demise of the Democratic Party in many state and local areas.

Underlying the weakened discipline of the majority party, the traditional unity of the Republican Party, and the resurgence of the business lobby is the fundamental shift occurring in American politics.

In the House, large numbers of "liberal" Democrats still outnumber the GOP, but the new Democratic "liberals" often are a far different breed than those of two decades ago. Rather than representing urban districts with high concentrations of workers, minorities, retirees and the poor, many have been elected from formerly Republican suburban districts. Their constituents are more professional, more white and more wealthy.

A majority of the House's 435 members began congressional careers following the elections of 1974. Approximately 55 percent of House Democrats belong to one of these three election "classes" of 1974, 1976 or 1978.

Many of these new members were elected on an independent theme. They have created their own political machinery, because in suburban areas the Democratic Party had no real structure. The activists in their campaigns are more apt to be upper income, professional people, businessmen and businesswomen.

SO THE 96TH CONGRESS promises to be a tough one for organized labor, with no easy issues, and high stakes. Labor's opponents, relishing both the anti-inflation emphasis of the Administration and liberal losses in the last Congress, are aiming body blows at social programs long supported by the labor movement and crippling punches at legislation which protects the rights, job standards and safety of America's working men and women.

The country cannot stand still. And we know that if working people understand and speak out on the issues, the members of Congress will respond. As a result of worker activity and support at the local level, in cooperation with national legislative efforts, America will continue to move forward benefiting all people—organized and unorganized, the poor, the elderly, the minorities and the disadvantaged.

Only when workers remain silent can the right wing—with its computers and sophisticated operations—successfully produce unfair legislation benefiting business and the wealthy at the expense of the overwhelming majority of seemingly apathetic Americans.

Our job in the AFL-CIO is to mobilize our resources to fight for the progress, for equity, for fairness, for justice—for people.

—From an article in the February 1979 AFL-CIO American Federationist by Legislative Director Kenneth Young.

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Breach of Faith



No Bargain:

Higher Special Taxes, Fees Eat Up Proposition 13 Benefits

By Gus Tyler

FOR MANY CALIFORNIANS, Proposition 13 is not turning out to be quite the bargain they expected. They may be paying less in taxes, but they are paying more for all kinds of services that, in the past, were free. For instances:

Culver City, where the tax on utilities used to be 8 percent, now charges 14 percent.

In the state capital, Sacramento, there is a new tax on public concerts and sporting events.

If you want to get a sewer connection in La Mesa in San Diego, you must now pay $300, a 1,200 percent increase over the former fee of $25.

Los Angeles has upped the fee on dog licenses.

The tax changes were enacted just before Proposition 13 became effective; since then, it is much harder to pass such laws that now require a two-thirds vote approval. But the extra charges for a variety of services can be imposed in the normal way by a majority vote of the appropriate body.

Some cities and counties are picking up millions of dollars in these newly imposed charges. Thus, Beverly Hills is picking up more than $3 million by raising the licensing taxes for retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers, residential and commercial properties that yield rental income.

Sacramento is picking up an added $4 million with a tax on property transfer, on construction of new buildings, on hotel rooms, on park development.

Los Angeles is charging for building inspections to raise about $1.8 million and on residential sewer services to raise another $2 million.

There is no end, it seems, to the ingenious ways in which localities that feel deprived by Proposition 13 are making up for their losses. If you park your car in a park, you pay; if you use a public swimming pool, you pay; if you visit the museum, you pay. If you use the public golf course, you pay. If you go to the zoo, you pay. If you park on the street, you pay; if you park off the street, you pay.

School districts are turning their facilities into money-making operations. If you want to use the school auditorium, you pay—and you pay something more than a nominal fee. If you use the school tennis courts, the school pool, the school playing fields, you pay.

Adult education classes that were once free (or charged nominal fees) are now being put on a business-like basis. Students who wish to avail themselves of school health services pay.

In northern California, school busing is going onto a pay-as-you go basis. If the child needs wheels to get to school, the cost will be anything from an easy 15 cents to a tough $1 a day.

The California Building Industry Association says that it is hard-hit. There are fees for zoning changes and for sewer connections; fees for checking on building plans and on water connections; fees for filing maps, building permits; fees for parcel diagrams and development permits.

Such fees—need it be added?—ultimately will have to be absorbed by the ultimate buyer or renter.

All these charges are just a prelude to the changes and charges to come. This year, localities have been able—in many cases—to fall back on surpluses; cities and counties were also assessed out of the state's surplus.

Next year, when these cushions are thin or gone, the localities will have to dream up new charges or up old charges to make ends meet.

Opening the Doors To Vietnam Refugees

The plight of the Vietnam refugees continues to mount to the point where a tragedy of monumental proportions is likely unless action is taken now.

So far, Thailand and Malaysia have accepted more than 250,000 refugees with the understanding that they will provide only temporary refuge.

Those countries which have not taken any refugees or have taken only a few should do their share.

The countries which have done the most so far—the United States, France, Australia and Canada—must increase the number they are willing to take.

The AFL-CIO, which has been emphasizing the problems of unemployment, has nevertheless endorsed opening our doors to these refugees.

—Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers, in the AFT publication, Action.

How to Buy:

Cost of Necessities Pushes Up Basic Family Budget Levels

By Sidney Margolius

SINCE THE U.S. BUREAU of Labor Statistics is always slow in releasing its estimates of the latest family budget costs, we've done a crude updating ourselves to see how much financial damage the latest inflation wave has done.

The figures are startling. As you can see by the table of costs for a family of four, an "intermediate" or moderate budget by late autumn 1978 cost $1,261 a month, or $15,132 a year without counting any income or social security taxes. This is $1,330 or about 9 percent more than the estimate of $13,802 made by BLS for autumn 1977, which is the latest it released.

Even the "lower" budget now costs about $835 a month or $10,020 for the year without including any taxes. This estimate is $891 more than the fall 1977 cost of $9,129.

The so-called "lower" budget is minimal, usually not allowing for a car or vacation away from home, and only for a rented flat.

The percentages taken by different items have been worked out to show the dominating demands of food and housing expenses and the rise in car expenses, which now take more of a moderate family budget than does clothing. But these percentages shouldn't be used as a model for your own budget because of different needs and preferences.

These budget estimates are a national average. Costs in the South usually are 15 to 20 percent below those of northern cities, and small-town living usually costs 10 to 12 percent less than in the large cities.

But the geography of inflation is changing, Herbert Bienstock, an eastern BLS regional commissioner, observes. The rate of increases in the previously inflation-heated Boston-New York-Philadelphia region now is about half that in such sunbelt-western areas as San Diego, Seattle, Portland, Miami, Houston and San Francisco-Oakland. Other areas whose residents recently have been experiencing high inflation rates are St. Paul-Minneapolis, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Denver and Cincinnati.

This doesn't mean that people in the East can relax. Boston and the New York-Northeast New Jersey region are still the two most expensive mainland areas. But it does mean that the West, some Midwest cities, and the sunbelt have the dubious distinction of catching up.

What about families of different sizes? You can figure that the same budget standard would cost a family with one child age six to 15 about 82 percent of the costs for a family of four. The bill for a family with three children six to 15 would be 116 percent of the four-person cost, and with four children, 132 percent.

The biggest jump since a year ago has been food, which went up 11 percent and is still rising. Most critically, meats and other protein foods have gone up a staggering 18 percent. Understandably, recent surveys have found that seven out of ten people say "getting inflation under control" is their greatest concern.

A special concern is that living costs of retired people have increased at rates even faster than those of younger families—between 6.6 and 7.2 percent according to BLS figures. Those for a family of four ranged from 4.4 to 6.1 percent. The reason is that food, housing and medical care alone take 72 percent of a retired couple's budget, and these are exactly the expenses that have been shooting up fastest.

In general, food, housing, transportation (mainly cars), and health care are the items that require closest attention to protect your budget.

The fact is that the sharpest inflation has occurred in basic necessities. Prices of the basic needs of food, shelter, fuel and health care recently have been rising twice as fast as those of other goods and services.

Where Your Money Goes

Typical 1978 after-tax monthly budget costs at two levels for a family of four:

	Lower		Intermediate	
Food, including meals out	$297	35%	$382	30%
Housing, operations, furnishings	192	23%	369	29%
Transportation, including cars	72	9%	133	11%
Clothing and upkeep	72	9%	103	8%
Medical care	90	11%	90	7%
Personal care	26	3%	33	3%
Other goods and services *	44	5%	81	6%
Other items **	42	5%	70	6%
TOTAL	**$835**	**100%**	**$1,261**	**100%**

Estimated on basis of Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Family includes non-working wife, two children under 14. Costs do not include income or social security taxes or any savings.

* Includes reading, recreation, education, miscellaneous.

** Includes job expenses, contributions, gifts, life insurance.

Seidman Warns:

Tight Budget Proposals Imperil Essential Medical Programs

FEDERALLY ASSISTED health research and medical education efforts will suffer major cutbacks if President Carter's standstill health budget proposals stand up in Congress, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman warned.

Stressing that the White House has yet to unveil either its new hospital cost containment plan or its outline for a national health insurance system, Seidman said there is little or nothing in the Administration's proposals to date that would effectively curb escalating health care costs. He said the labor movement remains "convinced that we're not really going to be able to get effective control over health care costs until we get a comprehensive, universal system of national health insurance, with strong budget controls" on both public and private health care expenditures.

Seidman said severe cutbacks in research and education will delay the development of long-sought cures for major diseases and be a setback for efforts to increase the number of doctors in primary care, such as internists, obstetricians and pediatricians. The drive to put more doctors into under-served areas, such as small and isolated rural communities, would also be slowed by the budget-cutting, he noted.

"Redistribution of funds for medical education" would be a much better approach than across-the-board program cuts, he declared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Seidman said that a cutoff or sharp reduction of federal funding for training doctors, nurses and other health care professionals will speed up the trend toward limiting those opportunities to students from affluent families. "We will find that only the rich people can enter the health care professions," he asserted, adding, "that's a tremendous mistake and a kind of discrimination which ought not to be permitted."

Reporters questioning Seidman on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Rachelle Patterson of the Boston Globe and Jerome Brazda of Washington Report on Medicine & Health. Labor News Conference is aired weekly on Mutual radio.



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE POSTWAR PERIOD has seen a dramatic growth in the economic fortunes of the South and the West, an area glamorized in the media as the "sunbelt." Little attention has been paid to the declining fortunes of the Northeast and Midwest, the plain sister regions sometimes labeled the "frostbelt."

And yet the future of the Northeast and Midwest, America's traditional industrial heartland, is of critical importance to the nation.

The implications of the sunbelt's phenomenal growth are many, especially for working people. They affect everything from work opportunities to the distribution of federal funds for social programs; from the quality of life to representation in Congress. Because much of the sunbelt's growth has come, in many ways, at the expense of the frostbelt states, it is in the latter region that the concerns for the future run deepest.

These concerns led to the formation in 1976 of the Northeast-Midwest Congressional Coalition, a bipartisan organization of 213 members of the House of Representatives from 18 northeastern and midwestern states. The coalition dedicated itself to studying the regional implications of national policies and proposals and influencing those issues of greatest importance to states in the region.

Nearly three years of work by the Northeast-Midwest Institute, a nonprofit research center created at the request of the coalition's leadership, has produced a report on "The State of the Region."

The institute's findings underscore the problems:

- Almost 90 percent of the nation's population growth between 1970 and 1977 has been outside of the North-Midwest region, while the Northeast and Midwest experienced an out-migration of 2.4 million persons during the period.
- If current population trends continue, the region will lose 10 seats in the House of Representatives after the 1980 census.
- For every new non-agricultural job gained in the Northeast and Midwest between 1970 and 1977, the South and West gained three.
- Northeastern and midwestern states lost nearly 750,000 manufacturing jobs between 1970 and 1977.
- The 10 U.S. cities with the worst job-growth prospects all are older industrial centers in the Northeast.
- Unemployment in the Northeast and Midwest was as high as 125 percent of the national average in 1977.
- The 18 states of the Northeast and Midwest sent $33.5 billion more in taxes to Washington in Fiscal 1976 than they received in federal spending.

"THE NORTHEAST AND MIDWEST face serious, long-term economic problems," declares the coalition. It offers no solutions, nor does it point a finger of blame. The closest it comes to pinning the rap on anyone is when it notes that federal spending, particularly by the Dept. of Defense, has created "regional inequities."

Federal spending policies, declares the institute, have led to situations in which the government collected $1,662 per person in Michigan in 1976 while spending $1,071 per person in the state. In contrast, the government collected $1,670 per person in California, but spent $1,891 per person in that state.

The great industrial Northeast and major portions of the Midwest formed the bedrock of America's emergence as an industrial power. Rich in tradition and human resources, the area began to wane only after World War II as business sought new markets and lower costs by locating in low-wage states and even abroad. Millions of Americans moved as well, to follow some of those jobs, or simply to seek new lives or fortunes in more favorable climates.

There are many reasons behind the massive demographic shifts, but the stark fact remains that half of America still lives in the Northeast and Midwest. As long as the federal government and the American people fail to address the problems, needs and potential contributions of the region, the entire nation is the loser.



MAJOR CUTBACKS in medical education and research can be expected if President Carter's standstill health budget proposals are upheld in Congress, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, center, warned on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Jerome Brazda of Washington Report on Medicine & Health and Rachelle Patterson of the Boston Globe.



JACOB CLAYMAN, president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., introduces Douglas M. Costle, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, at the annual Consumer Assembly of the Consumer Federation of America.

Winpisinger Hits Big Oil:

Energy Profiteering Scored At '79 Consumer Assembly

Machinists President William W. Winpisinger leveled a scathing attack against the nation's big oil companies at the 1979 Consumer Assembly sponsored by the Consumer Federation of America, charging that firms such as Mobil, Exxon, and Standard Oil of Indiana are reaping exorbitant profits at the expense of ordinary citizens.

"It is time we told the Carter Administration the facts about energy-induced inflation," Winpisinger told the 565 consumer leaders attending the three-day meeting. "We're tired of lies about shortages. We're tired of price supports for Big Oil. We're tired of budget cuts for solar and alternative sources of energy.

"We're tired of oil diplomacy dictating our government's behavior, at home and around the globe. We're tired of energy repression that impacts heavily on senior citizens, the poor and near poor, and consumers across the board."

For these reasons, he said, the Machinists joined in initiating the Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition, a grass-roots campaign aimed at putting a stop to gas shutoffs for those who can't pay the price of home heat and utilities, halting oppressive and unfair utility regulations, ending continued and higher gas and oil price supports, and other practices harmful to consumers.

Winpisinger called for government action against major oil producers to halt what he called criminal violations of federal antitrust laws.

"We've found a pinhole of light in the darkness of the antitrust laws," he said. "We believe Big Oil can be prosecuted for antitrust violations. We believe the corporate state and the supereconomy, epitomized by the energy cartel, can be held accountable to the national interest and consumer interests.

"We believe it is criminal for agents of the corporate state to shut off the gas or the electricity in the dead of winter and freeze people to death," he declared. "If we can puncture the energy industry, then we can begin taking on the abuses and privileges enjoyed by corporate giants in other sectors of the supereconomy."

During a panel discussion of the nation's housing crisis, Director Henry B. Schechter of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Urban Affairs called for the use of selective credit regulation as a tool for homebuilding stability.

Implementation of the 1969 Credit Control Act, he said, would lead to more jobs through new investment in facilities and expanded production of "high social priority activities which are most likely to have a sustained market."

Interest rates would be lower, thus benefiting the majority of consumers, and through more sustained housing production the current inflation-generated shortage of houses would be relieved, Schechter added.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) told the assembly that the most effective weapon against inflation is a "competitive environment."

"Competition drives industry costs down, allocates scarce resources in the most efficient manner possible, and dramatically increases innovation, productivity, and technological advances," he said.

Arguing that corporate mergers are inflationary, Kennedy said that the Senate Judiciary Committee which he chairs would consider anti-merger legislation to curb the growth of giant conglomerates. He also reasserted his commitment to national health security, citing the "dramatic" impact of health maintenance organizations in reducing consumer prices.

Other speakers included Stuart E. Eizenstat, assistant to the President for domestic affairs, and Esther Peterson, special assistant to the President for consumer affairs, who outlined the Administration's legislative priorities in the consumer area. These include hospital cost containment, no-fault auto insurance, deregulation of surface transportation, and reform of regulatory agency procedures to increase public participation, expedite procedures, and ensure that regulations are cost-effective.

Steelworkers Press Trade Adjustment Bill

Workers whose jobs are wiped out by imports are still being shortchanged by the government's trade adjustment assistance program, the Steelworkers stressed in testimony seeking swift action on legislation that was caught in the adjournment squeeze at the end of the last Congress.

Even the best adjustment assistance is no substitute for loss of a good job, Steelworkers Legislative Director John J. Sheehan said. But he told a House Ways & Means subcommittee that the present program is inequitable as well as inadequate.

The bill being considered by the panel is essentially the measure the House passed last September by a 261-24 vote despite Administration objections that some of its provisions would be too costly. The Senate also voted to improve the adjustment program, but final congressional action was thwarted when the bill got entwined with an unrelated trade issue, and it died with the end of the 95th Congress.

Sheehan cited examples of workers denied benefits even though their unemployment was clearly caused by shutdowns and cutbacks of production forced by imports.

Thus, one worker was denied benefits when his plant shut down because he only had 22 weeks of employment at a Bethlehem Steel plant in the previous 52 weeks, short of the required 26 weeks. But his period of unemployment resulted from a non-occupational injury and his employment record at the plant went back more than 40 years.

Sheehan told the panel of denial of benefits to USWA members at a plant producing bumpers for automobiles. When imports forced layoffs at both the auto plants and the plant making the bumpers, only workers at the auto plant were held eligible for adjustment benefits.

The legislation being considered by the subcommittee would leave unchanged the benefit level of 70 percent of former pay up to a ceiling equal to the national average manufacturing wage.

But it would ease qualifications and enable workers in approved retraining programs and displaced workers over the age of 60 to receive payments for up to two years—an increase of 26 weeks over the present limits.

As an optional qualification test, the legislation would authorize benefits to workers who have been employed in an import-hurt industry for at least 40 weeks over a two-year period. That would take care of people like the Bethlehem Steel employee cited by Sheehan who failed to meet the present standard of 26 weeks in one year.

Boilermakers Win Shipyard Pacts

Chester, Pa.—All 2,800 workers at the Sun Shipbuilding & Drydock Co. here have returned to their jobs following ratification of new contracts by two striking units of the Boilermakers. The return to work ended a month-long strike.

New, three-year agreements were approved by members of Locals 804 and 806, representing some 300 marine draftsmen and clerical staff.

A week earlier, Boilermakers Local 802, which represents 2,500 production workers at the shipyard near Philadelphia, also ratified a new three-year agreement but refused to cross picket lines set up by the other units.

3-Years' Pay Awarded 441 Lockout Victims

(Continued from Page 1)

for the 36 months of the lockout.

The unanimous court ruling represents a major victory for OCAW in its dispute with the company at its Westwego, La., plant. OCAW President A. F. Grospiron observed that "most of all it is a victory for OCAW members involved. They knew they were in the right, and they stuck together during the entire time of the lockout."

The company said that it does not intend to appeal the appellate court's decision. The settlement is believed to be one of the largest in the history of the American labor movement.

In January 1976, after nine months of the strike, company executives determined that maintenance and service departments at the plant in Westwego would turned over to a contractor on a permanent basis and announced the decision at a Jan. 22 bargaining session with the union, saying that permanent replacements would be hired for striking production employees as soon as possible.

At a Jan. 28 meeting, the company announced that all hourly workers in the maintenance and service departments would be permanently terminated effective Jan. 31 and that all other striking workers would be terminated "as soon as permanent replacements could be hired."

At the end of the Jan. 28 meeting, a union spokesman said that the strike was over and that members of the union would return unconditionally to their jobs. This was confirmed in writing. The next day, when some 350 workers showed up at plant gate, they were told they could not return to their jobs until there was a signed agreement with the union.

Meanwhile, the company gave the union a proposed return-to-work and strike settlement agreement which would have required the union to acquiesce in management's refusal to reinstate certain workers it accused of violence during the strike. The union also was asked to accept the termination of 200 maintenance and service employees and forego the right to strike for a year, among other conditions.

The NLRB held that in view of the workers' unconditional offer to return to work, the company could not impose conditions on their reinstatement.

The 7th Circuit Court agreed with NLRB's conclusion that the employer's unilateral decision to contract out the maintenance and service unit work converted the economic strike into an unfair labor practice strike. The court also rejected the employer claim that the union offer to return to work was not bona fide.

It added that the conditions the company sought to impose in exchange for reinstatement were "far from reasonable."

Right to Advance Hearing Pressed Before Social Security 'Garnishee'

The AFL-CIO asked the Supreme Court to rule that social security beneficiaries are entitled to a hearing before the government cuts back their monthly benefits in order to recover alleged overpayments.

In two cases before the Supreme Court, a federal appellate court held that beneficiaries have a constitutional right to a due process hearing before and not just after the government in effect garnishees their benefit payments.

The AFL-CIO's supporting brief suggested an alternative line of reasoning to reach the conclusion that the Social Security Administration is obligated to provide such an oral hearing.

Regardless of the constitutional issue, the federation said, a section of the Social Security Act declares there "shall be" no recovery of an erroneous overpayment from a person who was not at fault if such an action would defeat the purpose of providing necessary protection to a beneficiary "or would be against equity and good conscience."

The federation's brief stressed that the law forbids the government from requiring reimbursement of an overpayment falling in that category and does not merely authorize forgiveness of the debt.

As to the nature of the hearing, the AFL-CIO brief cites other sections of the law as supporting labor's contention that a person who may be compelled to repay benefits is entitled to an oral hearing, not just a determination on the basis of a written statement.

Thus, the government's obligation to make its decisions on the basis of fact often cannot be met without an oral hearing at which a better judgment may be made as to whether a particular beneficiary accepted an overpayment in good faith and was "without fault" in the situation.

The AFL-CIO brief also noted that Congress explicitly gave the Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare authority to suspend payment of disability benefits in advance of a hearing if he has reason to believe that the disability has ceased.

By so specifying, the brief suggests, Congress was treating the issue as an exception to the usual rule. Thus it adds weight to the argument that the obligation to a prior hearing exists in the absence of legislation to the contrary.

While the cases being reviewed by the Supreme Court were not initiated by unions, the AFL-CIO filed its supporting brief because of the interest that both active and retired union members and their families have in protecting their rights under the social security system.

Equal Reserve Rules:

Labor Supports Bill To Strengthen 'Fed'

The AFL-CIO testified in support of legislation designed to strengthen the Federal Reserve System without giving profit-laden banks a windfall at the taxpayers' expense.

House Banking Committee Chairman Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.) sponsored the bill as an alternative to allowing the Federal Reserve System to pay interest to its member banks on the reserves they are required to keep on deposit with the "Fed."

The Fed periodically adjusts the reserve requirement as an economic tool that allows it to expand or contract the nation's money supply. It turns the "profits" from the interest-free reserve deposits over to the Treasury, providing hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue each year.

Despite the reserve requirements, member-banks of the Federal Reserve System are almost all hugely profitable. But the reserve requirement has kept many state-chartered banks from joining the system, and some federally-chartered banks that are required by law to be members have switched to state charters to avoid the reserve requirement.

AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter said the goal of keeping the Federal Reserve System strong can be met through the Reuss bill, which would impose the same legal reserve requirements for state-chartered and federally-chartered banks.

"By requiring equal reserves of non-member commercial banks, and of thrift institutions on their transaction accounts," Schechter testified, the proposed legislation "would eliminate the competitive disadvantage which leads member banks to leave the Federal Reserve System."

The Reuss bill would make a number of other changes, including lowering the maximum reserve for various forms of deposits and adding a service charge for the check-clearance service the Fed now provides without cost to its member banks.

Schechter suggested some modifications in various provisions of the bill, including a more flexible authority for the Fed to raise temporarily its reserve requirements over the legal limit in order to meet an economic emergency. And he said reserve requirements shouldn't be lowered until fees have been set for the check-clearance service.

But overall, he stressed, the legislation "would significantly strengthen the durability and operating capabilities of the Federal Reserve System without unnecessary losses of Treasury revenues."

As for counterproposals to allow the Fed to pay banks interest on required reserves, Schechter had this to say:

"In a period of great concern about government deficits and inflation, when programs which benefit poor people are being cut back, there should not be legislation that could give banks a windfall of over $500 million a year and increase the federal deficit by that amount."

Hospital Units In Connecticut Vote for 1199

New York—Some 1,800 Connecticut health care professionals employed at 55 state-run institutions, including 15 large state hospitals, have picked District 1199 of the National Union of Hospital & Health Care Employees as their bargaining agent.

In a Jan. 30-31 election, District 1199 received 681 votes to 539 for the Connecticut State Employees Association. District 1199 is affiliated with the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union.

The voting followed an Oct. 30-31 election, which resulted in a runoff, and a Dec. 5-6 election which was thrown out by the Connecticut State Labor Board after District 1199 charged that CSEA introduced false statements during the election campaign.

The victory is the second big win for District 1199 among workers at state-operated health institutions in Connecticut in recent months. Last Oct. 30-31, 4,600 paraprofessional workers at various facilities chose 1199 representation.

Labor Offers to Help In Price Monitoring

(Continued from Page 1)

local consumer groups in a price monitoring operation.

A key obstacle to an effective monitoring program, Meany wrote Kahn, is the intricacy of the Administration's price standards.

"The consumer has absolutely no way of knowing about increases at the raw commodity and farm level," Meany noted. "The consumer cannot evaluate increases at the retail level since the profit-margin standard apparently applies and would require consumer knowledge of the store's profit margin for the base period and for the period during which increases are being monitored."

In practice, Meany suggested, "since your rules only affect a company's average profit margin and don't address the price of individual items at all, it seems impossible to monitor any item."

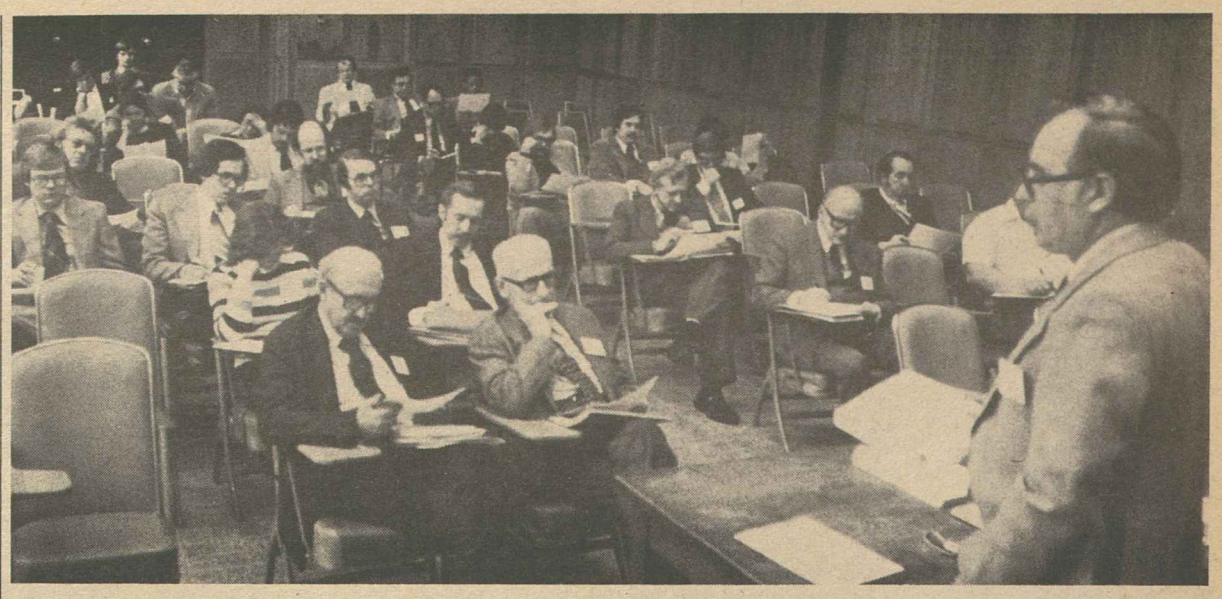
But in view of Kahn's reported advocacy of nationwide monitoring of retail prices, Meany said, "If you will advise me how this price monitoring can be carried out, we will be pleased to cooperate."

He told Kahn that "the AFL-CIO is vitally concerned about the high cost of living and the rapid escalation of prices in recent months."

The AFL-CIO, Meany said, "has hundreds of central labor bodies in cities and counties across the nation and can draw on thousands of community service volunteers."

This "vast organization" could be mobilized for a price monitoring effort, Meany wrote Kahn, "if we know precisely what you want consumers to look for, how to report information and data, and what you expect to accomplish."

If the wage-price council is interested in such a cooperative effort, Meany said, AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis is available to meet with Kahn's staff "to discuss this matter further."



THREE-DAY CONFERENCE for union research directors exploring the nation's economic outlook is addressed by AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald. The union economists also were briefed on the labor movement's agenda in Congress by Legislative Director Kenneth Young.

U.S. Urged to Close Tariff Loophole On Offshore Oil Drilling Platforms

A giant American construction company stands to save about $4 million in U.S. import duties by having some fabrication work done on offshore oil drilling rigs in Malaysia before erecting them in California's Santa Barbara channel.

Brown & Root Inc. of Houston will be able to capitalize on the duty-free loophole if the U.S. Trade Policy Staff Committee rejects a petition from the Iron Workers.

Under the 1974 Trade Act, Malaysia qualifies for duty-free status on the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) because it is a "lesser developed country." Currently, oil drilling platforms are among the 2,700 Third World items eligible for import into the United States duty-free.

The Iron Workers' petition asks the governmental interagency trade panel to remove offshore platforms from the GSP list and subject them to regular import duties of 9.5 percent.

In a letter to the trade panel, Iron Workers President John H. Lyons charged that Malaysia employees of the Brown & Root subsidiary are doing only low-skill work on the platforms, while highly technical fabrication work is being done in Japan by firms partly or totally owned by the Houston-based corporation.

Japanese exports to the United States are not eligible for duty-free privileges.

Brown & Root has contracts for the construction of one drilling platform from Chevron and two from Shell Oil that will be erected in California waters. One platform is being totally fabricated in Japan and the other two are being built through Brown & Root's Japanese-Malaysian venture.

The shifting of the fabrication operations to the Orient cost the U.S. economy more than one million manhours of work and about $40 million, the Iron Workers pointed out.

The union has expressed concern that there may be a long-range impact on American employment and the economy if additional drilling platforms are constructed overseas.

Petroleum industry estimates for offshore drilling activity over the next 10 years cite a need for as many as 180 oil platforms on the West Coast alone. Several hundred may be needed on the East Coast if substantial amounts of oil are discovered in the Baltimore Canyon.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said in a letter to the trade panel that application of the duty-free privilege for drilling platforms makes a mockery of the intent of Congress in passing the 1974 Trade Act and the Outer Continental Shelf Act.

Referring to provisions of the Outer Continental Shelf Act, Oswald noted that Congress directed the Customs Service to place tariffs on steel platforms because it did not intend to subsidize foreign contractors.

"The GSP system can be used to help multinationals avoid paying tariffs and avoid helping developing countries," Oswald stressed. "In the case of oil drilling platforms, the GSP becomes a means of subsidizing the export of technologically sophisticated production to foreign countries and to use worksites in developing countries as 'launching platforms' to U.S. markets."

He said that few, if any, developing countries possess the technology required for the construction of the drilling platforms.

That point was reinforced by Lyons, who noted that Malaysia lacks a domestic steel industry to meet the needs of platform construction and that "the Malaysia stopover is just a subterfuge to gain windfall benefits."

President Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. pointed out at a public hearing that the duty-free privilege on imported items may be granted only by Executive Order of the President, not by staff members of the Customs Service.

A Customs Service official granted the GSP status for the platforms last May, about the same time that Brown & Root landed the contracts for the fabrication of the three drilling rigs.

Horror Tale Scares Up Right-Wing Donations

(Continued from Page 1)

how often you must visit a government doctor?"

The obvious implication is that the answer to these "questions" clearly is "yes."

But the Heritage Foundation fund appeal has come up with a new gimmick this year, or at least a new variant of an old scare tactic.

"To show you just what you can expect," Garn wrote, "I'm sending you a copy of the kind of National Health Identification Card the government would force you to carry the rest of your life."

The "simulated" card, issued by the mythical Federal Health Regulatory Agency, has blanks for such items as "color or race," Internal Revenue Service identification number, medical identification number and the hospital to which the recipient is assigned for treatment "based on your residence, annual income and employment location."

Another line has space for the "number" but not a name of the "government doctor" to whom "subject is assigned."

The reverse side lists the number of months of waiting periods for various surgical procedures such as "radical mastectomy, coronary bypass, gall bladder removal" and other supposedly "elective surgery."

An equally mythical footnote declares: "Based on government records of your medical history, you must follow Health Maintenance Plan 105C as outlined in Regulatory Bulletin No. 104628-A published by the Federal Health Regulatory Agency."

While the "simulated" health card is new, the concept goes at least as far back as the 1936 presidential campaign.

That's when the Republican effort to defeat Franklin D. Roosevelt employed radio commercials with this Heritage-like distortion of the Social Security Act passed by Congress which was to take effect the following year:

"Under Roosevelt's so-called social security, in 1937 you will be assigned a number: that will be your number wherever you work as long as you live. No name, just a New Deal number."

Other campaign statements charged that all Americans would have to wear military-type "dog tags" around their necks carrying their social security number. And some newspapers even published fake photographs of the non-existent dog tags.

Roosevelt carried all but two states in winning re-election that year. But it's easier to raise funds than to win elections.

Thus, if you don't want to "lose your family doctor, turn over your personal medical files to the government" and "be forced to go to a hospital clear across town," give Heritage Foundation "every dollar you can send to fund this Campaign to Stop Nationalized Medicine."

So says the letter, boldly signed: "Jake Garn, U.S. Senator."

Wholesale Index Up 1.3%:

New Price Surge Undercuts Wages

(Continued from Page 1)
inflation rate was 9 percent, the second highest level in three decades.

The impact of wholesale prices on consumer prices is uneven. Changes are generally felt at the retail level in a matter of weeks or months, depending on the product.

The January increase in producer prices of finished goods translates to a 15.6 percent annual rate. The 1.3 percent jump was the largest since the 1.8 percent rise of November 1974 when the nation was in the midst of a deep recession.

For the first time in more than four years, all major components of the finished goods price index rose 1 percent or more, BLS said.

Prices for consumer foods were up 1.8 percent for the month and 12.9 percent over the year, continuing the sharp advances recorded throughout most of 1978. Prices for finished consumer goods excluding foods also rose sharply—1.2 percent over the month—and capital equipment rose 1 percent, more than in any month last year.

In the 12 months since January 1978, wholesale prices for finished goods were up 9.8 percent, BLS said. The increase for meat, poultry, and fish alone over the year was 24.1 percent.

Foods ready for sale to retailers jumped 1.8 percent in January, much more than the 1 percent rise in December and the seven-tenths of 1 percent increase in November. BLS said that the large increase was caused by especially steep rises in the price of beef and veal, which moved up 13 percent over the month. "This was half as much as the increase in beef and veal prices during all of 1978," BLS said.

Other sharp increases in food prices were registered for processed poultry, pork, milled rice, fresh and fried vegetables, and whole black pepper. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices dropped 4.2 percent, eggs were down three-tenths of 1 percent, cereals other than milled rice fell three-tenths of 1 percent, and packaged beverage materials were down 5 percent.

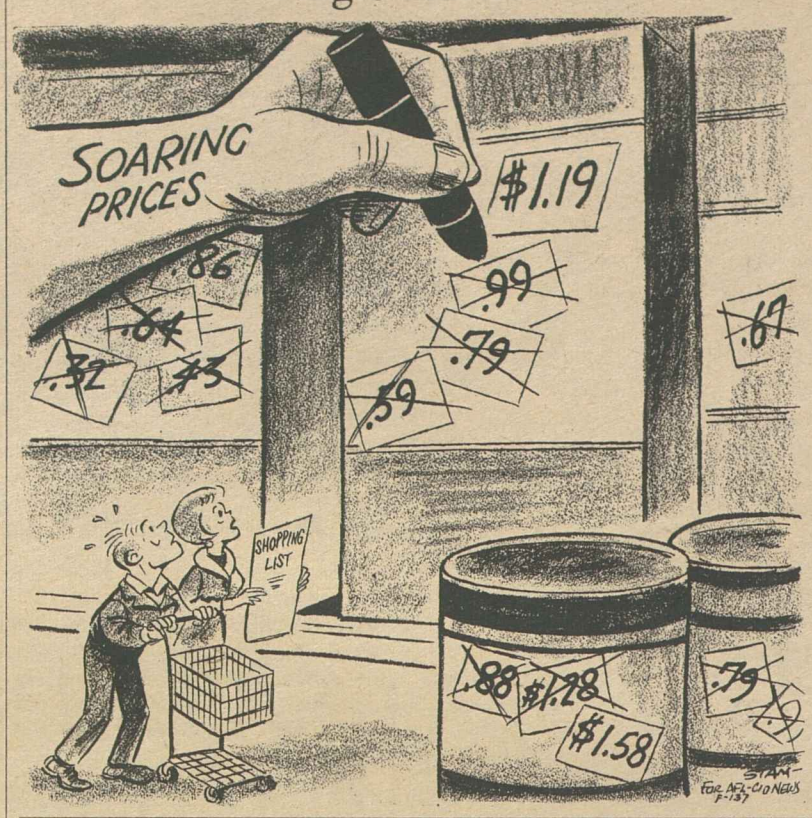
Non-food finished consumer goods rose 1.2 percent over the month. Some of the largest advances were for gasoline, up 3.2 percent; tires and tubes, up 2.5 percent; finished lubricants, up 2.6 percent, and cosmetics and toiletries, up 3.2 percent.

Other high prices were posted for tobacco products, home heating oil, health products, apparel, and footwear. Prices for passenger cars rose considerably more than in recent months. Prices were also higher for household flatware, jewelry made of platinum and gold, luggage and small leather goods, household furniture, household appliances, and lawnmowers.

At the intermediate level — products not quite ready for sale to retailers—prices increased 1.2 percent in January, also the largest increase since November 1974. BLS attributed the price acceleration to sharply higher prices for a broad range of manufacturing and construction materials.

Prices of crude materials—products just starting their way through the pipeline—continued to move up sharply, with a 2.4 percent increase over the month and an 18.5 percent rise from a year earlier. Foodstuffs and feedstuffs were largely responsible for the rise.

Magic Marker



Labor Seen Expanding International Activities

The AFL-CIO's relationship with free trade unions in both industrialized and developing nations "is going on apace and is not going to diminish—it is going to increase," Ernest Lee, director of the federation's Dept. of International Affairs, told a seminar on "The Future of the International Labor Movement."

Lee noted that more than 65 AFL-CIO unions hold membership in various international trade secretariats and that the federation maintains close ties with free unions through its regional auxiliary organizations, the American Institute for Free Labor Development, the African-American Labor Center, and the Asian-American Free Labor Institute.

Joining Lee in a panel discussion were Ben Sharman, international affairs representative for the Machinists, and Dr. William Douglas, formerly with AIFLD, now associate director of Georgetown University's International Labor Program.

The all-day seminar was cosponsored by Georgetown and the Labor Desk of the U.S. Youth Council.

Sharman outlined steps being taken by the trade secretariats to control globe-girdling multinational companies that seek to maximize profit at labor's expense. These include exchanging information on collective bargaining, international solidarity actions, regulation through "codes of conduct," and national legislation.

Douglas noted that a new generation of trade union leaders is on the rise in Third World countries. They differ from those of the past, he said, in that they regard themselves as trade unionists first and political leaders second. AFL-CIO support of free trade unions in developing nations has contributed in large part to this reversal, he pointed out.

Dr. Roy Godson, director of the Georgetown program, closed the seminar with a discussion of Soviet international labor activities and workers in communist-ruled countries.

Amtrak Cuts Challenged by Rail Unions

The nation's railroad unions have sharply and unanimously protested an Administration proposal for a 43 percent cutback in the rail passenger network served by Amtrak.

Unless Congress intervenes within 90 days. the cutback in Amtrak routes will take effect Oct. 1, the start of the new fiscal year. An estimated 5.800 jobs will be lost, amounting to more than one-fourth of Amtrak's employment, and additional states and larger cities will be left without any passenger rail service.

A meeting of the Railway Labor Executives' Association, representing all the unions affected, expressed concern at the continued erosion of rail service despite indications of a pickup in passenger use.

The RLEA agreed to seek through congressional committees an alternative to the budget-cutting Dept. of Transportation proposal that would avoid abandonment of such a large portion of the Amtrak system.

President Carter's proposed budget justified a cutback in the federal subsidy for Amtrak by declaring. "The nation can no longer afford the luxury of maintaining rail passenger trains that, on many routes, are little used."

The budget proposed to cut the operating subsidy by $49 million from the fiscal 1979 figure. But it estimated that Amtrak would be obligated to pay $69 milion to its employees who lose their jobs under "labor protection" obligations.

Arbitration Cases Set New Record

New York—A record number of labor arbitrations was filed with the American Arbitration Association in the 12 months ended last Oct. 31, AAA announced.

Michael F. Hoellering, vice president of case administration, reported at the AAA annual meeting here that 16,059 labor cases were filed during the period, an increase of more than 1,300 over the previous year.

The total included 9,480 cases in the private sector, 5,319 in the public sector, and 1,260 expedited cases. Hoellering attributed the rise mainly to a larger number of public sector cases filed.

The 52-year-old organization is a private group that handles a variety of arbitration cases.

Muskie Warns of Economic Peril In Constitutional Limit on Spending

A constitutional amendment to require a balanced budget or to limit federal spending could unbalance the nation's economy, Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.) warned in a speech to the National Press Club.

Muskie, who is chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, termed all of the assortment of proposals to hold down the budget through a constitutional amendment "dangerous and poorly thought through."

No amendment, he suggested, can cope with the impact of major economic change. Thus, a rise in the unemployment rate of only 1 percentage point costs "$20 billion in lost tax revenues and increased social welfare costs," he said, "$20 billion drained from the federal purse without a single spending spree."

Muskie reminded the Washington press corps that President Ford pledged to hold the budget deficit to $9 billion for fiscal 1975. "But fate and recession intervened," forcing the deficit for that year to $35 billion and inducing Ford to propose a $52 billion deficit the following year.

The AFL-CIO has opposed the constitutional amendment proposal on similar grounds and also on the basis of another threat that Muskie warned of in his speech—the uncertainties over the powers of a constitutional convention.

Muskie termed the move to summon a constitutional convention by petition of two-thirds of the states "an uncharted course to an unknown destination."

Muskie spoke of the assortment of "passionate causes" embraced by various single-interest groups and warned against a "gamble that our national compass would not be disoriented" in the aftermath of such a convention.

As for the states that have adopted resolutions calling for such a convention to act on a balanced budget amendment, Muskie found this "the most ironic twist."

It is the states, he suggested, that would be the biggest losers, since the only possible place where required cuts could be made would be in federal assistance to state and local governments.

He noted that the Pennsylvania legislature's call for a constitutional convention to initiate a balanced budget amendment was Resolution 236. But "Resolution 235 demanded a renewal of revenue sharing."

Oregon's constitutional amendment call suggested that "a balanced budget would lessen the need for increased state and local taxes." Muskie termed this "an odd theory" in view of the fact that Oregon received more than a billion dollars, in federal funds in fiscal 1978.

Union Asks Stamp On Fire Prevention

President William H. McClennan of the Fire Fighters has called for union support of a campaign urging the Postal Service to issue stamps promoting awareness for fire prevention and burn accidents.

He urged that letters of support be sent to Jack Williams, coordinator of the citizens' advisory committee at the Stamps Division of the U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, Room 5700, Washington, D.C. 20260.

'Right-to-Work' Measure Killed in West Virginia

Charleston, W.Va.—A "right-to-work" measure introduced in the West Virginia state legislature for the first time in 21 years has been rejected unanimously by the Senate Labor Committee. A subsequent motion to reconsider the anti-labor bill was also turned down by a unanimous vote.

The bill could be reintroduced again in either the House or Senate during the current session of the legislature, but the action appears unlikely because of its double rejection by the senate committee, the West Virginia AFL-CIO said.

State AFL-CIO President Joseph W. Powell said that attempts to outlaw the union shop in West Virginia do not come as a surprise in view of recent efforts of the National Right to Work Committee in Missouri, Illinois, New Mexico and other states.

In testifying before the legislature, Powell warned that passage of the bill would raise serious problems in the state by "voiding many existing labor agreements, creating unrest and chaos in existing labor-management relations and relegating our citizens to a chicken-plucking economy."

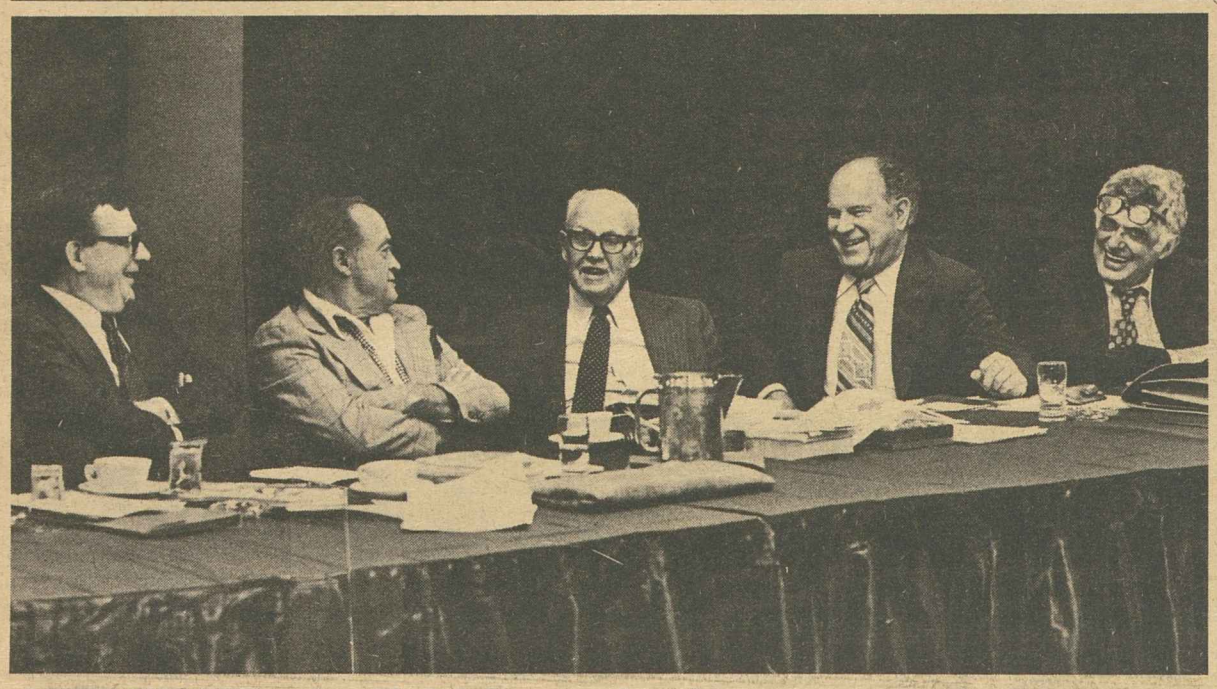
The state labor federation pointed out that in the 20 states that have "right-to-work" laws in effect, the average per capita income in 1977 was $6,327. This compares with an average of $7,344 in the non-right-to-work states, it noted.

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Council Urges Swift Action To Meet Recession Threat



LIGHT MOMENT at the AFL-CIO Executive Council is provided by comedian Bob Hope, who has brought the gift of laughter to millions of America's servicemen and women during his USO tours. The council endorsed plans for a national USO center in Washington to be named for Hope, who was one of the first recipients of the AFL-CIO's Murray-Green Award. **(Story, page 2)**

Spells Out Policies To Head Off Slump

By Saul Miller

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO warned that "America's economy is heading toward a recession" and that only swift, effective government action can prevent it.

The federation's Executive Council spelled out a dozen programs and policies in the areas of inflation, employment and trade and called on the Administration to implement them.

The council said that while the AFL-CIO believes that inflation is now "the nation's most serious economic problem," the country would be making a "serious mistake" if it failed to adopt programs to meet each of the nation's economic problems.

The analysis of the Carter Administration's economic program and its budget and proposed changes in its real wage insurance proposal highlighted the opening days of the council's mid-winter meeting here.

The council also voted its strong opposition to a proposed constitutional convention to impose a balanced budget, called for a fair and realistic energy conservation program and set out its strong objections to the Administration's proposed changes in the social security system.

It voted strong support for the Steelworkers' strike at the Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Co. and voted to charter a new 60,000-member union of police officers—the International Union of Police Associations.

The Executive Council also elected John J. O'Donnell, president of the Air Line Pilots, as a council member and AFL-CIO vice president to fill a vacancy on the federation's 35-member governing body.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters at his press conferences that inflation is gradually worsening because there are "no effective price controls" and renewed the federation's offer to enlist thousands of volunteers in a nationwide price monitoring campaign if the Administration is serious about spotlighting price gouging.

He reaffirmed the view that the only effective way to control inflation would be through mandatory, across-the-board controls on all forms of income and that the President's program is not working.

Meany announced that the AFL-CIO and several affiliates will file a court challenge to the Administration's threat to impose sanctions on firms that grant wage increases above the supposedly vol-

(Continued on Page 3)

Veto Kills New Mexico R-T-W Bill

Santa Fe, N.M.—New Mexico Gov. Bruce King vetoed a "right-to-work" bill that would have outlawed union shop agreements, keeping a campaign pledge that had become a major issue in last November's gubernatorial campaign.

King, a Democrat, killed the bill the same day it reached his desk.

"I am convinced that this proposal will not help the people of this state, especially working men and women," the governor said in his veto message.

New Mexico has been a peren-

(Continued on Page 6)

To Remedy Flaws:

Key Changes Sought In Wage Insurance

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The AFL-CIO Executive Council called for basic changes in the Administration's real wage insurance program to resolve inequities and urged Congress to enact an excess profits tax to bring balance to the policy of restraint.

The council statement stressed the federation's opposition to the Administration's anti-inflation program, declaring that "this does not in any way imply our support for so-called voluntary wage guidelines, but rather demonstrates our recognition that there are groups of workers who might receive some benefit from the real wage insurance program."

The council pointed out that "real wage insurance is a tool to enforce wage controls, not an incentive to encourage voluntary compliance." It added that "no one-shot tax rebate proposal" can correct the inherent inequalities in the Administration's overall program.

"But the fact remains that some workers would receive some protection against continuing inflation by this tax rebate proposal," it said.

Under the Administration proposal, groups of workers whose average pay increases have not exceeded the 7 percent wage guideline would be eligible for a tax credit, the difference between 7 percent and the actual rate of inflation but not more than 10 percent.

The council proposed changes to make participation by smaller employers mandatory, not optional; coverage for all workers below the low-wage exemption cutoff; eligibility to be based on wage and salary increases alone; automatic qualification of any employee with a 1979 wage increase of less than 7 percent.

The council said that there should also be a "tax-based program to insure business compliance with price guidelines" in the form of an excess profits tax that

(Continued on Page 3)

Senate Toughens Rule On Halting Filibusters

By David L. Perlman

The Senate tightened its filibuster rule so that a minority cannot continue to block a final vote on legislation after cloture has been voted.

Under the old rules, the limit of one hour of further debate by each senator after a cloture vote could be thwarted by calling up an endless series of amendments and by an assortment of procedural motions that amounted to a new filibuster. The threat of such delaying tactics has been used to keep controversial legislation from being called up, especially during the busy final days of a session.

The rules change, proposed by Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, makes it less likely that the full 100 hours of post-cloture debate will be used. And it flatly prohibits delaying tactics that could stretch the time span well beyond that limit.

Time spent on amendments and procedural motions will now be counted towards the 100-hour limit. And the limit of one hour debating time for each senator could not be easily evaded through the transfer of time from senators who do not wish to use their allotment.

But it will still require 60 votes —three-fifths of the full Senate—

(Continued on Page 8)

Court Suit to Challenge Pay Control Sanctions

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO will file suit in federal court challenging the Carter Administration's proposed use of sanctions against employers who violate the wage guidelines of its "voluntary" anti-inflation program.

AFL-CIO President George Meany announced plans to file the suit on the grounds that the President cannot impose mandatory controls when the law specifically forbids such controls. He told reporters that the government's approach is "an attack on the whole process of collective bargaining."

The AFL-CIO will be joined in filing the suit by the Rubber Workers and the Electrical Radio & Machine Workers (IUE) and possibly other affiliates.

The law passed by Congress in 1974 setting up the Council on Wage & Price Stability specifically forbids imposition of mandatory controls by the President. The President's executive order issued in October 1978 setting up the anti-inflation program provides that employers violating the wage guidelines would be denied government contracts.

COWPS has since declared that the provision applied only to government contracts in excess of $5 million.

(Continued on Page 2)



RECESSION THREAT was a major concern of the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its mid-winter meeting. It said effective curbs on prices are needed to control inflation but warned against budget cutbacks that add to unemployment.

AFL-CIO Charters New Police Union

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The AFL-CIO Executive Council has voted to charter a new union of police officers with a membership of 60,000 in 16 states.

The International Union of Police Associations is headed by President Edward J. Kiernan and Sec.-Treas. Robert G. Gordon and is headquartered in Washington, D.C.

The council voted to issue the charter on the unanimous recommendation of a subcommittee headed by Vice President William H. McClennan, president of the Fire Fighters. The subcommittee has been studying for a number of months the police officers' request for affiliation with the federation.

Kiernan and Gordon issued a statement declaring that the action of the AFL-CIO "recognizes and reaffirms the need of law enforcement officers to have a national organization devoted to our needs and to develop support for the programs and policies that we believe are necessary."

They said the IUPA will start a major campaign to bring police groups into the union "with the long-range goal of reaching a membership of close to a half-million men and women. Organizing the unorganized and the unaffiliated will be our prime objective."

They pledged also to work for better legislation covering the collective bargaining process for uniformed personnel and together with the Fire Fighters to seek laws to provide "fair, final and binding arbitration of impasse disputes" as the best way of avoiding strikes by police officers and fire fighters.

The chartering of the IUPA "opens a new era for police officers" who function in a dangerous occupation, they said.

Kiernan, 58, served as a police officer in New York City for 30 years before retiring in 1972 and started working for a viable national organization of police officers in 1958. Gordon, 51, served as a police officer in Freeport, N.Y., until his retirement in 1977 and served as a legislative representative of the Police Conference of New York State.

Solid Mexican Economy Held Key to Oil Pact

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The United States should understand that the development of Mexican oil and gas should be done in a manner to contribute to Mexico's economic and social development, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

Nothing would contribute more to the resolution of the problems between the two nations than "a Mexican economy that is sound and a society that is stable," the council said in a statement.

It urged the U.S. government to make every effort to reach a "fair and equitable understanding" with Mexico over the purchase of its oil and gas and observed that good faith bargaining can lead to a mutually beneficial agreement.

Stressing that there is a need for the U.S. to develop additional sources of oil in light of the "recent troubles in Iran," the statement noted that the oil reserves in Mexico are estimated to be as great or greater than those of Saudi Arabia, the largest known reserves held by any nation in the world.

The Executive Council statement noted that oil furnishes about 45 percent of the nation's energy needs. Thus, "it is too important a matter for the United States to have to depend on the vagaries of insecure overseas sources."

Increasing the level of Mexican oil output will be determined in part by the actions of the U.S. government in the continuing negotiations, the council said, adding that Mexican oil and gas alone buy important time but are not a solution to the energy problem, and alternative supplies must be found.

Checkoff Seen Aiding Union Political Funds

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The AFL-CIO pledged to continue working for federal financing of elections, but pending achievement of that goal will continue and expand efforts to raise political contributions through voluntary checkoff plans.

The Executive Council called on federation affiliates "to make it as simple and easy as possible for union members to voluntarily contribute to their union's political efforts." It pointed out that the voluntary checkoff was made lawful by the 1976 Federal Election Campaign Act amendments and that a number of AFL-CIO affiliates already use the system.

The council reaffirmed its belief that public financing of federal elections "is the only way to ensure that election to public office is not an auction, with the victor being the highest bidder."

But it noted the tremendous growth of corporate political action committees in the past few years and warned that the business and right-wing PACs "will swamp pro-labor candidates with a flood of contributions to their opponents."

Campaign contributions by business, trade associations and right-wing PACs totaled nearly $50 million in 1978 contrasted with voluntary contributions from all labor sources of $14.5 million. While union members can never match employer contributions, a voluntary checkoff will help unions do more "to support the candidates who support them in legislative battles," the council said.

Labor Endorses Creation Of Bob Hope USO Center

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO endorsed the establishment of a national USO center in Washington, D.C., named in honor of comedian Bob Hope, who discussed plans for the center with the Executive Council at its meeting here.

The council said in a statement that the Bob Hope USO Center would serve members of the military and their dependents, coordinate USO's worldwide programs and services, and house Hope's USO film and memorabilia collection.

"No one symbolizes USO more than Bob Hope," the council observed, noting that he had entertained millions of American military personnel under USO auspices. "Hope was a byword on every battlefield in every military camp. No one has done more for American personnel, through USO, than Bob Hope."

The world-renowned entertainer received the AFL-CIO's highest award, the Philip Murray-William Green Award, in 1958.

The USO has served the nation in war and peace for nearly 40 years, contributing to the spiritual, social, educational, and recreational needs of American military personnel and their families the world over, the council pointed out. Last year alone, it operated 62 facilities in the United States and 55 facilities overseas.

Balanced Budget Amendment:

Spending Lid Move Seen Path to 'Chaos'

Bal Harbour, Fla.—A balanced budget amendment to the Constitution "would create chaos" and summoning a constitutional convention to initiate such an amendment would be even worse, the AFL-CIO warned.

An Executive Council statement warned of the risks of bypassing Congress and resorting to the untried procedure of calling a constitutional convention through petition of two-thirds of the states.

On the merits, the council said, the AFL-CIO disagrees with the concept of a "mandatory balanced budget . . . regardless of economic circumstances." Congress can legislate a balanced budget without rewriting the Constitution "but has wisely concluded that to do so now would create chaos for America's states and cities and the people they serve."

But "even if we agreed with the concept," the council said, "we would oppose calling a constitutional convention."

In the AFL-CIO's view, such a convention would weaken representative government and "turn the Constitution into a statute book" by cluttering it with matters that do not belong in "a living document which provides a framework for government."

Twenty-six states have thus far petitioned for a constitutional convention, only eight short of the number required although some of the petitions are subject to challenge. The Executive Council asked affiliated unions and AFL-CIO state and local central bodies to "actively oppose" constitutional convention resolutions in state legislatures.

"If the present effort succeeds, there will be no end to the emotional issues for which constitutional conventions are called," the council warned. It noted that there have been calls for constitutional amendments on such issues as repeal of the income tax, a compulsory open shop, abortions, legalization of drugs, school busing, and reversal of the Supreme Court's "one-man, one-vote" rulings.

Adding to the uncertainties, the statement cautioned, is the disagreement among constitutional scholars as to whether a convention can be confined to a single topic. And at a time of international turmoil, "nothing would endanger world peace and stability more than the appearance of wholesale changes in the structure of the U.S. government."

The Executive Council concluded its statement with this summary:

"A constitutional convention is wrong; mandating a balanced budget regardless of economic circumstances is wrong. And the two issues together are double trouble for the nation."

Label Trades Elect 2 Board Members

Bal Harbour, Fla. — Two new members of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.'s executive board were elected at the board's meeting here.

They are William Cates, secretary of the Molders & Allied Workers, and James E. Hatfield, president of the Glass Bottle Blowers.

They were chosen to fill vacancies created by the resignation of Daniel E. Conway, former president of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers, and Henry Segal, former secretary-treasurer of the Paperworkers.

Air Line Pilots' Leader Named to Council Seat

Bal Harbour, Fla.—John J. O'Donnell, president of the Air Line Pilots, has been elected to the AFL-CIO Executive Council. O'Donnell, 54, fills a vacancy on the council created by the resignation last fall of Joseph P. Tonelli, former president of the Paperworkers.

O'Donnell, who has headed ALPA since 1971, is now serving his third four-year term as president of the union. ALPA represents 30,000 professional pilots serving 32 U.S.-based airlines in addition to another 20,000 members in three ALPA affiliates, the Association of Flight Attendants, the Union of Professional Airmen and the Air Line Employees Association.

The new federation vice president has been a member of ALPA since 1956 when he became a pilot with Eastern Airlines. O'Donnell served for 13 years on a number of local and national ALPA negotiating committees representing EAL pilots.

Since 1970, he has served as an AFL-CIO representative at International Labor Organization sessions and conferences on aviation issues. O'Donnell is also a member of the federation's Standing Committee on Community Services and is a labor representative on the United Way board of governors and executive committee.

O'Donnell represents ALPA in the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations, the international trade secretariat. He also is a member of the Labor Dept.'s Policy Advisory Committee on Multilateral Trade Negotiations and has served on a number of civic and professional panels.

Court Test Set On Sanctions In Control Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

Meany told reporters: "When the government tells an employer that we want you to abide by these voluntary controls—and they use the word 'voluntary' because the law tells them that they can't impose mandatory controls—but then says to the employer 'if you don't agree to voluntarily agree to what we asked you to do, then we're going to punish you.' I think, at that point, the controls become mandatory."

The Rubber Workers will open negotiations shortly with the major rubber companies for new agreements; the IUE will negotiate with General Electric and Westinghouse later in the spring.

Council Warns of New Recession Risk

Asks Swift Government Action To Solve Economic Problems

(Continued from Page 1)

untary guidelines. He termed the government's approach an attack on collective bargaining.

Queried on relations with the Administration, Meany pointed out that the federation worked hard to elect President Carter, but that doesn't mean "we have to agree with everything that he brings up" and that doesn't mean "that we're approaching a break." The labor movement deals with every President on the basis of the "old American tradition that we have a free right to talk" and that this should not be interpreted "politically under any circumstances."

The council's statement on the national economy said that the current prospects are that inflation will get worse in 1979 with the wholesale price index for January portending even greater consumer price increases. The employment outlook is "equally dismal" and the coming economic slowdown will lead to even higher joblessness, the council said.

It emphasized that the Administration's "restrictive budget proposals" would deny needed stimulus to the economy and cut jobs programs. It stressed that the Administration's anti-inflation program "will not be successful in holding down inflation because it lacks an effective system of controlling prices. The council strongly reaffirmed its earlier statement calling for full economic controls covering every source of income, despite its dislike for controls, to bring some measure of equity to the program.

The council said "we hope our prediction of a recession is wrong," but that there is no substitute "for effective, fair government actions to control inflation" through a program that is equitable, visible and enforceable, coupled with necessary social programs to provide opportunities for the poor, unemployed, disadvantaged and workers.

The COPE Administrative Committee composed of the council and various COPE groups met between council sessions and reviewed the 1978 elections and mapped plans to increase the extremely low voter turnout of last year.

The council adopted statements also calling for voluntary checkoff programs of contributions for union political activities until such time as public financing of congressional elections is adopted. It called also for changes in the Medicare and Medicaid regulations to allow for alternatives to hospital care and supported negotiations with Mexico for oil and gas supplies.

Of the Administration's budget, the council said it is asking the nation to pay too high a price in budget cuts to achieve a "minuscule reduction in inflation." In addition to changes in the real wage insurance proposal to resolve inequities, the council urged Congress to enact an excess profits tax to bring balance to the policy of restraint.

On real wage insurance Meany told reporters the present proposal is unfair and he hopes that Congress can come up with changes to help low-wage workers. He pointed out in reply to another query that if the budget cuts go into effect it will mean a loss of jobs and a loss of income which could lead to further deficits and a possible economic downturn.

He said the growing number of corporate and business political action committees means that the political situation is getting to the point "where people with money can buy government" and threaten the continuation of representative government.

In reply to a series of questions, Meany said the Administration's foreign policy is unclear and that the United States seems to be reacting to events rather than having a clear policy approach. He said he believed the United States recognized the new regime in Iran too quickly and that events in many areas of the world indicate that the Soviet Union is deeply involved, that the "master hand of Moscow" is showing.

Queried about council unanimity on criticism of President Carter, Meany said that the structure of the AFL-CIO leaves every single union in the federation free to "take any position that they want" contrary to the AFL-CIO. "A member of the AFL-CIO has a right to take an independent view of anything that we do. . . . It's a completely voluntary organization."

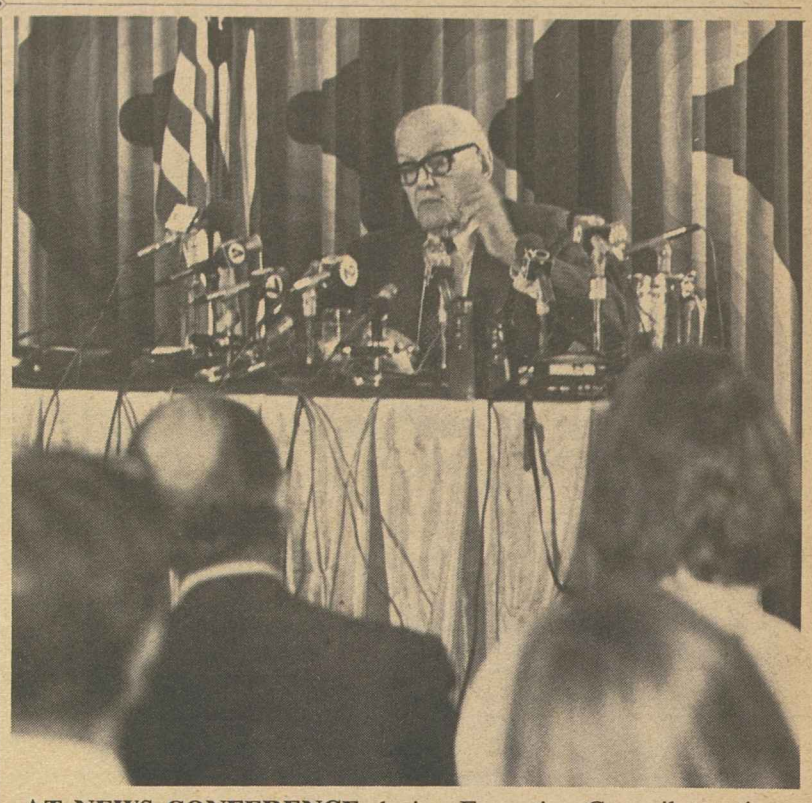
On council resolutions, Meany explained, sometimes there is dissent, sometimes there are questions raised, sometimes resolutions and statements are passed and a council member will ask to be recorded against the proposal. "We proceed, I would say, on what you might call a consensus basis."

During its opening sessions the council was addressed by Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Bob Hope on behalf of a new USO program; Nelson Cruikshank, presidential counselor on the aging, and a Nordic trade union delegation visiting the council sessions. The group included Presidents Gunnar Nilsson of the Swedish Trade Union Confederation, Tor Halvorsen of the Norwegian Federation of Trade Unions and Pekke Oivio of the Confederation of Finnish Trade Unions.

The council's proposals for anti-inflation programs, in addition to mandatory controls, include supplemental policies to deal with commodity speculation, exports of foodstuffs and raw materials; revision of restrictive agricultural policies; expanded energy supplies and continued regulation of gasoline and oil prices. They also call for measures to contain hospital costs, control and allocate credit and expand housing programs. There was a special call for an excess profits tax and revisions in the real wage insurance proposal.

Programs in the employment area include greater budget stimulus, expanded employment and training programs, improved and expanded unemployment compensation programs, a national development bank for depressed areas and stand-by programs of public works.

On trade programs, the council called for fair trade policies to assure realistic protection for U.S. industries and jobs, curtailment of speculation against the dollar by banks and multinational corporations, assessment of countervailing duties against imports receiving foreign subsidies, and improvement of trade adjustment assistance to help alleviate immediate hardships resulting from job losses due to imports.



AT NEWS CONFERENCE during Executive Council meeting, AFL-CIO President George Meany fields questions from reporters on labor's relations with the Carter Administration.

Labor Pledges to Fight Social Security Slashes

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The trade union movement will "vigorously oppose" the Carter Administration's proposal to cut back social security benefits and will continue to press for needed improvements.

An AFL-CIO Executive Council statement termed the cutback attempt "part of a budget philosophy which ignores human needs" and charged it would represent a breach of faith with America's workers.

The Administration has proposed to eliminate the social security death benefit, to reduce survivor and disability benefits for younger workers and their families, and payments to surviving children over 18 who are attending school full time, stop payments to widows under retirement age when their youngest child reaches 16 and cut social security benefits for workers also entitled to civil service pensions.

"Of particular concern," the council said, are proposals to "severely cut payments for future disabled beneficiaries." The disability program should be strengthened, not cut back, it urged. Specifically, the definition of disability for social security purposes should be made sufficiently flexible to take into account "the fact that older, disabled workers who lose their jobs have virtually no chance to obtain employment in a new occupation."

The Executive Council also urged:

- A cost-of-living adjustment every six months when the consumer price index has increased by 3 percent or more over that period. Present law allows only annual adjustments.
- Elimination of the monthly premium beneficiaries must pay for Medicare coverage.
- Medicare coverage for the disabled when monthly benefits begin, instead of the present 29-month waiting period.

The council said the AFL-CIO continues to urge partial funding of the system through general tax revenues to finance needed improvements and replace future tax rate increases.

"We emphatically oppose alternative sources of funding, such as sales or value-added taxes, which would bear heaviest on those least able to pay," the Executive Council said.

Proposed Budget Cuts Assailed as Disastrous

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The Administration is asking the nation to pay "too great a price" through the federal budget to achieve "a minuscule reduction in inflation," the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

The budget cuts at the expense of vital social programs will mean a reduction in the general standard of living for all Americans as well as "disaster" for retirees, the working poor, students, the unemployed and urban residents, the council said.

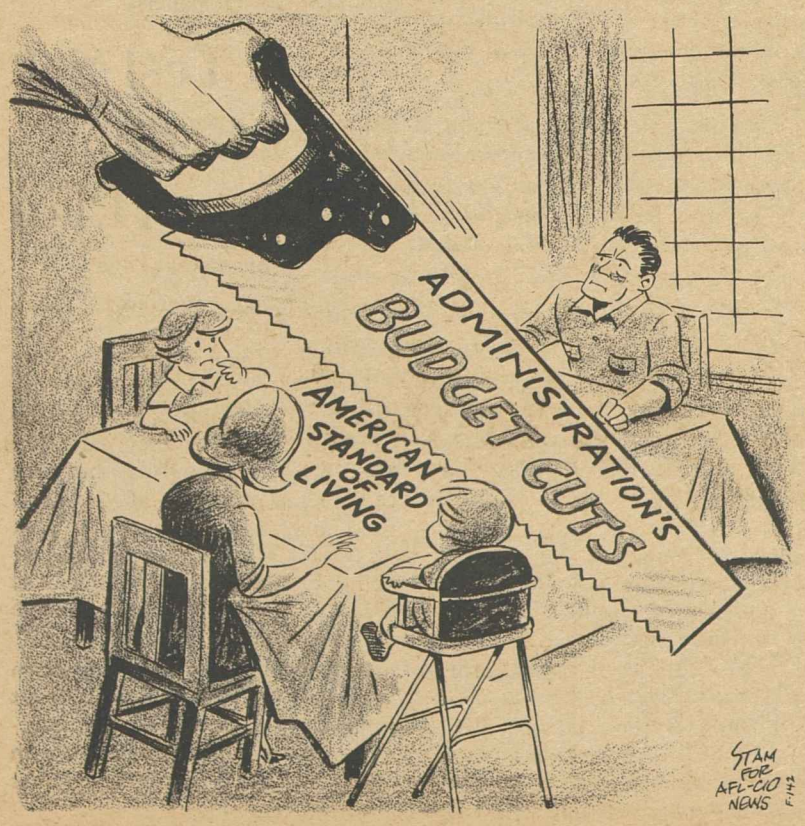
It added that in economic terms the budget cuts increase the risk of recession and are "illogical."

The statement pointed out that the proposed budget for fiscal year 1980 starting in October of this year is $12.6 billion less than is necessary simply to maintain current services. The cuts will barely affect the rate of inflation, the council noted.

The council emphasized that the "budget should be a commitment to the future of this country, not a testament to antiquated economic theories." It called on Congress to adopt a budget which reflects the nation's needs and to reject the notion that inflation must be fought through recession and rising unemployment. There must be a commitment to full employment, the eradication of poverty and investment in public programs and services, the council said.

It spelled out some of the adverse impact of budget cuts in specific areas in an addendum to its statement and said:

"Cutbacks in education weaken America's commitment to the future; cutbacks in social security break the government's word to retirees, widows, orphans and the disabled; cutbacks in jobs programs, particularly CETA, deny the unavoidable federal responsibility to make the unemployed taxpayers rather than tax users."



Pay Insurance Changes Asked

(Continued from Page 1)

"will deny businesses any advantage they receive from exceeding the Administration's profit-margin guideline."

The council added that "such a tax would provide added tax revenue needed to fund the RWI program" and would provide "more balance and equity to the Administration program by restraining profits as wages are restrained and prevent companies from padding cost increases with added profits."

The real wage insurance program is currently before the House Ways & Means Committee, which has completed hearings and is scheduled to act on the measure soon.

A Limited Protection

THE MAINTENANCE OF real income in a time of inflation is a natural objective of the labor movement. Unions properly seek "catch-up" wage increases to restore buying power lost because of inflation and cost-of-living clauses to protect against continuing inflation.

While we believe that workers are always best protected by free and unfettered collective bargaining, in the present economic circumstances we believe all Americans need the protection of a legislative program of full economic controls, covering all costs and all incomes. Against that background, nevertheless, we have examined the President's proposed "real wage insurance" program, which offers only limited protection to a limited number of workers under confusing and inequitable conditions.

Real wage insurance is a tool to enforce wage controls, not an incentive to encourage voluntary compliance. And no one-shot tax rebate proposal can correct the inherent inequities in the Administration's overall anti-inflation program. But the fact remains that some workers would receive some protection against continuing inflation by this tax rebate proposal.

The Administration seeks to hold workers to the rigid 7 percent wage guideline, but workers would be forced to pay uncontrolled price increases throughout the year before receiving any benefit under RWI. Therefore, we believe there must also be a tax-based program to insure business compliance with price guidelines.

THEREFORE, THE AFL-CIO urges Congress to enact an excess profits tax that will deny businesses any advantage they receive from exceeding the Administration's profit-margin guideline. Without this Fair Price Incentive Tax, violators would make excessive profits denied their competitors who comply with the profit-margin guideline.

The goal of such a tax should be to keep operating profit margins in line with base period levels. This should encourage corporations to increase profits through increased productivity, efficiency, output and sales, rather than through price and profit margin manipulation.

Such a tax would provide added tax revenue needed to fund the RWI program. It would also provide more balance and equity to the Administration program by restraining profits as wages are restrained and prevent companies from padding cost increases with added profits.

Enacting an excess profits tax would not, however, resolve all of the inequities in the RWI program. We believe the following changes should be made:

- Participation by smaller employers should be mandatory, not optional.
- All workers with incomes below the low-wage exemption cutoff should automatically be covered by RWI.
- Eligibility for RWI should be based on wage and salary increases alone.
- Any employee with a 1979 wage increase of less than 7 percent should automatically qualify for RWI.

This does not in any way imply our support for so-called voluntary wage guidelines, but rather demonstrates our recognition that there are groups of workers who might receive some benefit from the RWI program.

—Statement of the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Feb. 19, 1979, Bal Harbour, Fla.

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'I'm Here to Fix Things!'



Need to Increase Food Output:

Optimistic Averages Don't Feed Hunger Victims of Third World

By Gus Tyler

A DANGEROUS SMUGNESS is soothing us into insensitivity about world hunger. It is now fashionable among the pseudo-cognoscenti to praise the slower population growth around the planet and to cheer the big crops this year. The cool conclusion is that we are well on the way to the good life, with enough for all.

The optimism is based on a United Nations report that the world's population will grow by only 49 percent in the next 20 years. But this figure assumes that there will be a predictable decline in the fertility rate, a matter about which the UN has been rather predictably wrong up to now.

Challenging the UN forecast is a report of the Environmental Fund based on a study of the planet's population conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Says the fund: "Recently, much has been said about a decline in the world's population rate, from 2.0 to 1.8, or even 1.7 percent; these figures (U.S. Census) do not show any such decline."

Although the talk is about the average rate of population growth for the whole globe, the real problem arises in the poor countries of the world where three billion out of the planet's four billion people live—or try to live. In these underdeveloped lands there just is not enough food to support the exploding populations.

The pressures in these lands will increase. The projection is that by the year 2000, five billion out of the six billion people on the planet will be living in the poor lands.

Right now, the undernourished people in the poor lands eat the equivalent of one meal a day. But even that is too rosy a view of reality. These ill-fated people eat one meal a day "on the average," which "average" included the well-to-do who eat three or more meals a day with some of those meals double the "average" size meal. Living below the "average" on less than a meal a day are the great hordes of the poor in the poor lands.

Is there a solution for this seemingly insoluble problem? The answer lies in the poor countries and their potential to produce.

The uninformed reject this answer on the grounds that, at best, an all-out effort of the Third World to feed itself could only add insignificantly to their supplies. Yet, according to a study on World Food Prospects and Agricultural Potential, conducted by a team of four respected researchers, world output of food could be multiplied 20 times over by applying conventional techniques.

Putting available land to use would multiply output two and a half times; intelligent use of fertilizer and irrigation would triple the crop; employing high yield varieties of seed would double the harvest. All in all, output could be increased far faster than population.

Increasing agricultural output would also slow down population growth. The people who produce the most kids are the poor, because their progeny are the best cash crop now and their best social security system for the future. Economic security is the best method of birth control.

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Oil, Gas Decontrol Would Fuel Inflation

At a time when inflationary fires are burning full blast, it would be ill-advised and untimely for the Administration to initiate measures to remove ceilings from gasoline retail prices and to decontrol crude oil prices. Both of these steps, now under consideration by the Administration, would increase inflation and dampen economic activity.

By the Administration's own estimates, gasoline prices would rise about 4 cents per gallon if controls are lifted. . . . If the Iranian cutoff of oil continues and shortages develop, decontrolled gasoline retail prices would rise even more dramatically.

Decontrol of crude oil prices would have an even more devastating inflationary impact. If domestic crude oil prices were to rise to the world levels, the direct cost to American consumers would be about $14.5 billion per year.

Obviously, the economy would suffer from such an action, and consumers would bear the burden of the effects of decontrol. Only the oil companies would benefit.

We therefore urge the President not to decontrol gasoline and crude oil prices.

—AFL-CIO Executive Council statement, Feb. 20, 1979, Bal Harbour, Fla.

Too Great a Price:

Cuts in Social Program Seen Increasing Risk of Recession

Statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on the federal budget, Bal Harbour, Fla., Feb. 19, 1979.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S proposed budget cuts, made at the expense of vital social programs, are too great a price for the nation to pay in order to achieve a minuscule reduction in inflation. In fact, the cuts increase the risk of recession.

The proposed budget is $12.6 billion less than is necessary simply to maintain current services. This will result in a decline in governmental services which will mean a reduction in the standard of living.

The cuts are concentrated in programs designed to help retirees, the working poor, students, the unemployed and urban residents. In human terms, the proposed budget is a disaster; in economic terms, it is illogical.

According to Congressional Budget Office estimates, each $10 billion in budget cuts will reduce inflation by only one-tenth of one percent. Thus, in order to reach an arbitrary goal of bringing the deficit down to $29 billion, the Administration has proposed a budget which could well prove counterproductive.

Indeed, if the last Congress had not given the wealthy and corporations an unnecessary tax cut, more revenue would be available.

If a recession develops, these proposed budget cuts will actually lead to a larger budget deficit as a result of declining tax revenues and increased social costs.

In many programs, the budget would freeze or reduce spending—especially for domestic human services and aid to state and local governments—at a time when inflation is accelerating. This means that the government's buying power—like the buying power of workers—will be reduced.

We are especially troubled by the adverse impact the proposed budget would have on programs which directly affect people.

Cutbacks in education weaken America's commitment to the future; cutbacks in social security break the government's word to retirees, widows, orphans and the disabled; cutbacks in jobs programs, particularly CETA, deny the unavoidable federal responsibility to make the unemployed taxpayers rather than tax users.

Additionally, the budget proposes to continue the blatantly discriminatory practice of denying federal workers pay raises they have earned and are due under law. There can be no justification for demanding a greater sacrifice in the fight against inflation from the government's own employees than from any other group.

The AFL-CIO believes that the federal budget must embody more than tables of statistics, because it is through the budget process that the nation provides opportunity to those who have none, assistance to those in need, and services which enrich the quality of life for all. We believe the budget should be a commitment to the future of this country, not a testament to antiquated economic theories.

The Executive Council calls upon the Congress to adopt a budget which adequately and appropriately reflects the nation's needs. Those needs can not be calculated on a mathematical formula based on a declining percentage of the nation's GNP or by any other mechanical approach.

Congress must also reject the notion that inflation must be fought through recession and rising unemployment, and it must continue this nation's commitment to full employment, the eradication of poverty, and investment in public programs and services essential to progress.

Inequities Cited:

More Effective Steps Sought To Safeguard 'Real Wages'

THE CARTER Administration's real wage insurance plan is no substitute for a legislated program of economic controls that provide solid protection against continuing inflation, AFL-CIO Economist Arnold Cantor said on Labor News Conference.

Stressing the labor movement's determination to guard against the erosion of workers' real income, Cantor said that the wage insurance plan proposed by the Administration contains "confusing and inequitable conditions" and "provides only limited protection to only a limited number of workers."

Cantor said that the inflation situation is so severe and the alternatives so limited that a "legislated full program of fair and equitable controls on all forms of income, all costs and prices" is the only effective route to follow.

Turning to the issue of a balanced budget, the federation's assistant research director said that the AFL-CIO agrees with the desirability of the concept, but that it is a mistake to put a "rigid and arbitrary time standard on it." He said that the real issue is, "how do you balance the budget, and when is it appropriate to have a balanced budget?"

The best approach to balancing the budget, he said, is to move to a full employment economy.

"A key way that you can get and maintain full employment is to have the government using appropriate taxing and spending powers—its fiscal policies, as well as its monetary policies," he declared. But, he noted, "If you are stuck with a legal requirement to balance the budget," that would, in effect, repeal the Employment Act of 1946 and the Humphrey-Hawkins Act adopted by Congress last year. He said that "tieing the government's hands" would leave "the door wide open to wild swings in business cycles—ups and downs."

Recalling the deep recession during the Nixon and Ford Administrations which helped create large budget deficits, Cantor said that that economic downturn could have developed into a full-blown depression if it were not for the emergency tax cut in 1975 and the forced release of presidentially impounded funds.

He warned that attempts to balance the budget by cutting back federal grants-in-aid to cities and states for needed public construction and social program would simply pass the burden on to those jurisdictions. And if the states and cities don't make up for lost revenues through increased taxes, people will have do without many essential services, he noted.

Cantor said he disagrees with the Carter Administration's scenario that by balancing the budget the inflation rate can be reduced and a recession avoided.

"The whole notion of federal deficits and fighting inflation depends on the kind of inflation that you have," he observed. "If you have the kind of inflation that means just too much demand—too many dollars around—then budget balances might be in order."

But today's inflation stems from selective problems, Cantor said, such as the weather, foreign oil prices, medical costs and the flood of imports—"all of which are things that have nothing to do with excess demand, or consumers having too much money."

Reporters questioning Cantor on Labor News Conference were Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post and Owen Ullmann of the Associated Press. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and is broadcast weekly on Mutual radio.



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THERE PROBABLY is nothing more shocking than the sudden death of the family breadwinner. When the family is poor, the loss is even more devastating because burial expenses wipe out meager savings.

While most people today can cushion their families through union or employer group insurance policies, millions of poor families remain especially vulnerable.

The plight of the poor was illuminated recently by two developments.

In one, a staff report by the Federal Trade Commission said that poor and minority consumers who buy "industrial" life insurance are spending their money on expensive policies of little value.

In the other case, the Carter Administration proposed to eliminate the lump-sum death benefit of $255 now payable to survivors of social security beneficiaries.

As the FTC staff report observes, the term "industrial" insurance got its name from 19th Century England. It was designed for mill and factory workers, who paid premiums to salesmen making weekly door-to-door collections. "Industrial" insurance still usually means weekly premiums.

The FTC study said the "Big Three" insurance companies—Metropolitan Life, Prudential and John Hancock—built their fortunes on "industrial" policies although they and other companies have long since shifted to monthly debit ordinary or MDOs. Nevertheless, the Big Three as of 1974 still had nearly $10 billion in industrial policies still in force.

Who buys these policies? The FTC staff report cited industry-funded findings that the core market consists of families within the $3,000 to $10,000 household income range, with sales also to families under $3,000 income.

THE FTC STUDY FOUND that debit policyholders are heavily concentrated among low-income people. The $3,000 to $10,000 income range consists of 14.8 million families. If they owned all the policies in force, it would mean an average of seven policies per family.

The report found many abuses, including "overloading." One elderly Tennessee woman reportedly spent $99.85 of her monthly $177.89 income on 30 life and health policies.

The National Consumers League, reacting to the FTC findings, called on the life insurance industry to stop selling "industrial" life insurance. The poor are least able to afford such wasteful policies and yet they are the chief targets of a billion-dollar industry, NCL declared. It said the FTC must go further than merely suggesting options for state insurance commissioners since the states have failed to regulate insurance practices.

But in proposing to end the $255 death benefit under social security, the Administration will be adding to the burdens of the poor in its efforts to trim the federal deficit.

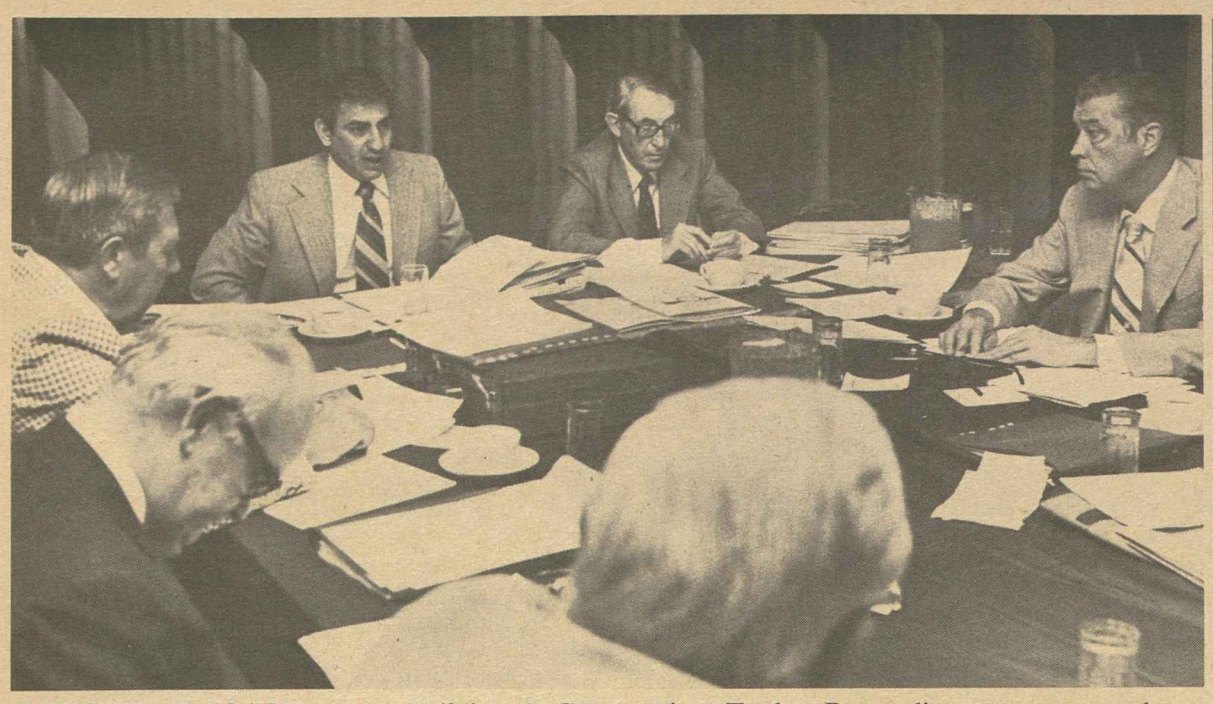
According to former Social Security Administrator Robert M. Ball, ending the lump-sum death benefit "will give a boost to the least cost-effective branch of private life insurance—industrial insurance, sometimes called 'debit' insurance." This form of burial insurance returns less than 50 cents of benefits for every dollar of premiums, he noted.

Former HEW Sec. Wilbur Cohen charged the Administration with "unsound" reasoning. The fact that the lump-sum death benefit of $255 is inadequate "is no excuse for eliminating it," he told Congress. To propose a welfare means test as a substitute is to misunderstand the earned-right principle of social insurance, he declared.

Nelson Cruikshank, counselor to the President on aging, told Congress that "to many poor families, this benefit makes possible a decent burial and means a great deal to millions of such families."



BETTER PROTECTION for the real income of workers would be found in legislated controls than in the wage insurance plan shaped by the Carter Administration, AFL-CIO economist Arnold Cantor, center, declared on Labor News Conference. Cantor, who is assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research, was questioned by Owen Ullmann, left, of the Associated Press and Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post.



EXECUTIVE BOARD of the Building & Construction Trades Dept. discusses a stepped-up nationwide organizing effort and a legislative agenda for Congress during its meeting in Bal Harbour, Fla. At the head of the table are BCTD President Robert A. Georgine, left, and the department's legal counsel, Thomas X. Dunn.

High Court to Review Benzene Hazard Ruling

The Supreme Court has agreed to review an appellate court decision that struck down a federal occupational health standard reducing worker exposure to cancer-causing benzene.

The decision to grant petitions filed by the Labor Dept. and the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. means that for the first time an Occupational Safety & Health Administration standard will come before the high court.

The petitions pointed out that the ruling by the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals vacating the benzene regulation conflicts with earlier appellate court decisions upholding federal exposure standards on asbestos, vinyl chloride and coke oven emissions.

Unless the justices reverse the ruling, other OSHA standards regulating carcinogens in the workplace could be jeopardized.

George H. R. Taylor, AFL-CIO job safety director, also warned that an unfavorable decision by the high court could affect OSHA's rulemaking process in the development of future standards.

In vacating the benzene standard, the circuit court held that the Secretary of Labor did not fully show the relationship between benefits to workers' health and the cost of compliance for employers.

But Atty. George Cohen, who is representing the IUD before the Supreme Court, said the federal job safety law does not require OSHA to provide a cost-benefit analysis in the development of standards.

The IUD petition points out that the law directs the Secretary of Labor to set the best feasible standards on toxic materials to assure that the health of workers is not jeopardized by exposure to the substances for their entire working life.

The petition also questions the circuit court's interpretation of what Congress intended in directing OSHA to promulgate effective safety and health standards.

The benzene regulation, which was challenged in the circuit court by the American Petroleum Institute and other employer groups, was to have become effective last March. It would have lowered workplace concentrations to one part benzene per 1 million parts air (1 ppm) over an eight-hour shift from the existing exposure limit of 10 ppm.

OSHA estimates that about 600,000 American workers—particularly in the rubber, chemical and plastics industries—are exposed to high levels of benzene on the job. As a carcinogen, OSHA said, there is no known safe level of exposure to benzene a known cause of leukemia and other serious blood disorders.

R-T-W Vetoed By Gov. King In New Mexico

(Continued from Page 1)

nial target of the National Right to Work Committee and this year conservative gains in the legislature gave the anti-union bill a 22-19 victory in the Senate in January and 40-30 approval in the House on Feb. 20.

But the bill's fate had in effect been decided in the gubernatorial campaign when King beat a Republican aligned with the "right-to-work" lobby.

Neal Gonzales, executive secretary-treasurer of the New Mexico AFL-CIO, welcomed the veto and expressed the belief that it will kill the attempt to ban the union shop for the immediate future.

Supporters of a "work" law clearly can't muster the two-thirds majority needed to override the veto, and Gonzales told the AFL-CIO News that he didn't think the legislature would seek to impose "right-to-work" through a constitutional amendment which would have to be approved in a statewide referendum.

The last state to seek referendum approval of a union shop ban was Missouri, where the proposed constitutional amendment was soundly beaten last November.

In Maryland, a "right-to-work" proposal was considered by the state's Economic Matters Committee—and promptly rejected by a decisive 6-2 vote. The committee vote in effect kills the measure for this session of the legislature.

State-County Names Women's Coordinator

President Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees has named Suone Cotner to the newly-created position of AFSCME Coordinator of Women's Activities.

Cotner will direct the union's involvement in social, political, and legislative issues concerning women and provide information and assistance to AFSCME councils and locals on the problems of working women.

New Push Set For Reform Of Hatch Act

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Reform and liberalization of the Hatch Act is a top legislative priority for the Public Employee Dept. in the 96th Congress, the department's executive board said.

The board adopted a resolution noting that in June 1976 the House approved legislation lifting current Hatch Act restrictions by a vote of 244 to 164 but that a threatened filibuster prevented the Senate from completing action.

The board resolution said that Hatch Act reform is critical because it involves the "freedom of federal and postal service workers to fully express their political views and support candidates of their choice."

In other statements, the PED board reaffirmed its position opposing mandatory social security coverage for public employees and endorsed a national campaign for reform of state and local taxes.

Victims Demonstrate:

Strong Curb Sought On Cotton Dust Peril

The Clothing & Textile Workers Union is pressing for a stronger federal cotton dust standard to better protect the nation's 500,000 textile and cotton processing workers from contracting disabling brown lung disease.

The need for an improved standard was expressed in a demonstration at the Labor Dept. by 40 brown lung victims who were brought to Washington by ACTWU and the Carolina Brown Lung Association. The union said that participants in the protest had lost 50 to 70 percent of their breathing capacity because of exposure to cotton dust on the job.

The demonstration coincided with the presentation of oral arguments by union attorneys before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia calling on the court to remand the standard to the Secretary of Labor for improvements.

Immediately after the Occupational Safety & Health Administration issued the standard last June, ACTWU, the AFL-CIO and its Industrial Union Dept. petitioned the appellate court for a review.

The court challenge focuses on OSHA's failure to reduce cotton dust exposure limits to a safe level and on the four-year delay given employers to reduce dust levels through engineering controls and work practices.

The standard sets graduated exposure limits in various sectors of the industry. It calls for a limit of 200 micrograms of cotton dust per cubic meter of air in yarn manufacturing; 500 micrograms in cotton waste processing, cotton seed oil and warehousing, and 750 micrograms in slashing and weaving. But the standard has no exposure limits for cotton ginning and harvesting or for the manufacture of garments from cotton fabric.

At OSHA hearings prior to the issuance of the standard, unions testified that the industry was capable of lowering the exposure limit to a safer 100-microgram level.

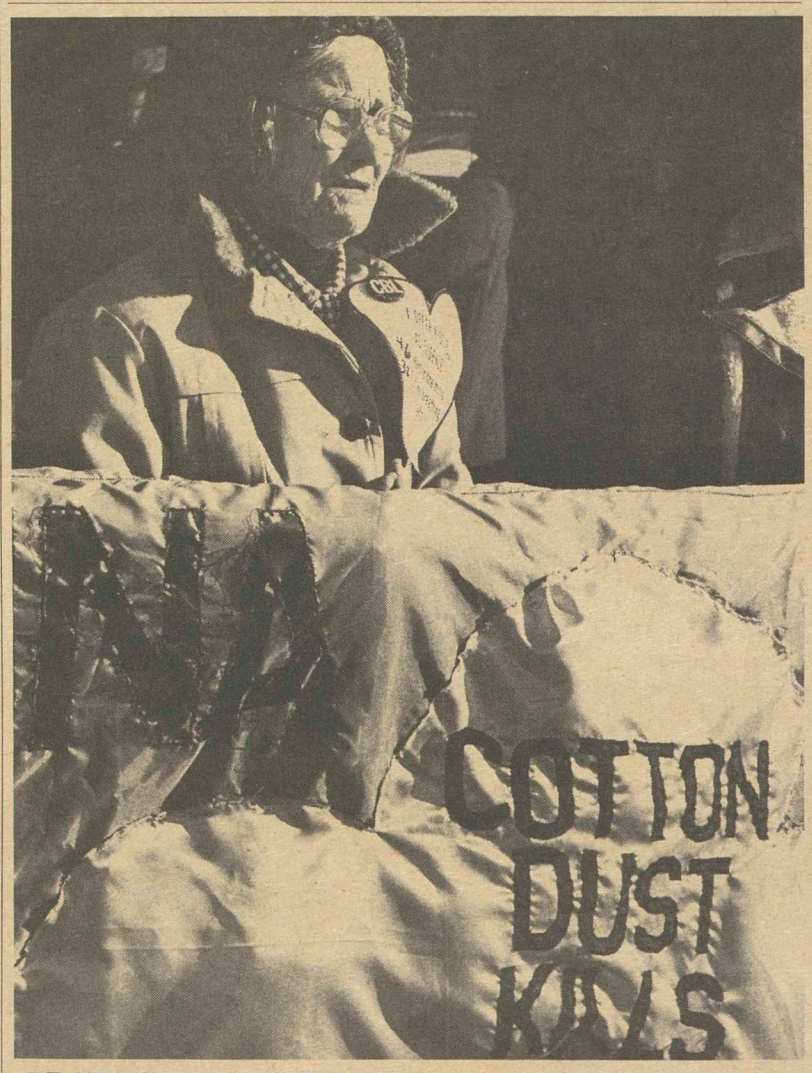
George Perkel, ACTWU job safety and health director, said in addressing the rally at the Labor Dept. that OSHA's decision allowing employers to delay implementation of engineering controls is unconscionable.

"The technology for reducing the dust to safe levels is available," Perkel stressed. "The only reason that immediate compliance is not universally achievable is that many companies have neglected — through all the years that the brown lung hazard has been known —to make use of the dust control technology."

He charged that "industry is being rewarded for its past dereliction by a grant of four more years of delay."

Labor has been fighting for a strong cotton dust standard since the early 1970s. ACTWU has contended that the standard was bottled up during the Nixon Administration because of politics and that it was subsequently watered down in the Carter Administration by the Council on Wage & Price Stability in the name of combatting inflation.

The standard was scheduled to become effective last fall, but the appellate court granted employers a stay pending judicial review.



BROWN LUNG VICTIM demonstrates outside the Labor Dept. for a stronger cotton dust standard. A card on her lapel indicates she has only 32 percent lung capacity after inhaling high levels of cotton dust during her 46 years' work in the mills. She was among 40 brown lung victims participating in a demonstration sponsored by the Clothing & Textile Workers and the Carolina Brown Lung Association.

Savings Cited In Outpatient, Nursing Care

Bal Harbour, Fla. — Medicare and Medicaid laws and regulations should be liberalized to allow alternatives to hospital care as a means of lowering costs and tailoring services to patients' needs, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

The council also recommended that affiliated unions consider negotiating for inclusion of home health services, outpatient surgery and hospice services as benefits under collectively-bargained health programs.

Hospitalizing patients is expensive, the council pointed out, and it is conservatively estimated that a quarter of all hospitalized patients could be treated as well or better on an outpatient basis. While outpatient clinics and nursing homes have been used, other alternatives are available or can be developed, the statement said.

The major reason they are not growing is that home health services, surgicenters and hospices are not generally covered by private health insurance programs. The application under Medicare and Medicaid has been narrow and inflexible, the statement said.

AFTRA Director Jerry Walter Dies

Sausalito, Calif.—Services were held here Feb. 13 for Jerry Walter, an actor and member of the Television & Radio Artists board of directors.

Walter died of a heart attack at his home here on Feb. 10.

He began his acting career as a child actor, later playing in radio and TV shows.

Council Cites Wide Impact:

Support Pledged Steel Union In Virginia Shipyard Dispute

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO pledged its solid support of the Steelworkers' strike against the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Drydock Co., and asked its affiliated unions to "provide whatever assistance may be necessary and legally permissible until the strike is won."

"The strike at Newport News is of such a dimension and of such basic importance that it must concern every union member and potential union member throughout the nation," the Executive Council said in a statement at its winter meeting here.

As the strike went into its fourth week, there were these other developments:

● The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond began hearing oral arguments in the company's challenge of the union-representation election won by the Steelworkers over a year ago. The huge shipyard, owned by Tenneco, Inc., has vowed not to recognize the union pending the outcome of its appeal.

● Police harassment and intimidation of union picket lines continued unabated, resulting in further arrests. A total of 42 Steelworkers have been arrested since the strike began on Jan. 31. Those arrested have been charged with violating Virginia's so-called right-to-work law and with various minor offenses. Strike Coordinator Jack Hower said that pickets are being picked on for trivial reasons, such as pointing their finger at scabs, failing to keep their hands in their pockets, or merely mentioning the word "scab."

● USWA President Lloyd McBride announced that the union had sent Local 8888 its first weekly defense fund check to aid striking members. The check for $396,330 will be used to provide relief for the thousands of Steelworkers who left their jobs in the union-recognition strike. McBride said that strike benefits would continue until the strike is won.

The shipyard, dubbed the "J. P. Stevens of the shipbuilding industry" for its consistent violations of worker rights, has charged that irregularities occurred in the Jan. 31, 1978, election that gave the USWA bargaining rights for the firm's 17,000 production and maintenance workers.

After nine months of painstaking investigation, however, the National Labor Relations Board dismissed the company's complaints, and ordered it to bargain with the union. Instead, the company filed an appeal with the 4th Circuit Court.

The court pleadings, which got under way on Feb. 22, were expected to take at least a week.

Meanwhile, at a press conference in conjunction with the AFL-CIO's meeting here, McBride declared that "the tactics and attitude of the company are further evidence of why labor law reform is so badly needed in this country."

He said that the struggle at Newport News is "a throwback to the early days of the Steelworkers . . . when police intimidation and harassment were the hallmarks of the companies' bitter resistance to organization."

In endorsing the strike, the Executive Council said that "it is clear that the company has sought to follow the examples of the notorious J. P. Stevens textile corporation—a stubborn refusal to comply with the letter or the spirit of the federal labor law—in the hope that the union will somehow die on the vine of frustration and abandoned hopes."

"The Steelworkers and the AFL-CIO are determined that that will not happen," the council declared. The company—one of the largest industrial units in the South and the entire nation—has become a symbol of fierce, unrelenting, and unscrupulous resistance to the legal right of workers to belong to a union free of company domination, the council said.



HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE from Israel's Tel Aviv University was awarded AFL-CIO President George Meany during the federation's winter meeting at Bal Harbour, Fla., in recognition of his "unreserved and unswerving support" of human rights and for his backing of the Jewish people in their struggle for nationhood. Haim Ben-Shahar, president of the university, made the presentation.

Studies Center Program Awards Degrees to 3

Three more trade union leaders have graduated with degrees of Bachelor of Arts in Labor Studies at the George Meany Center in Silver Spring, Md. The center's college degree program is operated with Antioch University, a pioneer in non-traditional education. So far, 12 trade unionists have earned their degrees in the program since its start in 1974.

The most recent graduates are:

● Fred Dingledy of Anchorage, Alaska, a member of Local 3028 of the Government Employees. An air traffic controller, Dingledy entered the degree program in 1976 bringing with him credits from the University of Alaska.

● Bobby R. Stinnett of Sevierville, Tenn., a member of Local 268 of the Office & Professional Employees. Stinnett, a classification specialist for the Tennessee Valley Authority at Knoxville, had studied previously at the University of Tennessee.

● Bernard Winstock of Brooklyn, N.Y., government representative for the Marine Engineers, who came into the program in 1976 bringing credits from St. John's University and the U.S. Maritime Service Institute.

All three received their diplomas at recent ceremonies on the George Meany campus led by Russell Allen, an Antioch professor and deputy director of the Labor Studies Center.

Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to the AFL-CIO President, congratulated the graduates and told them that in addition to technical skills enhanced through classroom training, they must rely on their experience as trade unionists to react properly in trade union situations.

Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., the center's executive director, voiced his pride in what the graduates had accomplished, earning 180 academic credits including 60 credits in labor studies.

Most work in the college degree program is done by the students at home. Twice a year they are required to spend a week at the Silver Spring campus where they attend classes, meet with instructors and plan their courses for the next six months. Most bring with them some previously earned college credits. They also receive credits toward their degree for their union work experience.

The program, which currently has 90 students enrolled, is open to all officers, representatives and staff members of AFL-CIO affiliates. More information may be obtained by writing to College Degree Program, George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, Md. 20903.



ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY diplomas earned by three graduates of the college degree program of George Meany Center for Labor Studies are admired by the center's executive director, Fred K. Hoehler. From left are Fred Dingledy of the Government Employees, Bobby Stinnett of the Office & Professional Employees, Hoehler, and Bernard Winstock of the Marine Engineers.

U.S. Urged to Reaffirm Commitment to Israel

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The survival and freedom and security of Israel should be reaffirmed strongly by the Carter Administration as the key to American policy in the Middle East, AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

He told an audience that witnessed his acceptance of an honorary doctorate awarded by Tel Aviv University that there are no alternatives to the settlement of Middle East problems at the bargaining table and that the United States must play the role of "honest broker" to achieve a settlement without determining any of the concessions to be made by either side.

In accepting the degree from Prof. Haim Ben-Shahar, president of the university, Meany pledged that the American labor movement will never abandon Israel. "In good times and in bad we stand by our friends, and Israel is our friend," he declared.

The degree citation and scroll spoke of Meany's "unusually broad humanism, a love of and respect for his fellow men of all races, creeds and colors, which he has demonstrated again and again in public struggle for equal rights for members of all groups and for human rights in general and in recognition of an unbroken, unreserved and unswerving support of the ideals and hopes of the Jewish people in their struggle to attain national emancipation."

The degree presentation ceremony was chaired by Ladies' Garment Workers President Sol C. Chaikin, an AFL-CIO vice president.

Backpay Funds Shared By Winn-Dixie Victims

Albuquerque, N.M. — Some 150 members and former members of the Retail Clerks will share a $150,788 settlement from the Winn-Dixie food chain stemming from the union's 14-month strike against the company.

RCIU President William H. Wynn said that the settlement "closes out the last sordid chapter of Winn-Dixie's anti-union and anti-people campaign in New Mexico."

Wynn, who described the settlement as the largest in the union's history, added that it is also unique because Winn-Dixie "virtually fled from New Mexico, selling off 23 of its stores rather than sign a contract" with RCIU.

At a press conference at the union's Albuquerque headquarters, President Hector Martinez of RCIU Local 1564 said that payments will range from amounts of less than $100 to a high of $9,000 to one worker, Veronica Medina. Medina will receive the largest amount because Winn-Dixie refused to arbitrate her dismissal under terms of the union contract.

Most of the other payments relate to the company's failure to pay correct wage rates and settlement of other grievances filed by workers because Winn-Dixie failed to comply with the union contract.

"There is a silver lining to this blot on 25 years of peaceful labor-management relations in New Mexico," Martinez declared. "While our union was forced into this strike by the lawlessness of Winn-Dixie, our members did well in the final analysis.

"Winn-Dixie fled New Mexico and sold off its stores, but it sold them to an employer, Smith's Food King, who was willing to recognize the human rights of his employees. The strikers are back at work under good conditions, and our local union is growing and our members are prospering."

The union's boycott against Winn-Dixie continues in 13 other states, meanwhile, with picketing still in progress.

The boycott was resorted to only after the company — the largest food retailer in the South — had compiled a flagrant record of illegal anti-union actions dating back to the 1950s, undeterred by a dozen adverse National Labor Relations Board decisions and seven appellate court rulings.



Keyed to Conservation, Development:

Even-Handed Policy On Energy Pressed

Bal Harbour, Fla. — A fair, realistic and effective conservation program is urgently needed in face of the immediate threat of gasoline shortages, the AFL-CIO declared.

The conservation program must be coupled with programs for developing domestic energy supplies and protecting the economy from the effects of decontrol of gasoline and crude oil prices, the federation's Executive Council said.

Recent developments in Iran "demonstrate that America is still too dependent for a critical portion of its energy supplies on unsure foreign sources," the council statement said.

Noting that the Administration is currently considering decontrol of gasoline and crude oil prices, the council said such action "would increase inflation and dampen economic activity."

Each one-cent increase in the price of a gallon of gasoline would cost American consumers about $1 billion a year, the statement pointed out. If domestic crude oil prices were to rise to world levels, the direct cost to American consumers would be about $14.5 billion per year.

Citing the continuing oil price increases by the OPEC nations and the willingness of U.S. oil companies to cooperate in these "price increase schemes," the council called on the government to establish an energy import board with sole authority to determine the level of U.S. imports and to allocate imports and "to take any other steps necessary to end the stranglehold" of the OPEC nations.

There is an urgent need also to develop all alternate sources of energy, the council said, and the two sources of greatest significance in the short run are coal and nuclear power.

"The accelerated development of nuclear power and coal must be realized while protecting the environment and maintaining stringent safety and health standards," the council declared. It urged expediting the licensing of nuclear reactors and the establishment of safe federal repositories for nuclear waste.

The council warned that private industry cannot or will not develop the alternative energy sources needed by the country and called for an energy independence authority that would "launch projects for the production and distribution of energy patterned after the TVA concept."

On conservation, it warned that any attempt to ration gasoline by raising prices either directly or indirectly "is inherently unfair and will not work." It called on the Dept. of Energy to meet with consumer and labor groups in working out any programs.

Student Group Backs Shipyard Strikers

The Steelworkers' strike at the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Drydock Co. received the backing of the College Democrats of America at its biennial convention.

In a resolution, the organization pledged its solidarity with the workers who are attempting to negotiate a contract with the firm, owned by Tenneco, Inc.



NEWLY-ELECTED executive secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept., Jean Ingrao, is congratulated by President Paul Hall after the meeting of the department's executive board. She is the first woman to serve as secretary-treasurer of an AFL-CIO constitutional department.

Legislative Goals Set By Maritime Trades

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The Maritime Trades Dept. set a series of legislative goals for the 96th Congress, warning that enactment would be difficult but necessary for the trade union movement.

The department's executive board adopted a legislative report that called for opposition to the export of Alaska oil, closing the loophole in the Jones Act on Virgin Islands shipping, participation of U.S.-flag vessels in trade with China, use of U.S. vessels and processing facilities in ocean mining, full protection for service industries in trade negotiations and encouragement of permanent policies regarding liquid natural gas imports.

The sessions, presided over by MTD President Paul Hall, adopted a series of resolutions on trade, shipbuilding, nuclear plant siting, refinery incentive programs, fire protection for waterborne shipping, occupational health and safety, air emission standards, importing of foreign beers and wines, the domestic television tube industry and a number of other issues.

The board unanimously elected Jean Ingrao, who has been serving as administrator of the department, as executive secretary-treasurer. Hall recommended her to fill the vacancy in the office and the recommendation was strongly supported. She is the first woman to serve as secretary-treasurer of an AFL-CIO constitutional department.

The meeting heard a report on department activities from Ingrao and David Dolgen, director of legislative and political activities, and was briefed on the new Congress by Kenneth Young, AFL-CIO legislative director, on economic trends by Rudy Oswald, AFL-CIO research director, and on organizing problems by Alan Kistler, AFL-CIO organizing director.

Senate Adopts Tighter Rule On Filibusters

(Continued from Page 1)

to limit debate. Thus the rules change would not have helped labor law reform reach a vote last year since only 58 senators voted for cloture. But if cloture had been voted, the new rule would have blocked the announced intent of opponents of the bill to delay action indefinitely by calling up hundreds of amendments.

Byrd had originally proposed a broader rules change which would have flatly prohibited a filibuster on a motion to call up a bill to the Senate floor and would have nullified an assortment of other delaying tactics. It also would have enabled 60 senators to reduce the 100-hour time limit on post-cloture debate.

He sought initially to bring his entire motion to a vote by invoking the constitutional right of the Senate to adopt rules by majority vote at the start of a new Congress without being bound by a provision of the old rules requiring a two-thirds vote to amend them.

The AFL-CIO strongly supported this approach, and the federation's state and local central bodies urged their home-state senators to support Byrd.

To keep the constitutional approach open, the Senate leadership kept the legislative clock at Jan. 15, 1979, the date the 96th Congress convened, and refused to allow any intervening business to be transacted. Meanwhile, Byrd negotiated with the Senate's Republican leadership for a bipartisan agreement on a rules change.

As the rules debate continued off-and-on, it became evident that Byrd could not command the 51 votes to proceed under the constitutional theory that has been repeatedly raised in the Senate but never fully put to a test.

Republican leaders were willing to support Byrd's trimmed down post-cloture rules proposals provided they first had an opportunity to seek modifications through amendments. A unanimous consent agreement assured a vote on that portion of Byrd's resolution, and only minor changes were made before it was finally adopted by a 78-16 vote.

Byrd then adjourned the Senate on the legislative day of Jan. 15, and reconvened it one second later with the clock jumped to Feb. 22. The remainder of his rules change proposal was left on the Senate calendar, with a tacit understanding that it would not be taken up and with a concession that it would require a two-thirds vote to bring to the floor and another two-thirds vote to act on it.

Fired Trade Unionist Fights Utility's Double Standard of Public Service

Albuquerque, N.M.—Two employees of the Public Service Co. of New Mexico were elected to the state legislature.

One, from management, elected as a Republican, got a 60-day leave of absence with full pay for the legislative session. The other, a trade unionist elected as a Democrat, got fired for absenteeism.

That double standard drew a sharp response from New Mexico trade unionists, who say the Public Service Co. has a strange attitude toward real public service.

Ron Gentry, a member of Local 611 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, was discharged by the electric utility when he began a 60-day term in the current session of the legislature as a Democratic representative in the House.

The company said Gentry was fired because of "an unauthorized absence" from his job as a lineman. Gentry had sought but was denied a leave of absence without pay to serve in the legislature.

Meanwhile, John Padovan, a management employee of the company who also had been elected to the House as a Republican representative, was granted a leave of absence for the full 60 days of the session.

"Speaking of a double standard," said New Mexico AFL-CIO Executive Sec.-Treas. Neal Gonzalez, "not only had Padovan been granted a leave, but he's also getting full company pay during the entire session."

The state labor federation is assisting Gentry and his local in paying legal fees and is raising additional funds to cover future court costs, Gonzalez noted.

The utility company had begun pressuring Gentry even before he was elected last November.

"Nine days before the election," Gentry recalled, "I received a letter saying the company policy was an employee would not be granted a leave of absence if it endangered the productivity of PNM."

When the company continued its threat of firing, Gentry and his local obtained a temporary restraining order in mid-January from the state district court. The company subsequently had the order lifted by a federal district court on Jan. 26. Three days later, Gentry was fired from the job he has held for the past nine years.

Local 611 has initiated grievance action under terms of the IBEW contract with the company, but the company has refused to respond, insisting it was "management's prerogative" to discharge an employee for "unauthorized absence."

Gentry said the company's action stems largely from his outspoken criticism of utility rate increases and of the adverse impact rate hikes would have on families of low and fixed incomes.

In effect, Gentry said, the company was trying to "squelch" him because he had promised to work for legislation restricting utility rate increases.

Although the utility rate legislation has not yet come before the legislature, a measure has been introduced in the House censuring any employer who would illegally fire a worker for active participation in the legislative process.

Other groups are also beginning to question the company's double standard in the treatment of employees.

A writer for the Albuquerque Journal observed in a recent column, "No matter what the outcome (of Gentry's case), the inconsistency of PNM's action concerning two freshman legislators—one white collar, one blue collar — doesn't help the company's image."

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4th Quarter GNP Rise Tops Earlier Estimate

The economy expanded in the final three months of 1978 even faster than was first reported, the government said.

Revised figures from the Commerce Dept. show that real gross national product—the value of the country's goods and services adjusted for inflation—increased at an annual rate of 6.4 percent in the fourth quarter.

A month ago, in a preliminary report, the department said that the growth rate in the October-December period was 6.1 percent. The fourth-quarter inflation rate of 8.1 percent was unchanged in the new report.

Whether the higher growth rate can be sustained is seriously questioned by many economists. Industrial production, consumer spending, and housing construction were sluggish last month after posting sharp gains throughout 1978.

The Carter Administration predicts that the economy will grow 2.2 percent in 1979. Chairman G. William Miller of the Federal Reserve Board, however, forecasts a much weaker growth rate of between 1.75 and 2.25 percent.

Council Campaign Targets Union-Busting Consultants

AFL-CIO News

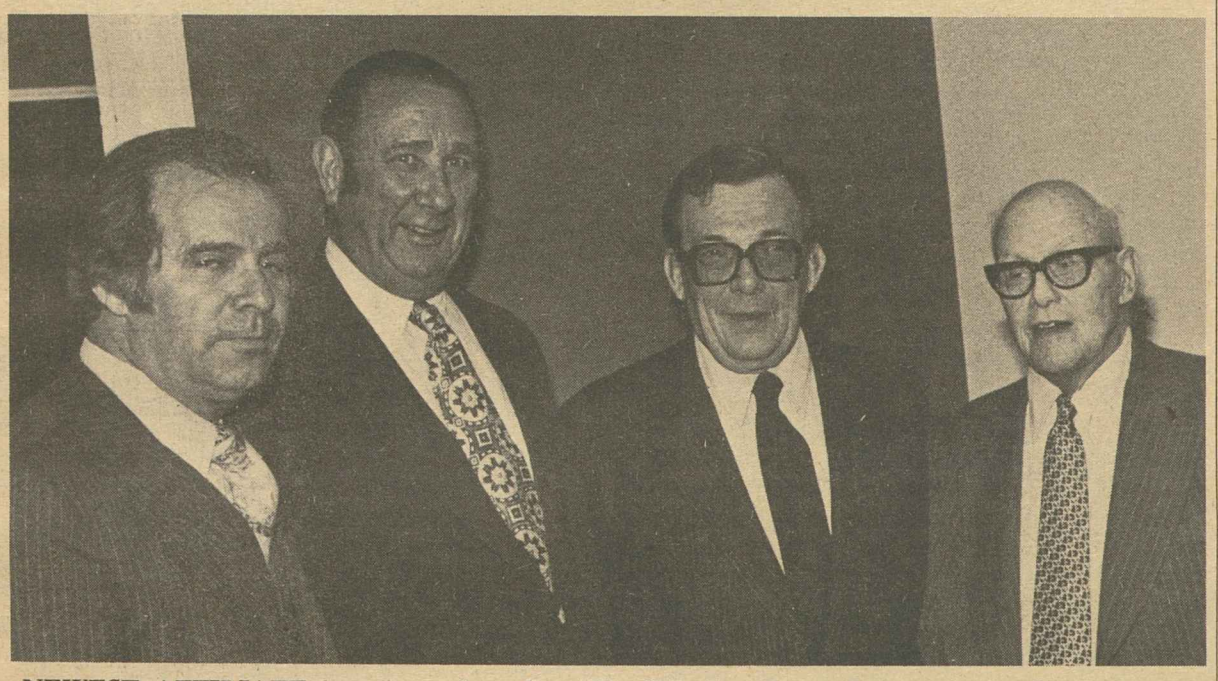
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NEWEST AFFILIATE is welcomed to the AFL-CIO. Sec.-Treas. Robert G. Gordon, left, and President Edward J. Kiernan of the International Union of Police Associations are shown with AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and President George Meany after the federation's Executive Council voted to charter the 60,000-member union.

Moves to Counter Anti-Labor Forces

By Saul Miller

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO marshalled its resources to do battle with the increasing number of labor-management "consultants" who are undermining free collective bargaining.

The Executive Council heard a detailed report on the "growth industry" of union-busting and unanimously approved a statement calling on all affiliates to help expose and counter the activities of the "consultants."

AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters the modern-day consultants are a throwback to the Burns and Pinkerton strike-breaking agencies of earlier years and are making "a real science" of preventing unions from being formed and winning elections. "It's the same challenge in a different form," he said.

Meany pointed out that the consultant approach is "a lucrative business" and that corporations are willing to pay "handsomely" to keep unions out, adding, "we've got to counteract that."

The statement on labor-management consultants was adopted in the final days of the six-day mid-winter meeting of the council here. The opening days dealt with the rising threat of recession, the Administration's budget-cutting policies and the need to combat inflation on a fair and equitable basis.

The council adopted 43 statements at its sessions and heard a number of reports. In the trade union area, the statements dealt with amending the National Labor Relations Act, the struggle with the right-to-work forces, the growth of corporate power, the need to preserve the protections of the Davis-Bacon Act and to retain manpower training programs, revision of the Hatch Act, the Farm Workers' strike in the lettuce fields, maritime industry problems, revision of the Communications Act, surface transportation deregulation proposals, and a consumer boycott of Faberge.

The council expressed grave concerns over current trade negotiations and legislation, opposed export of Alaskan oil, called for more information on SALT II provisions, asked more aid for Indochinese refugees, better job protection for Panama Canal Zone workers and assailed Soviet treatment of Mstivlav Rostropovich's sister in the Moscow Philharmonic.

In statements dealing with national affairs the council spelled out its positions on new health insurance legislation, unemployment and workers' compensation, welfare reform, hospital cost containment, housing, a national development bank, farm programs, bank profits, support for the National Council of Senior Citizens, and passage of the equal rights and D.C. representation amendments to the Constitution.

The specific campaign against consultants is aimed at collecting and disseminating information about the various union-busting practitioners, their backers and tactics. The council said "we will seek to determine who they are, who they represent, who controls them and who profits from their activities."

A second goal is to make certain that "consultants" comply with applicable laws and canons of ethics as part of the search-and-expose mission. In addition, the AFL-CIO National Organizing Coordinating Committee will prepare materials and develop programs for training organizers and local union officials on how to deal effectively with the tactics developed by the "consultants."

The council noted that when consultants are involved in either

(Continued on Page 3)

Price Watch Organization Under Way

Labor's community services network has been enlisted in organizing local consumer price watches to monitor compliance with the government's complex price guidelines.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services set up a price watch during the Nixon Administration period of economic controls and federation President George Meany asked that a comparable program be established now.

In a follow-up letter, Director Leo Perlis called on AFL-CIO community service representatives to initiate price watches in their localities. He urged cooperation

(Continued on Page 5)

'Proper Role' Stressed:

Steps Urged to Curb Corporate Power

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The "enormous power" wielded by American corporations must be limited and the corporations "confined to their proper economic role and forced to meet their social responsibilities," the AFL-CIO asserted.

It gave its support to a number of legislative proposals that together would help limit corporate power and said that perhaps "more sweeping measures are necessary."

The federation's Executive Council examined the dominant role that corporations have achieved in America and pointed out that corporate power to affect every facet of American life is now concentrated in fewer and fewer hands.

It concluded that "the adverse social and economic consequences of this system are unacceptable," that "vesting such pervasive decision-making power in a small corporate elite is contrary to democratic principles and the concepts of balanced powers."

AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters that if the present trend continues, "we'll get to the point where everything in America is owned by a few corporations. It would not be good for the future of the country as a whole," he said.

Among the proposals currently before Congress, the council singled out measures to strengthen laws on corporate wrongdoing; permit consumers to recover damages for anti-trust injuries; eliminate corporate thought control through lie detectors and other tests; prohibit large conglomerate mergers; study media concentration; assure adequate lobbying reporting; require notice of plant relocations or closings, and provide for divestiture by major oil companies.

"Corporate concentration reduces competition and drives up prices," the council warned.

It said the "glut of corporate profits" has financed "lavish political contributions" and "propaganda campaigns" to advance narrow interests, "while creating the image of the beneficent corporation."

No Early Respite Seen In Double-Digit Inflation

By James M. Shevis

Double-digit inflation, eroding workers' living standards even further in January, is expected to be around for at least the next few months as prices for just about everything continue to climb sharply.

"There's nothing on the near horizon that says deceleration," Labor Dept. Economist John Layng observed following the government's announcement that consumer prices jumped at an annual rate of 12 percent in January.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics, which reported the 1 percent monthly rise in its consumer price index for wage-earners also said that real spendable earnings fell one-tenth of 1 percent in January. It was the sixth monthly decline since last May, and dropped buying power seven-tenths of 1 percent below the year-earlier level.

Meanwhile, the Agriculture Dept. raised its estimate of this year's food price increase from 7.5 to 8.5 percent on the basis of January's 1.5 percent jump in retail food and beverage prices. Howard Hjort, the department's chief economist, predicted that food prices would continue to rise in the first quarter of 1979, and taper off in the April-June quarter.

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Proposed Budget Slash Scored as Threat to Jobs

Bal Harbour, Fla.—A proposed $50 million budget cut threatens the future of the "successful partnership" of the federal government, the minority community and the labor movement in providing job training and jobs to disadvantaged Americans, the AFL-CIO charged.

The cutback sought by the Administration in the funding level of the Labor Dept.'s Office of National Programs can't be justified on any grounds, the Executive Council said.

It would gut programs "that have provided opportunity for unskilled and untrained youth and women," creating new taxpayers and reducing unemployment. "The federal revenue lost by abolishing these programs far outstrips the theoretical savings suggested by the budget bureaucrats," the council said.

It noted that among the programs that would be hard hit "by this senseless slash" are those run by 14 affiliated unions, the AFL-CIO Appalachian Council, the federation's Human Resources Development Institute, the National Urban League, the Recruitment & Training Program and other programs for older Americans, Hispanics, Indians and women.

(Continued on Page 11)



AIR LINE PILOTS President John J. O'Donnell was elected an AFL-CIO vice president and Executive Council member to fill a vacancy. O'Donnell, for many years an Eastern Airlines pilot, is welcomed aboard by AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

Development Bank Plan Given Renewed Support

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO asked Congress to enact legislation to establish a National Development Bank to help financially-strapped urban and rural communities restore their economies.

"These economically distressed areas are in dire need of a special vehicle that would provide financial incentives to attract new private sector businesses as well as to retain existing businesses and restore basic public capital facilities to an operating condition that will enhance the efficiency of local private enterprise," the Executive Council said at its winter meeting here.

"The National Development Bank as proposed by the Carter Administration could, with some modifications, serve as that economic development vehicle."

Many areas have experienced economic stagnation, repeated fiscal crises, and population decline. This condition stems primarily from a continuing deterioration of the private sector employment base in the affected communities, the council said.

"Higher concentrations of poor and unemployed people give rise to despair and crime, loss of tax revenues, and increased public expenditures for social services and income-maintenance programs," the council said. As a result, many local governments have been forced to neglect the repair and construction of public facilities, it noted.

Public facilities such as bridges and roads have rapidly deteriorated, sewage disposal facilities have become outworn, and harbor facilities outmoded. Such conditions have significantly contributed to economic disadvantage and decay.

In recommending the National Development Bank's establishment, the council urged Congress to include the following financial provisions in the enabling legislation:

- Loan guarantees to assist firms locating or expanding in distressed areas in obtaining long-term financing for capital costs of land, plants, and certain types of equipment.
- Subsidized interest rates as low as 2.5 percent for long-term debt guaranteed by the bank.
- Grants for a portion of a firm's capital facilities.
- Taxable development bonds, with a federal subsidy to cover part of the interest cost, to finance capital costs not covered by the bank's guarantees or other federal, state or local money.
- Secondary-market operations conducted by the bank to purchase long-term, non-guaranteed loans made in distressed areas by private financial institutions.
- A municipal lending window to provide loans on favorable terms that could be used in conjunction with grants from other sources for the rehabilitation or replacement of public facilities.

Meany Scores Detention of Polish Unionist

AFL-CIO President George Meany urged trade unionists to protest the illegal detention and trial of Kazimierz Switon, a leader of the Committee for Free Trade Unions in Poland.

Switon, who was arrested on trumped-up charges of assaulting police officers while he was protecting his ill wife from attack by the officers, was jailed four months ago. His arrest was protested by church leaders and intellectuals.

"There is no doubt that Mr. Switon is being confined and tried for his belief in free trade unionism," Meany said. "His imprisonment is contrary to the Helsinki Accords, to which Poland is a signatory, and should be immediately protested by free trade unionists from around the world."

ACTWU Leader Named To Social Security Panel

Joyce Miller, a vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, has been appointed to the National Commission on Social Security representing labor.

The nine-member panel will conduct a two-year study of the social security system before reporting its findings and recommendations to the President and Congress.

GI Benefits Backed For Merchant Marine

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO urged all appropriate agencies of the federal government to take any and all actions necessary to extend veterans' benefits to members of the U.S. merchant marine in recognition of their services during American wars.

In a statement at its winter meeting here, the Executive Council said that the GI Bill Improvement Act of 1978 makes it possible to extend the benefits.

The council stressed that tens of thousands of U.S. merchant mariners gave their lives in wartime while serving under military jurisdiction and control.

New Kennedy Plan Backed:

National Health Insurance Called Increasingly Urgent

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Americans need a comprehensive national health insurance program more than ever and the limited "catastrophic insurance" proposed by Sen. Russell B. Long (D-La.) is not an acceptable alternative, the AFL-CIO insisted.

An Executive Council resolution strongly affirmed labor's support for the new Health Care for All Americans legislation that will soon be introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.).

The Kennedy bill provides a three-step phase-in of a comprehensive and universal national health insurance program which the council said would establish quality health care as "a basic right of all Americans."

The council noted that the cost of health care represents an increasing share of the nation's gross national product—the total output of goods and services. It said the "cost-plus" method of setting charges for health care services "rewards inefficiency and waste," and it warned that superimposing a catastrophic insurance plan on these inefficiencies would merely "accelerate the inflation."

By contrast, the Executive Council portrayed the new Kennedy bill as holding down costs at the same time it delivers improved health services to all Americans, regardless of income or employment.

As described in the council statement, the first phase would establish "strong temporary cost controls on hospital costs and physician fees." It would go into effect as soon as possible after enactment of the bill.

The second phase, two years later, would provide medical and physician care in and out of hospitals, including home care. Hospitals and doctors would be paid pre-negotiated amounts subject to an overall national health spending limit. Prescription drugs would be added as a benefit for the elderly and disabled under Medicare.

The final phase, starting in 1985, would cover costs of drugs and nursing home care for the entire population.

Under the Kennedy bill, the program would be administered by a Public Authority, with a majority representing the consumer interest. Comparable state authorities would implement the program at the local level.

Premium costs would be a percentage of earnings for employees, with the employer paying at least 75 percent of the premium. Through collective bargaining, workers could negotiate as at present for employer payment of the full cost and could negotiate additional benefits or transfer savings to other fringes.

Coverage could be obtained through an insuror who is federally regulated and part of a consortium of either private insurance companies, Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans, or qualified health maintenance organizations.

Premiums for the unemployed and the poor would be paid from federal general revenues, so that no individual would be without coverage.

The Executive Council contrasted this comprehensive plan with Long's bill which would provide protection only after physician bills exceed $2,000 and a patient has been hospitalized 60 days.

Adoption of such a plan by itself, the council warned, "would merely stave off enactment of comprehensive health insurance."

Already, the AFL-CIO said, failure to enact a comprehensive program has sharply escalated health costs and is pricing more and more Americans out of needed services.

Modest Changes Sought To Improve Labor Law

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO will work with the Administration and congressional committees to shape legislation that would make the National Labor Relations Act more effective and stand a realistic chance of becoming law.

The comprehensive legislation to strengthen federal labor law that the House passed in the last Congress is still very much needed, the Executive Council said. But that bill was killed by a Senate filibuster last year, and the council acknowledged that it would likely meet the same fate in this Congress. Such an outcome would mean "two more years without any improvement in worker protections."

Instead, the trade union movement will press for a more limited bill that could command the three-fifths majority needed to break a filibuster and still be sufficiently meaningful "to be worthy of our support and passage."

The AFL-CIO has "no illusions" that it will be easy to achieve even modest improvements in the National Labor Relations Act. "But we will fight—step-by-step if necessary—to assure that all workers enjoy in fact as well as in theory their rights stated in the law."

The 1977 bill was introduced by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.) and by Senators Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.). It would have strengthened the remedies of federal labor law and speeded up the National Labor Relations Board's procedures.

Labor hasn't abandoned these goals, the Executive Council said, and the AFL-CIO will continue to press for all of the needed reforms in future years.

Six attempts last year to invoke cloture to end the filibuster fell short of the needed 60 votes, the council noted. "Reform that threatens the business community's vested interests does not come easy," it commented.

But while pressing for more limited goals in this Congress, the broader objective will be pursued in future years, it stressed.

Through long experience, the council said, the trade union movement has learned "that efforts to extend the reach of democratic ideals and to end coercion and injustice always succeed eventually."

Richard Peters Dies, IATSE Vice President

Hollywood, Calif. — Richard Peters, first vice president of the Theatrical Stage Employees, died Feb. 23 following open heart surgery.

Peters, who was 47, had served as business representative of IATSE Local 80 since 1971 and was elected to the union's executive board last September.



INFLATION'S IMPACT on shipbuilding and energy usage is explored by officials of the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept. at the department's executive council mid-winter meeting. From left are department Vice Presidents William W. Winpisinger, Carl W. Studenroth and Charles H. Pillard, and President Paul J. Burnsky.

Council Opens Drive on Union-Busters

Moves to Counteract 'Consultant' Industry

(Continued from Page 1)

organizing or collective bargaining situations, violations of labor laws increase. It said the consultants have fostered a record reminiscent "of the profesional union-busters of the early Thirties—complete with threats, spying, interrogation, illegal firing of workers and other tactics."

In a series of press conferences, Meany commented on several of the statements adopted by the council and responded to questions posed by reporters on a number of subjects. They included the following:

On labor law reform: "We are going to explore the possibility of taking pieces of the labor reform bill, pieces that are important but that would not perhaps draw the same sort of opposition. We will study it in conjunction with the leadership of the Congress and in conjunction with the White House and put portions of it before Congress. . . . What we will propose we will not consider labor law reform."

On CETA cuts: "We think jobs are important. We think training of minority groups could help them find jobs. This is the whole idea of CETA (the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act), and we're very much opposed to cutting funds for that."

On press freedom: "To me there are two things that represent the hallmark of a democratic society — one is a free press. It's pretty hard to have a democratic society if you don't have a free press, if you don't have freedom of information to the public. The other thing is the right of workers to form unions and join unions. In no country in the world where there is dictatorial control do you have free unions. So I feel a great community of interest with the American press. I think the American press has a right to do their job. I don't think they can do their job if the court is going to step in every minute.

"Now that doesn't mean that I agree with everything the press does. There are times when I would like to see the press go away."

The council approved contributions to a number of organizations including the following: Joint Council on Economic Education, Consumer Energy Council of America, No Greater Love, CARE, Atlantic Council, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Full Employment Action Council, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, National Urban Coalition, Coalition of Labor Union Women, National Urban League, United Negro College Fund, Asian-American Free Labor Institute, National Rural Housing Coalition.

Also, National Low Income Housing Coalition, Inter-Religious Housing Coalition, Fund for an Open Society, National Housing Conference, National Coalition for Disease Prevention & Environmental Health, Conference on Economic Progress, National Council of Senior Citizens, National Symphony Orchestra, Committee for National Health Insurance, COIN, The New Leader, Committee on the Present Danger, National Council on Crime & Delinquency, National Assembly of National Voluntary Health & Social Welfare Organizations.

Also, National Council of Negro Women, Bob Hope USO Center, Reading Is Fundamental, Consumer Coalition for Health, International Social Security Association.

The next council meeting is scheduled for May 8 in Washington.



LABOR'S POLITICAL ROLE was reviewed at this meeting of the Administrative Committee of COPE, the AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education. It was held during sessions of the federation's Executive Council in Bal Harbour, Fla.

Full National Debate Urged On SALT II

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO called for a full-scale national debate on the second Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT) and full access to all pertinent information by all sides to the debate.

"The American people must be permitted to make an informed judgment on the treaty based on the facts, not the rhetoric," the council said. It called on the nation's broadcast media to provide gavel-to-gavel coverage of the upcoming Senate debate so that the American people "will hear all points of view."

AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters that while the President and other Administration members and various proponents and opponents of the treaty are making speeches about SALT, no specific information has been presented to the public as to what's in the treaty. There should be more information available, he stressed. He noted that the AFL-CIO has taken no formal position on the treaty, but needs information so that it can present its views to Congress.

The council statement said that SALT is "unquestionably the most important foreign policy and security issue to be debated in many years" and that this requires "frank, complete, factual information about the treaty, its provisions, its immediate and future impact on the nation's security and the relationship of the treaty to relations with all nations of the world."

Immediate Steps Asked To Bolster Jobless Aid

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Immediate emergency measures are needed to shore up the nation's "inadequately financed" unemployment compensation system, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

"Such action could have been taken during the recent period of declining unemployment," the council said in a statement at its winter meeting here, "but except for a much needed extension of coverage to nearly all workers, the need for strengthening the program was neglected in favor of creating yet another study commission to examine the program."

The study commission is not scheduled to issue its final report until March 1980 which, the council said, will be too late for millions of Americans who will be forced to rely on unemployment insurance in the intervening months.

The federation recommended the following changes in the unemployment compensation law:

- Establishment of a federal minimum benefit standard of two-thirds of a worker's wages up to a maximum of three-fourths of the statewide average weekly wage.
- Extension of the present maximum 39-week duration of benefits to 65 weeks.
- Extension of coverage to all workers now excluded from the program.
- Provision for federal financing from general revenues for benefits paid to workers after they are unemployed 39 weeks and reimbursement of states for such extended benefits in the January 1975-January 1978 period.

"The emergency actions we are calling for are no substitute for the long-term improvements we continue to recommend," the council statement said. These include not only an effective program to meet the needs of the long-term jobless but also federal standards removing current harsh state eligibility and disqualification provisions, eliminating the worst abuses of the so-called experience rating system, establishing minimum solvency standards for state funds, and providing for improvements in the administration of the program.

Bank Interest Plan Termed Profit Padding

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO branded a proposal by the American Bankers Association that the government pay interest on the first $10 million of reserve deposits held by commercial banks "a scheme to further pad already outrageous bank profits."

"What this proposal amounts to is a transfer of income from taxpayers and federal general revenues to bankers," the Executive Council said in a statement here. "Such a proposal is socially unacceptable, economically unwise, and totally unjustified in view of soaring bank profits, which are added to inflation.

"There is absolutely no justification for allowing banks to further increase their profits on top of the nearly 30 percent average gain in operating earnings recorded last year by the 98 largest banks."

The council urged Congress to prevent the "raid" on the federal treasury by rejecting the ABA's proposed amendment to pending legislation. Designed to strengthen the nation's monetary and banking laws by requiring all commercial banks to have non-interest earning reserves, the basic legislation itself should be enacted, the AFL-CIO said.

The legislation is aimed at discouraging banks from leaving the Federal Reserve System because of the requirement that member banks maintain such reserves.

USSR Hit on Treatment Of Rostropovich's Sister

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The Soviet Union's refusal to allow violinist Veronica Rostropovich to tour the United States because of her relationship to her brother, Mstislav Rostropovich, "can only be viewed as another example of Soviet disdain for human rights," the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared.

"Denying Veronica Rostropovich permission to tour the United States is an act of injustice and inhumanity condemned by Americans who cherish freedom and most particularly by those who, like Maestro Rostropovich and his sister, also share a love for music," the council said in a statement at its meeting here.

Soviet authorities revoked Mstislav Rostropovich's citizenship last year, charging that he had "carried on unpatriotic activity" by giving several benefit concerts in 1976-77 for emigre organizations. The composer-cellist, who is now music director of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, had been living abroad on a temporary Soviet travel visa since 1974.

Rostropovich's sister, who has played with the Moscow Philharmonic for over 20 years, faces a "bleak" future, both personally and professionally, simply because of her association with her brother, the council said.

The Soviet government's refusal to allow her to accompany the Russian orchestra on its tour means that she is marked as "politically unreliable and will be shunned by her countrymen who will fear to be seen with her," the AFL-CIO observed. "The Moscow Philharmonic will be the poorer without this fine musician."

The world-acclaimed orchestra opened a North American tour in Washington on Feb. 24.

D.C. Voting Rights Adoption Pressed

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO asked its affiliates and central bodies to lead the effort to get states to ratify the constitutional amendment that would give the District of Columbia voting representation in the House and Senate.

The amendment is needed "to correct the outrageous injustice of taxation without representation," the Executive Council said. It questioned whether the amendment would have run into such strong opposition if the capital's 700,000 residents were mostly "white middle-class, rather than black and poor."

Biemiller Draws Praise For Service to Workers

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The trade union movement owes a "profound debt of gratitude" to Andrew J. Biemiller for his "22 years of distinguished service as director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation," the Executive Council said.

Biemiller, who retired in January, was cited for his leadership in legislative battles on behalf of all Americans. But the Executive Council resolution cited especially his efforts for "the disadvantaged and all who have no other voice to speak for them."

He was the "chief ambassador" of America's workers to Capitol Hill and was instrumental in shaping "strong and effective coalitions" with other progressive groups, the council said.

The resolution, extending "warmest good wishes" to Biemiller on his retirement, said Executive Council members have benefitted from his "timely advice and encyclopedic knowledge."



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL members, in an official photograph during the group's midwinter meeting in Bal Harbour, Fla., include left to right, front row, Jerry Wurf, Thomas W. Gleason, Matthew Guinan, John H. Lyons, Lane Kirkland, George Meany, Paul Hall, A. F. Grospiron, Peter Bommarito, Frederick O'Neal, and S. Frank Raftery; middle row, William H. McClennan, Fred J. Kroll, William H. Wynn, William Sidell, Martin J. Ward, Glenn E. Watts, J. C. Turner, Alvin E. Heaps, Sol C. Chaikin, Harry R. Poole, C. L. Dellums, and Lloyd McBride; top row, Edward T. Hanley, Albert Shanker, Kenneth T. Blaylock, Emmet Andrews, Angelo Fosco, Charles Pillard, George Hardy, Al Chesser, John O'Donnell, William Winpisinger, David Fitzmaurice, and Murray Finley.

Senior Citizens Backed In Drive to Expand Rolls

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The Executive Council warned that right-wing and commercially-backed organizations are attempting to exploit retirees politically and economically and it called on federation affiliates to help the National Council of Senior Citizens counter these moves by expanding the number of its chapters across the country.

The AFL-CIO has endorsed and supported the NCSC for years, the council said in noting that millions of council members and clubs "have worked closely with the labor movement to secure and improve Medicare, to fight cutbacks in social security and to support candidates committed to economic and social justice."

Unions should help build NCSC clubs which can provide services and benefits of the highest quality at the lowest costs for retired members, the council said, adding that individual union retiree programs can be strengthened through ties with the NCSC.

Meanwhile, the council warned that right-wing groups are attempting to cultivate political and economic support from the growing number of retirees. One such group, the National Alliance of Senior Citizens, is little more then a front organization formed to collect funds to fight social programs and to promote right-wing candidates, the council said.

It also charged that certain commercial ventures are taking advantage of unknowing retirees. It said the American Association of Retired Persons and the National Retired Teachers' Association have spent millions of corporate dollars for advertising "to induce retirees into purchasing costly and virtually worthless medical insurance policies."

Many retirees who fall victim to the solicitations are former union members who are unaware of the right-wing or business connections of those groups, the council said. It also noted that many retired union members are not aware of the NCSC and its dedication to the same principles as those of the labor movement.

"We in the labor movement must redouble our efforts to make certain union members and those approaching retirement learn about and join the NCSC," the council stressed.

It called on affiliates to work with the NCSC in developing new programs for retired members and to cooperate in the nationwide drive to increase the number of NCSC state and area councils.

Faberge Products On Unfair List

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Executive Council has endorsed a consumer boycott of Faberge products—perfumes, colognes, cosmetics and toiletries.

After 35 years of production in Ridgefield, N.J., the council noted that Faberge, Inc., has abandoned the community and abrogated its long-time contract with the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers.

Without warning or regard for the welfare of its 525 unionized workers, the company has shifted operations to Raeford, N.C., and announced its intention to operate non-union, the council said.

Plan to Swap Alaska Oil Seen Inviting 'Disaster'

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Exporting Alaskan oil to Japan in exchange for oil from foreign countries would be "a national energy policy disaster" and a profit-boosting scheme for the oil companies, the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared in a statement.

The AFL-CIO has consistently opposed Alaskan oil exports, the council said, and Administration consideration of the plan "makes no sense in terms of economics or national security."

The council pointed out that "it is perfectly feasible to transport this oil directly from Alaska to the East and Gulf Coast ports by tanker or rail," and construction of a northern tier pipeline would serve the national interest. Using the U.S. transportation system "would protect this vital oil supply from cartels and unstable foreign markets," it noted.

The consumer would gain no benefit from the swapping of Alaskan oil, the statement said, "being forced to pay the international price for oil wherever it may come from."

The council pointed out that the 1973 and 1977 Congresses placed explicit limits on Alaskan oil exports as a result of national concern over energy shortages. Now the nation faces oil cutbacks at U.S. refineries, declining imports from Iran and the prospect of gasoline rationing, and exports of U.S. oil supplies would be a national disaster, the council statement warned.

The council urged extension of existing legislation restricting Alaskan oil exports and strengthening it to prevent "another oil company ripoff of the American people."

Call Sounded For Revision Of Hatch Act

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Hatch Act restrictions on political rights of federal and postal workers should be lifted, the AFL-CIO Executive Council urged.

A council statement termed Hatch Act reform "a human and civil rights issue." It said the rights of the 2.8 million persons covered by the law should not be "denied on the basis of employment."

In the last Congress, a labor-supported Hatch Act reform bill passed the House by an 80-vote margin. The council statement blamed the threat of a Senate filibuster for blocking final action.

For federal and postal workers, the resolution said, "the time has long since come to restore these rights." It noted that the legislation would also "strengthen protections against coercion" and provide more effective investigation of alleged abuses.

Coordinated Aid Asked For Indochina Refugees

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO reaffirmed its commitment to a more compassionate, open-ended policy for the admission of Indochinese refugees into the United States and stressed the need for a coordinated effort among free-world governments to provide a safe haven for them.

"While the Administration, with congressional approval, has more than doubled the number of refugees admitted into the country, much remains to be done," the Executive Council said in a statement.

"In the final analysis, no single nation and surely no private organizations have the means of providing haven and sustenance for the growing number of refugees. Nor can this problem be met by scattered, ad hoc efforts. It requires the cooperation of many governments and the development of an overall plan for the rescue and resettlement of these refugees from totalitarianism."

The council called on the United States to press other governments to join in such a coordinated effort. It also asked the trade-union movements of the free world to urge their governments to respond generously to the needs of the refugees.

Thousands of people continue to flee from Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Many of them, especially ethnic Chinese, are leaving Vietnam after paying substantial bribes to Communist officials, the council observed.

"Repeated claims that these people are not bona fide political refugees have been made by governments in Southeast Asia," the council noted. "Such myopic reasoning defies international law and basic humanitarianism."

It pointed out that representatives of 35 free nations at an international consultation held in Geneva last December under the auspices of the United Nations expressed sympathy for the fleeing Indochinese, yet no nation made firm commitments to accept a sufficient number of refugees for permanent resettlement.

The council renewed its plea that the Administration further increase its admission of the refugees into the United States and said that, to demonstrate its commitment to this goal, the AFL-CIO has established the Southeast Asian Refugee Fund to raise money for U.S. voluntary organizations assisting in the resettlement effort.

It urged all affiliated unions, state and local central bodies to contribute generously to the fund.

Mediation Aids Resolution Of Most Disputes

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Internal Disputes Plan continues to function effectively with nearly 60 percent of the cases filed settled at the mediation level.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council received a report showing that the number of cases filed in the last three years ranged from 77 to 91. Impartial umpires handed down 41 determinations of which 22 have been appealed to subcommittees.

There were 24 non-compliance complaints filed during 1978 of which 22 were withdrawn, and compliance was achieved in one other. In the period since January 1962, when the plan became operative, 13 affiliates have been found to have failed to comply with decisions of the impartial umpire or directions of the subcommittee on appeals in 24 cases. In 11 instances compliance was later achieved and the affiliates' rights under Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution were restored.

Two affiliates are currently under sanctions—the International Typographical Union and the Graphic Arts International Union.

Support Pushed for ERA Ratification

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Aggressive support of the labor movement is vital to the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said in calling on state and local central bodies to press for approval of the ERA in states that have yet to take favorable action on the measure.

Approval is still needed by three more states before the ratification deadline, which Congress extended last year to June 30, 1982. Thirty-five states have voted to ratify.

But the council noted that right-wing extremists have viciously distorted and misrepresented the ERA issue and stressed that labor must rally support "and make clear to legislators the strong, unequivocal commitment of the AFL-CIO to ERA."

To Aid Economy:

U.S. Urged to Spur Maritime Recovery

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO repeated its call for implementation of a maritime policy to help the economy, promote national security, and provide additional jobs in shipping and allied industries.

"The United States merchant marine has suffered from a devastating lack of attention and direction," the Executive Council declared in a statement at its winter meeting here.

In the past three decades, U.S. waterborne export and import tonnage has increased nearly six-fold, the council observed. In contrast, the number of U.S.-flag ships has decreased by 75 percent.

"As a result, the country's merchant marine has fallen from number one in the world to number ten. This has had great impact on thousands of American workers who are no longer employed on board the vessels and in the many industries that provide equipment, supplies, and repairs to American vessels," the council said.

Among its recommendations, the council called for including the U.S. merchant marine in the development of a national trade policy and in the formulation of a national energy and minerals policy.

Specifically, the AFL-CIO listed the following points that should be incorporated into U.S. maritime trade policy:

- The negotiation of more bilateral shipping agreements to increase U.S. sailings, increase employment, protect against overtonnaging, and provide a means to enter restricted trades.

"In the negotiations with the People's Republic of China, it is imperative that the U.S. insure, through a bilateral trade agreement, that trade with China include U.S.-flag vessels," the council said.

- Extension of full protection under the 1974 Trade Act to provide trade adjustment assistance to seamen and other service workers.
- Increased use of the U.S. merchant fleet for transportation of energy and minerals.
- The encouragement of incentives to help revive U.S.-flag passenger vessel service.
- Developing a national cargo policy that would assure the U.S.-flag merchant marine a fair share of all types of cargo.

A substantial number of nations now engage in cargo preference, closed conferences, bilateral shipping agreements, and favorable tax, tariff, currency or customs treatment which increase the amounts of cargo carried by their own flag operators, the council pointed out. Meanwhile, in the absence of similar policies, about 85 percent of shipping revenues involved in U.S. trade go to foreign-flag lines.

"This has created the largest balance-of-payments deficit of any U.S. service industry," the council observed.

The council also called for closing the loophole in the Jones Act that allows foreign-flag vessels to engage in commerce between the Virgin Islands and the U.S. mainland; restricting the carriage of oil to the mainland from offshore points to U.S.-flag transshipment vessels, and insuring that approximately 50 percent of liquefied natural gas imports be carried on U.S. ships.

Price Watch Organization Under Way

(Continued from Page 1)

with other local groups representing women, consumers, senior citizens and minorities.

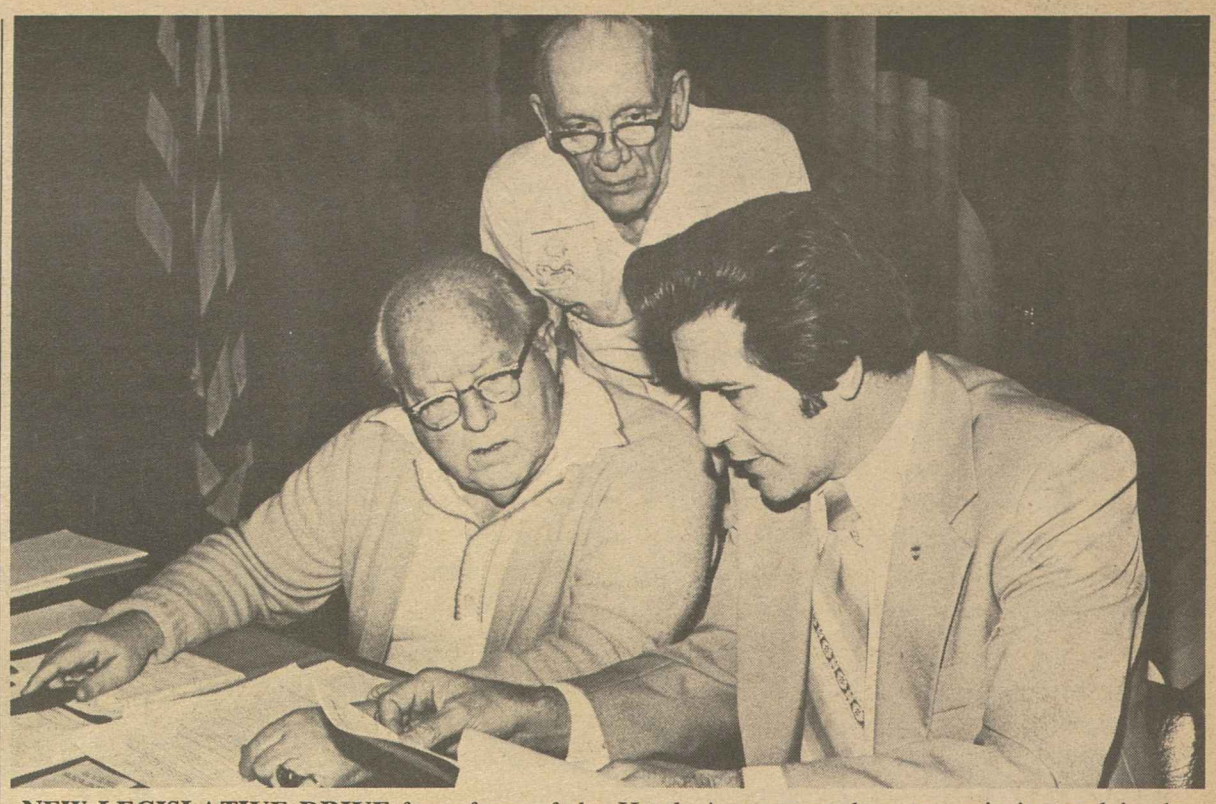
Perlis suggested a nucleus of volunteers from among union and consumer counselors to do the monitoring. "The same volunteers should follow through consistently on the same items," he suggested, such as food, clothing, housing, drugs, health care, gasoline and utilities.

While employers consider it their "patriotic duty" to enforce the government's wage guidelines, Perlis noted, "there is hardly anyone to enforce the government's price guidelines. So prices, rents and profits are going up while real income is coming down."

Perlis said local committees will be sent price monitoring forms and instructions and he urged that volunteers be trained in the use of forms and procedures for visits, interviews and reporting.

A Little Light





NEW LEGISLATIVE DRIVE for reform of the Hatch Act was made a top priority goal in the 96th Congress by the executive board of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. Reviewing the department's legislative agenda are from left PED President William H. McClennan, Executive Director John McCart and Treasurer Kenneth T. Blaylock.

California's Farm Strike Blamed On Growers' Failure to Bargain

Bal Harbour, Fla.—In the interests of justice for their employees, California vegetable growers should accept the concept of good-faith collective bargaining, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said in endorsing the Farm Workers lettuce strike.

"This is a simple economic strike in support of wage and piece rate increases," the council declared. "Despite lettuce price increases of 110 percent over the last year, lettuce workers now average $3.76 an hour and the growers are insisting that wage increases be held to 7 percent in an industry exempt from wage guideline applications."

The council statement noted that with the establishment of California's farm labor relations board procedures were set up for formal bargaining so that the UFW would not have to resort to widespread consumer boycotts. But it pointed out that the growers have failed to bargain in good faith.

The council also expressed concern that the dispute in California's Imperial Valley has been marked by violence against the UFW strikers.

It cited a report by UFW President Cesar Chavez that local chapters of the Ku Klux Klan are recruiting strikebreakers and providing armed vigilantes to patrol the struck fields.

"That violence resulted in the recent fatal shooting of UFW member Rufino Contreras," the council noted.

Following the shooting, the farm union stepped up picketing activities by the 4,600 UFW strikers at vegetable fields operated by 11 Imperial Valley growers.

This led to a confrontation with Imperial Valley sheriff's deputies, who retaliated with a tear gas barrage in an effort to stampede the pickets, the UFW reported. The sheriff's department said the tear gas cannisters were released because the pickets trespassed on private property.

As the confrontation grew, police reinforcements were called in from several surrounding jurisdictions, including deputies from Yuma, Ariz. Three pickets and two deputies were injured in the fracas.

The UFW reported that as the harvest is winding down in the Imperial Valley, the strike—now in its sixth week—is beginning to shift to other locales in California and Arizona.

Meanwhile, both the union and the valley growers have filed unfair labor practice charges with the state farm labor relations board. The union is charging the growers with refusal to bargain in good faith and the growers have accused the UFW of picketing violations.

Congress Asked to Set Hospital Cost Controls

Bal Harbour, Fla. — The AFL-CIO urged Congress to act promptly on a mandatory hospital cost control program, pledging to support the legislation if it includes effective safeguards for hospital workers.

"While we believe that the cost control features of the Health Care for All Americans Act are superior to single programs, such as hospital cost containment," the Executive Council said in a statement here, "we recognize that the fight against inflation requires immediate action on hospital costs."

The council stressed that hospital workers should not fall victim to any legislation to control runaway inflation among the nation's hospitals. Already low paid, hospital workers receive an average of $35 a week less than non-supervisory employees in other industries, the council observed.

Moreover, the Council on Wage & Price Stability in a recent staff report showed that hospital wages were the source of only one-tenth of the increase in hospital costs, the AFL-CIO pointed out.

The main cause of inflation in hospital charges has been non-labor costs, the council asserted. It cited such factors as duplicative services, unnecessary hospital beds, sloppy administration, and unnecessary procedures.

"No voluntary effort will be successful to control these costs," the council declared. "And a program which totally ignores increases in professional fees would be a failure."

No hospital cost containment legislation was enacted in the 95th Congress, although two bills received serious consideration. One was an Administration measure, and the other was a bill introduced by Sen. Herman Talmadge (D-Ga.).

Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.) introduced an amendment to the Talmadge bill guaranteeing workers in the hospital industry the right of free collective bargaining in any hospital cost containment program enacted by Congress. With strong support from the AFL-CIO and its affiliated unions in the hospital industry, the amended bill passed the Senate but not the House.

The chief reason why labor supported the Nelson Amendment was that it would have instituted mandatory controls on hospital costs if voluntary efforts failed, and would not have interfered with the collective bargaining process.

Talmadge is expected to reintroduce a revised version of his bill in the 96th Congress, and the Administration has announced that it will also introduce a new hospital cost containment bill shortly.

"To date, it does not appear that the voluntary effort of the hospital industry to control hospital cost inflation is working," the AFL-CIO said. "Therefore, if the voluntary effort continues to be inadequate, legislation assuring mandatory cost containment, with proper safeguards for hospital workers, is needed."

Family Units Held Key to Farm Policy

Bal Harbour, Fla. — National agricultural policy should be based on a fair return to family farmers and price supports and other programs should be limited to them, the AFL-CIO said.

The Executive Council adopted a statement reviewing the problems of farmers and called for policies to preserve family farms rather than leave them at the mercy of corporate monopolies.

Farm problems include the growth of corporate farming, commodity speculators, foreign purchase of farm land, subsidized imports, control of grain exports and high interest rates. These problems deserve serious consideration by the government, the council said.

The Union-Busters

STABLE LABOR-MANAGEMENT relations in the United States and the public policy of encouraging free collective bargaining are being undermined. Labor-management consultants are seeking to destroy the labor movement, often using methods beyond the bounds of legality and ethics.

These "consultants" preach and practice disregard for the labor laws and for the rights of workers. When "consultants" are involved in either organizing or collective bargaining situations, violations of labor laws increase. There has been a 250 percent increase in unfair labor practice complaints against employers in the past 10 years, due in large part to these "consultants."

By encouraging employers to violate the National Labor Relations Act in order to increase their profits, consultants have fostered a record reminiscent of the professional union-busters of the early Thirties—complete with threats, spying, interrogation, illegal firing of workers and other tactics.

In short, union-busting is a growth industry in America today, despite the 43 years of the National Labor Relations Act and a record of stable labor-management relations unmatched in the western world.

The AFL-CIO National Organizing Coordinating Committee has begun a major campaign to counter the efforts of today's union-busters. The committee will:

1. Collect, store and disseminate information about these "consultants," their backers and tactics. Since very few identify themselves publicly, we will seek to determine who they are, who they represent, who controls them, and who profits from their activities.

2. Seek to require that "consultants" comply with applicable laws and canons of ethics. We will seek to hold those who preach disrespect for the law accountable for their actions.

3. Prepare materials and develop programs for training organizers and local union officers on methods to deal effectively with the tactics of these "consultants."

This program has the full support of this Executive Council. We encourage our affiliates to cooperate with this program by providing the committee with specific information about "consultants" active in their industry and with appropriate staff assistance.

The tactics and goals of these "consultants" are designed to deprive workers of a free and uncoerced decision to form their own unions and bargain collectively with their employer. That right is the heart of America's labor laws, and we intend to protect it with every legal means at our command.

—Statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Bal Harbour, Fla., Feb. 23, 1979.

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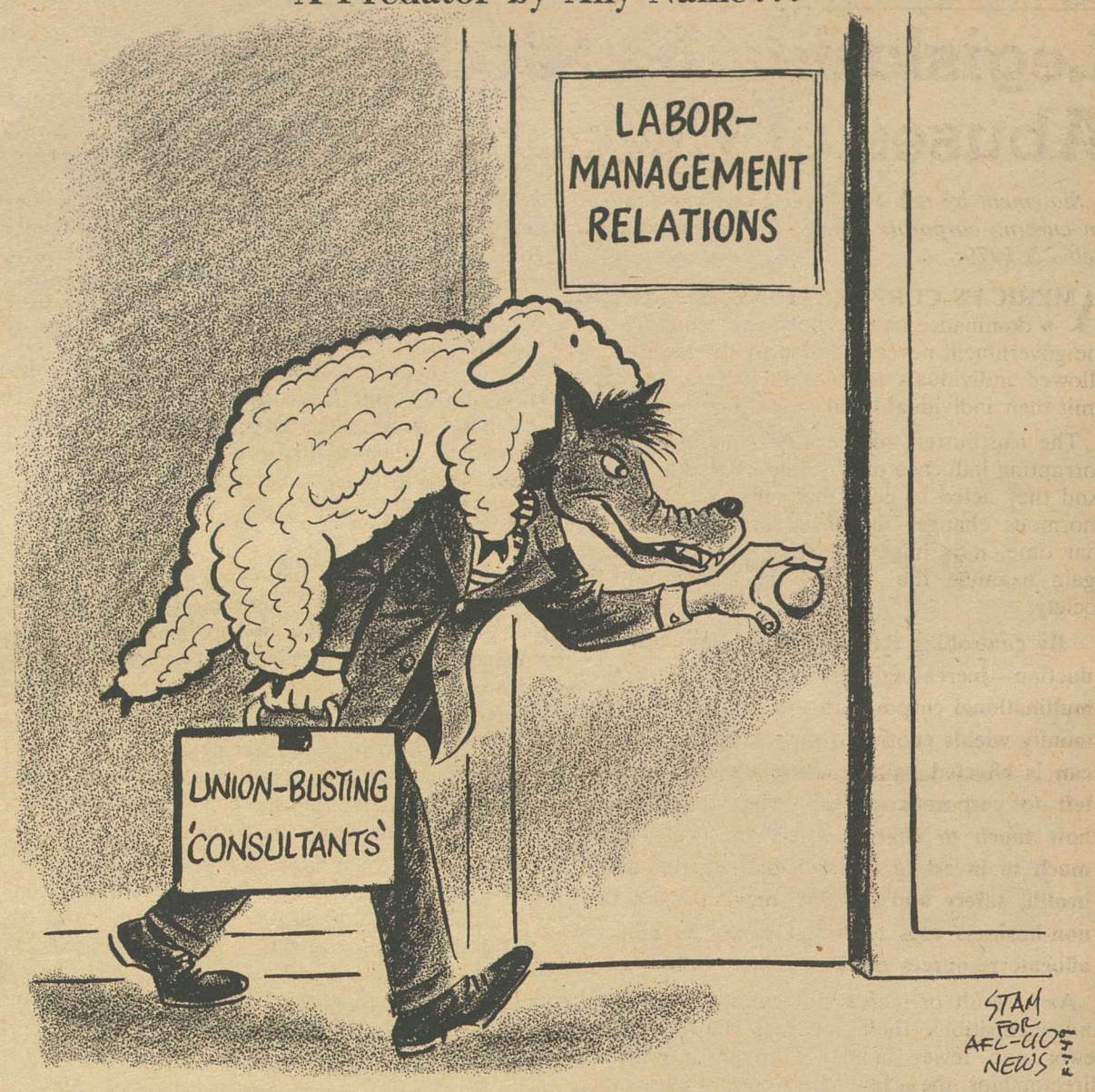
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A Predator by Any Name...



Miffed at Leadership:

Conservative Wing Appalled By Republican Party Trends

By Gus Tyler

MAYBE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY has no place in this country?

That is the question posed publicly by influential conservatives who are profoundly disturbed by the behavior of the GOP in the last several months. As Human Events, the National Conservative Weekly, puts it: "There are times—and this is one of them—when one wonders whether the Republican Party deserves to survive."

The party's right wing, which felt it had scored a victory in the 1978 elections, is upset with what GOP leadership—both in and out of office—has done since.

Conservatives are miffed at ex-President Nixon's fawning over Teng Hsiao-ping. They are equally upset that former President Gerald Ford has joined in the amen chorus for the Chinese Reds. They note that Tennessee's Sen. Howard H. Baker, Jr., leader of the GOP in the Senate, has given his approval to "Carter's betrayal of Taiwan."

But, more disturbing than the public statements of these three party spokesmen on the matter of China and Taiwan has been the choice of GOP leadership in the House and the Senate for the present Congress.

In December, the Republicans in the House put two "liberals" in key spots. John Anderson (Ill.) was named to the No. 3 leadership post and Silvio Conte (Mass.) became the ranking Republican on the potent House Appropriations Committee. As far as the official conservatives are concerned, both these gentlemen belong in the Democratic Party and—at least in the case of Conte—in its left wing.

Conservatives were hopeful, however, that when the Republicans organized their Senate leadership, they would elevate conservatives to key posts. But, weeps Human Events, "The Senate Republicans, apparently, decided to take the cue from their House counterparts."

First, they named Baker as their top man in the Senate. Then the party named Oregon's Sen. Robert W. Packwood as chairman of the Republican Conference in a race against Idaho's James A. McClure. The difference between the two is evident in their voting records: Packwood's conservative rating for 1978 is 30 percent while McClure's is 94 percent.

The meanest cut against the conservatives came, however, in a tight battle over who should head the GOP Senatorial Campaign Committee. The conservative favorite was Utah's Orrin G. Hatch with an official conservative rating of 95 percent. He was challenged by Pennsylvania's H. John Heinz with a rating of only 17 percent. In the final vote, Heinz won by 21 to 20.

The conservatives fear that Heinz will not be generous in making GOP funds available to right wingers in the party in 1980, especially when they are challenging well-known liberals such as George McGovern, Frank Church and John Culver. "The trouble is," say the conservatives, "that Heinz's thinking more nearly approximates the view of these Democratic liberals than the belief of their potential GOP opponents."

To add insult to injury, the co-chairperson of the GOP National Committee, Mary Crisp, resigned from the President's National Advisory Committee on Women in protest against Carter's tossing Bella Abzug out of her post. This puts the GOP in Bella's camp—a thoroughly distasteful thought to GOP conservatives.

No wonder, then, that conservatives wonder whether the GOP is worth saving.

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New R-T-W Tactics Prompt Union Alert

The National Right to Work Committee has become even more blatantly anti-labor. It is now pursuing compulsory open shop laws in nine states, hoping the labor movement will be spread too thin or concentrate its energy on defensive efforts rather than new legislation.

The entire trade union movement must be alert to the new tactics and the new initiatives of the NRTWC. The attempt of the NRTWC to broaden its anti-union activities must be emphasized to union members and the general public.

—From a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Feb. 23, 1979, Bal Harbour, Fla.

Agenda for Congress:

Legislation Needed to Curb Abuses of Corporate Power

Statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on curbing corporate power, Bal Harbour, Fla., Feb. 23, 1979:

AMERICA'S CORPORATIONS have assumed a dominance over society, the economy and the government never intended by the laws which allowed individuals to pool their resources and limit their individual liability in doing business.

The trustbusters of the 1890s understood the corrupting influence of absolute corporate power. And they acted to curb that influence. With the enormous changes that have taken place since that time, it is imperative that the nation once again examine the role of the corporation in society.

By controlling this country's means of production—increasingly through the tool of the multinational corporation—the corporate community wields enormous power. Every American is affected by the discretionary decisions left to corporate officers—what to produce, how much to charge, where to locate, how much to invest in research and development, health, safety and the environment. And the non-business uses to which corporate officers allocate resources are increasingly influential.

As a result of increasing numbers of mergers and acquisitions, their power is concentrated in fewer and fewer hands. Through interlocking directorships, these few hands control even more.

To most Americans, the names of corporate managers are unknown. These faceless men run vast enterprises without a vestige of public responsibility or accountability. They are guided solely by the quest for greater profits.

The adverse social and economic consequences of this system are unacceptable.

Vesting such pervasive decision-making power in a small corporate elite is contrary to democratic principles and the concepts of balanced powers.

Corporate concentration reduces competition and drives up prices, fueling inflation.

The glut of corporate profits provides unlimited resources for lavish political contributions, extraordinary lobbying expenses, propaganda campaigns, front-group foundations and institutional advertising—all to advance their narrow interests, while creating the image of the beneficent corporation.

During one six-month period of last year, not a single issue of the Wall Street Journal, the bible of corporate America, appeared without at least one news story about corporate bribery, payoffs to foreign officials, illegal political slush funds, embezzlement or consumer fraud.

THE PUBLIC INTEREST demands legislation designed to limit this corporate power. Several proposals currently before the Congress are worthy of active consideration:

1. The criminal code revision would strengthen present law governing officer liability for corporate wrongdoing and provide increased penalties for consumer fraud.

2. The Antitrust Enforcement Act of 1979 would reverse the Supreme Court's *Illinois Brick* decision and thereby permit consumers to recover damage for injuries caused by anti-trust violations.

3. The Polygraph Control & Privacy Protection Act of 1979 would end the most blatant forms of corporate thought-control.

4. Sen. Kennedy has introduced legislation to prohibit large conglomerate mergers.

5. Rep. Udall has proposed a bill providing for a study of media concentration.

6. Senators Ribicoff and Percy's Lobby Reform bill would require all organizations that lobby to register and to report the issues they address and the money they spend.

7. Several bills are being prepared to require notice of plant relocations and closings and to provide aid to the affected workers and the community.

8. Several bills have been introduced calling for divestiture by major oil companies of their holdings in other sources of energy.

These bills and perhaps more sweeping measures are necessary to assure that corporations are confined to their proper economic role and forced to meet their social responsibilities.

Rollback of Federal Aid:

Balanced Budget Amendment Could Prove Costly to States

THE CALL OF STATE legislatures for a constitutional amendment to require a balanced federal budget is "a classic passing of the fiscal buck" that could cost the states billions of dollars in federal aid, AFL-CIO legislative specialist Michael Gildea said.

Gildea, assistant to the director of the Federation's Dept. of Legislation, said the move reflects "a lack of understanding on the part of state legislators as to the impact of a balanced budget on federal aid to the states and localities." He pointed out that if state aid were rolled back to 1975 levels, the reduction "would approximate the federal deficit that is projected for next year."

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Gildea said that the states should be forewarned that if their efforts succeed, a wide array of federal programs that provide help to the states could be severely reduced.

Noting that the National Taxpayers Union is the prime promoter of the constitutional convention push in state legislatures, Gildea pointed out that the leaders and key people in that organization "come from the most conservative elements of American politics—the John Birch Society, the American Conservation Union, the National Association of Manufacturers." He said that the headway they have made in 28 states is largely the result of "very skillful exploitation of resentment over inflation." But, he added, they are "misleading the public as to the effects of a balanced budget."

Gildea said that such key questions as how a constitutional convention, if called, would operate, how delegates would be selected, whether the convention could go beyond the specific issue for which it was called, are still unresolved—they are "in a constitutional limbo right now." He warned of the danger of a convention called to address the single issue of a balanced budget, citing Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, who cautioned that, "Our Constitution was never intended to embrace a particular economic theory."

He said that the experience of the prohibition amendment demonstrates the mistake of constitutional rigidity in an area where Congress has clear legislative authority. "Prohibition," he said, was an "issue of passing fancy, very rigid, proved unenforceable, left Congress no flexibility to do less or more," but the United States was "stuck with it for 14 years."

Questioning Gildea on Labor News Conference were Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers, and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO and broadcast weekly on Mutual radio.

Full Measure of Quality!



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

AS AMERICA HEADED toward economic collapse in 1930, President Hoover and his advisers deceived themselves and the people with optimistic words: Conditions are "fundamentally sound" and "we have now passed the worst." In 1932, Hoover sought to balance the budget by raising taxes.

Today, a similar self-deception is sweeping the land. Millions of people—frustrated by inflation and what they regard as high taxes—have been led to believe that the cause of their troubles is government spending. Force the federal government to balance its budget, just like a family, and everything will be all right, they are told.

More than 25 state legislatures have adopted a variety of resolutions calling for a constitutional convention or demanding that Congress act to balance the budget.

The National Taxpayers Union (NTU), the major force behind the campaign for a "Con-Con," is predicting that it will have the necessary 34 states in line by June, the number prescribed in Article V of the Constitution.

The dangers of amending the Constitution to build in a rigid spending limitation is causing growing concern among constitutional scholars, economists and national political leaders as well as labor and liberal groups.

Professors Gerald Gunther of Stanford Law School, Charles Black of Yale, Laurence Tribe of Harvard and the late Alexander Bickel of Yale—who had testified at Senate hearings—all argue that the convention route is "risky" and the chance of limiting its agenda "doubtful indeed."

Sen. Edmund Muskie (D-Maine), in a February speech to the National Press Club, said a new constitutional convention would be "an uncharted course to an unknown destination." He warned it could include popular causes such as outlawing guns or controlling guns, making abortion a right or making it a crime, banning forced busing or endorsing forced busing.

LABOR AND LIBERAL OBSERVERS are not fooled by the motives of the National Taxpayers Union, which has been promoting the "Con-Con" through loose ties with some 500 state and local groups.

NTU was founded in 1969 and has prospered with the advent of inflation, "tax revolts" and the Proposition 13 sentiment. NTU had only 20,000 members as of 1976, but has now shot up to 100,000.

The NTU's Taxpayer Action Fund contributed only to conservatives and ultra-rightists such as Senators Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and William Armstrong (R-Colo.), who beat liberal Floyd Haskell. NTU also takes credit for helping Malcolm Wallop upset Sen. Gale McGee in Wyoming in 1976.

The AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education has found links between the NTU and people active in the John Birch Society, the National Association of Manufacturers, the Heritage Foundation and Americans Against Union Control of Government.

But the NTU and its allies have skillfully exploited the anxieties and anger of many people and are perilously close to success.

Therefore, it is incumbent on the nation's responsible leaders to educate the people on economic issues and explain the possible consequences of a constitutional convention.

In reviewing the four-year-old congressional budget process, the House Budget Committee stressed the limitations of a $500 billion federal budget in affecting a $2.3 trillion economy. It noted that three-fourths of each budget is governed by long-term legislation and only one-fourth is controllable in annual budgets.

As observers have noted, the federal budget can be balanced by raising taxes. Or by cutting back the $89 billion in grants to state and local governments. Or by accounting devices that would shift capital expenditures out of the budget and "into the dark."

And, if the budget was not balanced, what would happen?

"Fiscal handcuffs" are not the answer, Muskie says. In making prudent judgments about spending choices, he adds, "we need the will to make those judgments stick. If we have that will, no formula is necessary. If we don't, no formula will work."



LABOR'S OPPOSITION to a constitutional convention to act on a balanced budget amendment—or on any other proposal to change the Constitution—is discussed on Labor News Conference by Michael Gildea of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation. He is questioned by Ann McFeatters of Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The public service program is aired weekly by Mutual radio.

How to Buy:

Price Surge Forces Consumers To Revise Shopping Strategy

By Sidney Margolius

WHILE THE ALARMING RISE in meat prices may ease a little as we move into spring and larger supplies of pork arrive on the market, costs of protein foods remain the most troubling expense problem this year.

Your strategy no longer can consist mainly of shifting down to the lower-cost cuts. Some of these have gone up faster than the expensive cuts as more people have turned to them. In the past year, ground beef has gone up 61 percent; round and sirloin, 20 to 34 percent. To avoid bankruptcy at the meat counter, you now really need to limit the dollar amounts you spend for meat. One yardstick could be to hold your spending for meat, poultry, fish and eggs under 25 percent of your total food bill.

This is the relative importance of these items given to them in the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index (CPI).

The hike on produce also has been severe and can be almost as damaging financially since produce usually is the second largest food expenditure, next to meat.

One help is that dairy products, while they, too, cost more, have not gone up as drastically.

But what has gone up sharply is soft drinks and other beverages; 240 percent since 1967, which is more than any other food category. One city's markets department reports that cola drinks have gone up 12 percent in this past year alone. It is also a shocker to see that these products now take almost as much of the consumer's food dollars as do all dairy products, which includes milk, cheese, butter and ice cream.

JEANS PRICE WAR: At least the high price of looking poor has come down. Price-cutting on blue jeans has brought prices down to more reasonable levels. The price-cutting was spurred by government efforts to end manufacturer price-fixing and by heavy inventories.

Despite the lower prices, look for quality details, including pre-shrunk fabric, double-felled seams with no raw edges; straight grain (some jeans are cut off-grain); reinforcements, such as bartacking and rivets at points of strain, such as pockets; and vulcanized double knees for children.

OIL CRISIS: The threat of another oil shortage because of the turmoil in Iran would mostly affect gasoline for the present, since the heating season is almost at its end. The chief impact is on unleaded gas, and especially premium unleaded, which already has undergone temporary localized shortages in recent months.

But shortage or not, prices have climbed this winter at a time when they usually decline. Warnings that gasoline prices will reach $1 a gallon have been heard. Whether or not prices do go that high soon, many stations already are charging 80 cents and more for unleaded gas.

But while heating oil is not an immediate problem, and natural gas is even in surplus this year in contrast to last year's "shortages" when gas supplies were under closer control, it would be useful to anticipate next fall's possibly tight supplies and certain higher prices.

Your utility company may be able to help. The utilities are being encouraged by federal and sometimes state laws to provide energy audits for homeowners at a modest charge.

The audits try to locate sources of heat loss and suggest where you may need insulation and other heat-saving devices.

Many heat-conserving measures also will insulate you against the summer heat.

You even can save on income taxes. You can get a credit of 15 percent of the cost of such energy-saving expenditures up to a maximum of $300.

CONSUMER DEBTS: The accelerated inflation also has helped push consumers more heavily into debt, and some are skating on thin financial ice.

The demand for credit and higher credit rates has become one of the main forces adding to inflation, including the inflation of your own expenses. The real effect is opposite to the notion pursued by the Carter Administration that high interest rates can help subdue inflation. Along with energy costs, interest costs are the universal ingredient in the price of everything you buy.

Total consumer debts are now $274 billion, an increase of 20 percent in just one year. Debts have reached 18 percent of disposable income, compared to 15 percent in 1970 and 12 percent in 1960.

Nor does this massive debt total include mortgages.

Even among families which do not become seriously overindebted, constant payment of large finance charges frequently results in a habitual loss of perhaps 4 to 5 percent of income.

A recent Harris survey found about 6 out of 10 people are very worried about their growing debts, with many complaining they are forced to borrow because of increases in living costs. Another factor has been the increase in amount and length of auto loans to 48 months, and now even 60 months, as car prices have gone up.

The most recent increase in debts was attributed to heavy Christmas buying and wide use of "plastic credit" (store and bank credit cards).

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GROUND IS BROKEN for the new headquarters of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers in Kensington, Md., outside Washington. Working the ceremonial spades are from left Kensington Mayor Jayne H. Plank, BC&T Executive Vice President Graydon E. Tetrick, Sec.-Treas. Rene Rondou and President John DeConcini. The four-story BC&T building is expected to be completed in April 1980.

Soup to Nonsense:

Youngsters Should Appreciate 'Hard Times' of Recent Past

By Jane Goodsell

KIDS TODAY MIGHT HAVE more respect for their elders if they realized the hardships we lived through, and I'm not talking about the depression. To the youth of today, the depression is as remote as the potato famine or the War of the Roses. There's no point either in trying to impress the young by telling them about wind-up phonographs, claw-footed bathtubs and treadle sewing machines. Anything that old-fashioned seems beguilingly romantic and quaint.

What's needed are some examples of primitive living that kids can understand, maybe even pity us for putting up with. Here's a partial list:

Back in the olden days, we didn't have remote control TV, no siree. When we wanted to switch channels, we had to walk clear across the room, sometimes as far as 20 feet, to turn the little dial.

We'd never even heard of multiplex stereo or tape decks. We thought ourselves lucky to have a cabinet model hi-fi.

We didn't have nine-cycle dishwashers with powerful turbo-spray wash action. We had to scrape and rinse dishes by hand before putting them in the dishwasher.

A lot of us can remember when frozen orange juice didn't come in a can with a little easy-open strip to pull. We had to use a can opener, sometimes even a non-electric can opener.

Bathroom tissue was available only in six or eight plain decorator shades. Floral patterned, perfumed tissue was unheard of.

Our sewing machines were so primitive they didn't have forward-reverse controls. We had to turn the fabric around when we wanted to sew backwards.

WORSE YET, we didn't have automatic ice machines or even easy-release ice trays. We had to hold the trays under running water to get the ice cubes out. No fooling.

Our miracle fibers were the old-fashioned type and that had to be hung up to drip dry. Our vacuum cleaners were so primitive they didn't even have retractable cords for easy storage.

There wasn't any such thing as a flip-top beer can. Forgetting to bring a bottle opener to a picnic was a catastrophe.

There. That ought to give spoiled modern kids some idea of how tough things were back in the olden days.

State Laws Inadequate:

Injury Compensation Trails New Hazards

STATE WORKERS' COMPENSATION programs have not kept pace with the nation's economic and industrial development, and the absence of federal leadership has allowed the development of inadequate and inequitable state programs. State laws are inadequate in their administration, benefit amounts, medical and rehabilitation care, and do not cover all workers or even all occupational injuries and diseases. Enactment of federal minimum standards is essential to provide an adequate program of workers' compensation protection for all workers in the public as well as in the private sector.

An estimated 500 to 600 new chemical processes are being introduced into industry each year. New devices such as the laser beam and the increasing use of radioactive substances and radioactive machines are exposing greater numbers of workers to occupational disease hazards.

Thousands of workers die each year from the effects of coal dust, asbestos, beryllium, lead, cotton dust, carbon monoxide, cancer-causing chemical dyes and pesticides to which they were exposed sometimes many years ago. Other workers suffer long illnesses from the same causes.

A recent study by the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences indicated that if the full consequences of occupational exposures in the present and the recent past are taken into account, the number of occupationally-related cancers may run to 40 percent of all cancer in the country.

The occupational disease effects of new and changing technology are increasingly being borne by workers themselves rather than the workers' compensation system. In fact, many occupational diseases are not covered by workers' compensation systems, and the victims or their survivors receive no benefits for work-related disability or death.

ON JULY 31, 1972, the National Commission on State Workers' Compensation Laws submitted to the President and Congress 84 recommendations for improving state programs, of which 19 were deemed "essential."

The commission also recommended that Congress enact minimum federal standards if the state record of compliance was not adequate by July 1975. As yet, not a single state is in compliance with the 19 essential recommendations.

These inadequate state laws are forcing workers or their survivors to pursue time-consuming and costly third-party suits for damages. Enactment of federal standards would eliminate these inadequacies of the state programs and would establish a nationwide system of adequate, equitable workers' compensation.

Senators Williams and Javits introduced a workers' compensation bill in the last Congress which would have met most AFL-CIO objectives but unfortunately it was not acted upon. Now they have introduced a new bill which is clearly inadequate and fails to meet the essential recommendations of the 1972 report.

The new bill would not adequately protect victims of occupational disease. It does not provide sufficient levels of wage replacement or protect beneficiaries against continuing inflation. In addition, there is no justification for continued exclusion of domestic and agricultural workers from coverage.

Therefore, because of these shortcomings, the AFL-CIO regards this bill as seriously inadequate in its present form.

—From a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on workers' compensation, Bal Harbour, Fla., Feb. 23, 1979.

To Meet Recession Threat:

Quick Action Urged On Housing Needs

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Prompt government action to expand housing production was urged by the AFL-CIO Executive Council to head off a major recession as well as catch up on the nation's needs.

A council statement viewed the "drastic" drop in housing starts in January as "the beginning of the expected housing slump" that will aggravate an already existing shortage.

"Not enough homes are being built to meet demand, forcing up housing prices and rents," the council said.

Meanwhile, climbing interest rates make housing unaffordable for millions of families. And the drop in residential construction will add to unemployment, "starting in the construction trades and rippling throughout the economy in industries which produce and distribute housing materials."

The Executive Council asked these "strong actions" to generate needed housing:

● Release of the $1 billion in standby authority for the Government National Mortgage Association to avert a depressed housing market for single-family homes.

● Reducing the present 7.5 percent mortgage interest on "tandem plan financing" to 6 percent. The council noted that the National Housing Act sets only a maximum interest for this program. "Legally, there is no reason why the interest rate could not be lowered."

● Reducing the current 4 percent interest rate for low-income homebuyers to the 1 percent minimum allowed by law. "Such an action would enable low-income families to buy homes," and make possible construction of tens of thousands of additional units.

● Authorization by the President for the Federal Reserve Board to implement standby credit regulations "for the purpose of preventing housing from bearing the brunt of tight-money policies."

The council statement noted that as mortgage funds decrease, "large amounts of credit are extended for corporate takeovers of companies, for foreign industries and for international money market speculation."

● Institution of tax-exempt mortgage revenue bonds by municipalities to finance low-interest mortgages. "But the benefits should be restricted to families who cannot afford to pay private market rates," the council said.

● Establishment of a Federal Housing Bank, to provide mortgage loans at 5 to 6 percent interest for families below a set income level.

● Raising the authorization for an assortment of federally assisted programs. These include the public housing program, which provides rental housing for low-income families and the elderly, the rental assistance for low- and moderate-income families in privately-owned apartment buildings, and programs of the Farmers Home Administration and the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development that help low-income and moderate-income families acquire homes and meet monthly payments.

The Executive Council statement said the nation's housing production has been running one million units a year behind the need. This "shortfall" is both inflationary and socially unacceptable, the council declared.

Unions Alerted To Continuing R-T-W Drive

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Despite numerous setbacks in the past two decades, anti-union forces are now pursuing compulsory open-shop laws in nine states, the AFL-CIO warned.

The state legislative campaign of the National Right to Work Committee is based on the hope that the labor movement will be spread too thin or concentrate its energy on defensive efforts rather than on new legislation, the Executive Council observed.

"The entire trade union movement must be alert to the new tactics and the new initiatives of the NRTWC," the council said in stressing that union members and the general public must be made aware of the committee's anti-union activities.

It called on all federation affiliates to fully support state and local central bodies in efforts to defeat the so-called "right-to-work" laws or measures prohibiting union security for public employees. It said the AFL-CIO field staff will assist the central bodies in the fight and will coordinate campaigns against all anti-union efforts.

The council termed the defeat of a "right-to-work" amendment by Missouri voters last November a victory for labor as well as "for the democratic principles of majority rule and individual economic security."

It said that by rejecting the R-T-W bid, the voters made it clear they understood "the important role unions play in the American economic system. They knew that where unions are weak, working people earn less and have fewer rights on the job."

The Missouri vote was also significant in that it exposed the backers of the amendment as a front group for the business community seeking low wages.

The council statement noted that the shrill attacks on labor that emerged in Missouri stemmed from the Right to Work Committee's frustrating record over the past 20 years—69 failures out of 71 tries.

The RTW committee has become even more blatantly anti-labor, the council observed, because "the conservatives and businessmen who have long funded the NRTWC's activities want something more than that for their money."



STUDY ON STATUS OF WOMEN in the food and service industries is reviewed by officials of the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. at the department's executive board meeting. From left are President William H. Wynn, Sec.-Treas. Robert F. Harbrant and Vice President Harry R. Poole.

Food Trades Put Focus On Organizing Women

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. pledged a greater commitment to the needs of women workers and urged its affiliates to commit additional resources to bring them into the trade union movement.

A report to the department's executive board meeting here noted that women are a still-growing percentage of the workforce but expressed concern that only 11 percent are organized.

The department's affiliates should be especially involved, the board said, because the largest number of women workers are employed in the retail, service and food processing sectors of the economy.

A resolution adopted by the board stressed the need to develop "new methods of organizing and addressing the needs of women workers."

In other action, the board adopted legislative goals for the first session of Congress with special attention to more effective regulation of illegal immigration, restrictions on use of so-called lie detectors by employers, and opposition to proposals to tax fringe benefits of workers.

Guests at the meeting included National Labor Relations Board Chairman John Fanning and Gunther Doding, president of the West German Food & Allied Catering Workers.

Fanning spoke of the problem of delays in NLRB action and discussed efforts to streamline procedures.

Doding suggested the possibility of an exchange of German and U.S. union representatives in an interchange of organizing techniques.

In a discussion of the department's activities, President William H. Wynn spoke highly of a media program which has made use of both television and radio in organizing and education campaigns.

'Big Board' Workers Win Contract Gains

New York—A new three-year contract covering floor reporters and office employees of the New York Stock Exchange and two other financial institutions here was overwhelmingly approved by members of Office & Professional Employees Local 153.

The agreement, which applies to some 2,100 workers at the Exchange, the Depository Trust Co., and Securities Industry Automation Corp., provides for pay increases of 8 percent the first year, 6 percent the second, and 8 percent in the third.

The OPEIU members voted to accept the pact by a ratio of about 4 to 1.

The agreement, retroactive to Nov. 4, 1978, also provides a first-year "skilled adjustment" increase of 2 percent to all employees in the bargaining unit..

The contract provides cost-of-living adjustments in the second and third years.

In addition, lifetime maximum major medical insurance coverage was increased from $50,000 to $150,000, effective Mar. 1.

The service requirement for five weeks of vacation was lowered from 21 to 20 years, and bereavement leave was increased from three to four days.

The old agreement expired last November but negotiators for the two sides agreed to a 90-day extension.

Union members rejected an initial proposal on Jan. 30, and talks resumed until final agreement was reached.

Impact of Trade Talks Stirs 'Grave Concerns'

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Executive Council expressed "grave concerns" over the impact of the multilateral trade negotiations and called for drafting of implementing legislation with utmost care and full consultation.

The council's statement noted that the negotiations authorized by the 1974 trade act to achieve fairer trade rules are drawing to a close and that preliminary information causes the concern.

A series of international codes dealing with complex and complicated problems is being drawn dealing with government subsidies, government procurement, licensing, safeguards, product standards, customs valuation, commercial counterfeiting as well as reform of overall rules. In addition, the talks are seeking reciprocal tariff cuts of about 30 percent spread out over the next 10 years.

After the codes are sent to Congress, with implementing legislation, Congress will have 90 legislative days to accept or reject the legislation. Amendments cannot be introduced.

"When the codes and implementing legislation are completed, we will be able to fully evaluate their impact," the council said. "Our evaluation will be based on the principles that the codes and the implementing legislation must protect American workers and industries against unfair trade competition and must assure the maintenance of a diversified, healthy U.S. economy."

In addition to the multilateral trade negotiations, the council cited other problems requiring congressional action including improved trade adjustment assistance, assessment of countervailing duties against subsidized imports, regulation of the transfer of technology and foreign investment, curtailment of speculation against the dollar by banks and multinational corporations, and application of fair labor standards criteria to imports.

Public Interest Stressed in Rules Governing Communications Media

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Revision of the nation's communications law must include seven basic principles to protect the free flow of information and ideas in the public interest, the AFL-CIO declared.

The federation's Executive Council served notice that the AFL-CIO and the Dept. for Professional Employees will participate fully in the current debate on new legislation and will continue its Special Committee on Public Broadcasting.

The electronic media, the council stressed, are as influential in "shaping the lives of Americans as schools, political parties, national, state and local governments." Because of the broad impact on the public, the council laid down the following principles for the new legislation.

● Requirements that broadcast licenses and cable operators serve the public interest.

● Insurance that the media provide opportunities for a balanced presentation of views on controversial issues.

● Equal access to media facilities to candidates for public office.

● Requirements for equal employment opportunities in the telecommunications industry.

● Encouragement of public affairs, public service and news programming at appropriate times.

● Provision for periodic review of the activities of broadcast licensees and cable operators.

● Strengthening the public broadcasting system, including increased funding insulated from both political and commercial control; limiting corporate contributions to general purpose grants only and barring underwriting of specific programs; governing of public stations by autonomous boards drawing their membership from all segments of the population; devoting program time and resources to encouraging and supporting American talent and creativity.





HEARING ON THE ROLE of anti-union consultants in resisting organizing efforts at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Boston drew a capacity crowd. Called by national and regional AFL-CIO leaders, the hearing focused on the practices of Modern Management Methods, Inc., an "employee relations" consulting firm hired by the hospital to keep out a Service Employees affiliate. The firm has participated in other anti-union campaigns throughout the nation.

Hospital's Anti-Labor Tactics Set By Professional Union-Busters

Boston—How a professional union-busting firm can help management keep workers from organizing has become painfully clear at a local hospital.

An investigatory hearing called by the AFL-CIO into the hiring of Modern Management Methods, Inc., by St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton confirmed what has surfaced in many other states: the so-called "employee relations" firm—the largest in the nation—is committed to quashing all attempts by workers to unionize.

A parade of workers at the 385-bed Catholic hospital testified that the 3M's, as the company is sometimes called, created a pattern of behavior—including intimidation, interrogation, arbitrary discipline, and discharge—intended to develop a general climate of fear among employees.

Three times since 1974, St. Elizabeth's workers have lost out in federally-supervised representation elections. In the last election, the workers had the help of Massachusetts Hospital Workers Local 880, a Service Employees' affiliate, only to lose by a slim majority.

Nancy Hartigan, a laboratory technician, told the AFL-CIO hearing that "at the time, we thought we lost to the hospital. It was only later that we discovered that we had been beaten by the 3M's" which she charged with provoking "a form of psychological warfare.

"The major weapon is fear," she said. "The consultants themselves concentrate on scaring the supervisors. Then it's up to the supervisors to scare us."

The hospital admits spending thosands of dollars to defeat unionization—an estimated $75,000 in the 1975 and 1976 elections, plus more in the third election last Oct. 4.

Richard Wilson of the AFL-CIO's Dept. of Organization & Field Services charged that the hospital paid the consulting firm with public funds—money that would affect the hospital's rates for Blue Cross and other hospitalization insurance plans.

Wilson, who chaired the Boston hearing, pointed out that according to the U.S. Labor Dept., neither St. Elizabeth's nor 3M's has reported on the use and financing of consultants to defeat unions, as required under the Labor-Management Relations Act.

Hartigan, the first to testify at the hearing, charged that the 3M campaign to keep the union out "not only violates employee rights but serious undermines patient care as well."

Reinforcing her remarks, Dave Barry testified that during captive-audience meetings conducted by 3M-indoctrinated supervisors, blood samples might sit around for hours before tests could be completed and that the delays brought about by workers attending the mandatory meetings "could affect the test results."

Another worker told of hospital supervisors taking pictures of workers they suspected of being pro-union.

Danny Cedrone, a housekeeping supervisor, described meetings at which 3M consultants explained what hospital supervisors should do to "keep the union out." He said that 3M was careful to "keep its hands clean—they got the supervisors to work on the employees" while staying in the background.

Gerry Scopa, who works in transportation, said that two weeks before the Oct. 4 election he was fired for his "attitude." He is convinced, he said, that the reason was that he had "talked up" the union. "My pro-union attitude—that's what it was."

Bobby Caslin, an X-ray technician, testified that his supervisor stopped him in the hall one day and complimented him on the "good job" that he was doing. He was told that he could probably become assistant chief of his department if it were not for his union activities. Two weeks later, when he was due for an annual job performance evaluation, Caslin was told by the same supervisor that his work was inadequate, and that he was not doing a good job.

Larry Bresslour, employed at the hospital for three and a half years as a nurse's aide and as a secretary, had been active in the first two union drives. Last May, before the third drive got under way, his supervisor informed him that he was falling down in his work, and that he might have to take some action. In June, Bresslour was transferred to another department. Later, as the campaign heated up and union-authorization cards were distributed, he was told that he had misunderstood, that he wasn't being transferred but discharged. He filed a grievance and was reinstated 11 weeks later but "the experience stays with me."

Josephine Coughlin, a dietary department worker, told of a co-worker, Joana Lira, who was warned by a supervisor that if she attended a Local 880 meeting she would lose her job.

"I was called into the office this afternoon, and they told me if I attend any of these meetings, I'm going to be fired," Lira told Coughlin. She was so scared that she did not attend.

Coughlin said that she, too, was intimidated by her supervisor and told "you'd better watch it," a reference to her union activity.

When she returned from a three-week vacation, other workers were cool to her, she was transferred from the kitchen to a secluded area where she and another pro-union worker were virtually isolated.

The National Labor Relations Board has charged the hospital with 38 violations of federal labor law and has begun a hearing into the complaints. Meanwhile, the AFL-CIO's Wilson stresses that the Boston experience is not an isolated example of 3M's activities. He said his office has reports of its presence in other campaigns in Iowa, Illinois, Maine, Wisconsin, Ohio, New York, and Arizona.

AFTRA Members Ratify New Pacts

New York—New national contracts between the Television & Radio Artists and the major advertising agencies and producers of radio and TV commercials received overwhelming approval from members in a ratification vote.

AFTRA National Executive Sec. Sanford I. Wolff said that the three-year pacts, negotiated jointly with the Screen Actors Guild, were accepted at membership meetings here, in Chicago and in Los Angeles.

The radio and TV commercial agreements were reached last month after four months of bargaining. SAG members are currently balloting on the contracts in a mail referendum.

Effective Standards Sought:

Job Injury Benefits Still Short of Goal

Bal Harbour, Fla.—America's workers need the protection of effective federal standards for workers' compensation, but a watered-down bill that has been introduced in the Senate won't give it to them, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

The council said increased occupational health hazards have added new urgency to the recommendations made nearly seven years ago by a National Commission on State Workers' Compensation Laws. The commission listed 19 of its 84 recommendations for program improvements as "essential" and said Congress should enact them as federal standards if states had not done so by mid-1975.

"As yet, not a single state is in compliance with the essential recommendations," the Executive Council stressed.

In the last Congress, the AFL-CIO supported the federal standards bill introduced in the Senate by Human Resources Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and co-sponsored by Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.).

But this year, the two senators have introduced a substitute measure that Williams said was "pared down" to improve its chances of passage.

The AFL-CIO termed the new version "clearly inadequate" and seriously short of the key recommendations of the 1972 commission.

"The new bill would not adequately protect victims of occupational disease," the council said. "It does not provide sufficient levels of wage replacement or protect beneficiaries against continuing inflation. In addition, there is no justification for continued exclusion of domestic and agricultural workers from coverage."

The council statement charged that America's workers and not the workers' compensation system are increasingly bearing the burden of occupational diseases generated by "new and changing technology."

It cited the introduction of an estimated 500 to 600 new chemical processes each year, the increased exposures to laser beams and radioactivity, the deaths and long illnesses resulting from exposure many years ago to substances now recognized as harmful.

Many occupational diseases are not covered by state workers' compensation laws, the council said, and victims and survivors are left unprotected or forced to pursue costly damage suits.

Federal standards are needed to remedy the inadequacies of state programs, the AFL-CIO urged. It said effective legislation "would restore workers' compensation as the exclusive remedy of injured workers and make uncertain and often inequitable remedies unnecessary."

Prevailing Wage Laws Called Vital Protection

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Prevailing wage laws are necessary protection for both workers and fair employers, the AFL-CIO said, and should be vigorously enforced.

Business groups, with open support from some government officials, have seized on the inflation argument to attack federal labor standards legislation. The chief targets have been the Davis-Bacon Act, which requires payment of area prevailing wages and benefits on federally-funded construction contracts, and the Service Contract Act, which covers a range of maintenance and service contracts.

Without such laws, the successful bidders for government contracts would in most cases be the firms that are able to pay workers the lowest wages and provide the fewest benefits.

"Cutting wages is not a way to fight inflation," the Executive Council said. But it is "a prescription for recession through reduction in worker buying power."

The council statement sharply challenged the assertion that prevailing wage laws aren't needed because the Fair Labor Standards Act sets a minimum wage for all workers.

A minimum wage is no substitute for the prevailing wage concept, the council stressed. And "those who would cut prevailing wage legislation are also the leaders of the drive to emasculate the Fair Labor Standards Act."

The council also warned of attempts to scuttle wage standard legislation through lack of enforcement or administrative decisions.

An example is the claim by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy in the Office of Management & Budget that it, and not the Secretary of Labor, has the right to determine whether a government contractor is bound by the Service Contract Act.

The Executive Council termed the attempted power grab "an attempt by OMB bureaucrats working with those who wish to undermine fair labor standards to gain their end indirectly."

The various prevailing wage laws "have a single purpose," the council said, "to ensure that workers and fair-minded employers will not be undercut by the U.S. government in its role as a purchaser of goods and services."

It said the decision of Congress to put enforcement in the Dept. of Labor assures the "expert, consistent and efficient administration of the law."

AFSCME Posts Gains in Florida

Miami—Some 8,000 public employees, members of the State, County & Municipal Employees, won major gains in contract negotiations recently concluded in three Florida cities.

In Miami, AFSCME negotiators secured a 25.5 percent increase over 33 months for 2,200 city workers, including blue-collar, administrative, professional, technical, and clerical employees.

A new contract covering 5,600 Jacksonville employees will provide an average 11 to 14 percent pay increase while, in Miami Beach, 600 members of AFSCME Local 1554 will receive an 8 percent wage increase, plus pay grade advances for several job classes.

Real Wages Continue Drop:

No Early Respite In Price Rise Seen

(Continued from Page 1)

The department has several times raised its prediction about 1979 food price increases, initially calling for a 4 percent rise over the year. In 1978, food prices soared 10.5 percent, and are currently 12.2 percent higher than a year ago.

The labor-supported Consumer Federation of America, noting the unusually sharp surge in food prices in January (18 percent at an annual rate), said that the latest round of price increases, "accompanied by some recent Administration decisions, add up to a very grim picture for consumers." It singled out Energy Sec. James Schlesinger's Feb. 22 decision to lift the ceiling on gasoline by 2 cents a gallon as a cause for particular concern.

The 1 percent seasonally-adjusted rise in the January CPI compared with an average monthly increase of about seven-tenths of 1 percent during 1978. Higher prices for food and beverages accounted for over one-third of the increase, with the balance coming from sharp increases in other basic necessities such as medical care, gasoline, and home ownership, BLS reported.

The increase in grocery store foods was primarily due to higher prices for beef and fresh fruits and vegetables, the government said. Fruits and vegetables rose 3.4 percent over the month, or 40.8 percent annually, while meats, poultry, fish, and eggs—lumped into one category—increased 2.3 percent, or 27.6 percent annually.

Anticipating a sharp climb in beef prices, the National Cattlemen's Association issued a statement the day before the CPI came out attributing January's higher meat prices to a cyclical decline in beef production and to winter storms and cold weather that disrupted cattle and beef marketing.

The January CPI advance—the largest one-month gain since February 1977—was not surprising in view of recent price increases at the wholesale level. Just a week earlier, the government reported a 1.3 percent jump in producer prices for finished goods, a measure that generally foreshadows consumer price movements.

Among nonfood items, substantial price increases were rung up in January for everything from new and used cars to out-of-town lodging. Home ownership costs increased eight-tenths of 1 percent, compared with five-tenths of 1 percent in December. Apparel services rose 1.1 percent, compared with four-tenths of 1 percent the month before.

Transportation costs soared 1.3 percent, the third consecutive month of large increases. For the three months ended in January, transportation charges rose at the compound annual rate of 15.2 percent.

Among other major expense categories, medical care costs rose eight-tenths of 1 percent over the month. Charges for professional services and hospital rooms increased 1.2 and 1.1 percent, respectively, following increases of five-tenths of 1 percent in December.

Entertainment costs, up six-tenths of 1 percent compared with 1.1 percent in December, constituted the only category to show a smaller increase over the month, BLS said.

In its report on earnings, BLS said that the one-tenth of 1 percent decline in buying power during January gave the typical blue-collar worker with three dependents an average of $91.96 in real spendable weekly earnings. This compared with $92.06 in December, $92.36 in January 1978, and $96.16 in calendar year 1972.

The January change in real spendable earnings, or take-home pay expressed in terms of constant 1967 dollars, reflected the revised social security tax increase and the reduced federal income tax liabilities that took effect on Jan. 1, BLS noted.

Proposed Cut In Budget Held Threat to Jobs

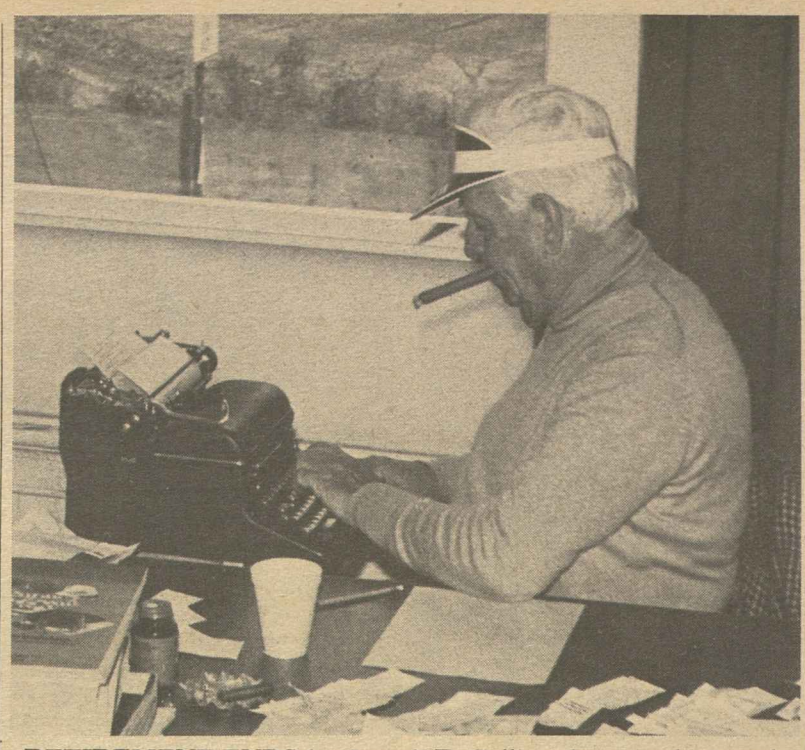
(Continued from Page 1)

These programs "brought tens of thousands of disadvantaged persons into gainful employment in the private sector," the council said. They represented "a practical application of affirmative action."

The council also criticized a reported plan to follow through the budget cuts by eliminating the Office of National Programs through a Labor Dept. reorganization.

The proposed cutback of job programs is "at best a mistake," the AFL-CIO said, and "at worst, a betrayal."

The council resolution asked the Administration "to restore immediately this ill-conceived cut" and called on the Labor Dept. to "reject any reorganization plan that would eliminate the Office of National Programs."



RETIREMENT ENDS for Joseph F. Collis, who served as president of the Newspaper Guild from 1953 to 1959 and was managing editor of the Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Times-Leader-News Record when he retired in 1975. He put on his old eyeshade to write editorials for the Citizens' Voice, the daily paper set up by union members who have been on strike since October.

U.S. Urged to Assure Canal Workers' Rights

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Executive Council called on the Carter Administration to insure the protection of workers' rights in the Panama Canal Zone, charging that their interests have not been fully supported by the U.S. government under the Panama Canal treaties signed last year.

"The affected AFL-CIO unions fear that, despite treaty assurances, terms and conditions of employment are being jeopardized," the council said in a statement.

"Mid-career employees see no future with the Panama Canal Commission due to insufficient and vague inducements to remain. The Administration's early-retirement proposal is inadequate and at best constitutes minimal compliance with treaty requirements for liberalized entitlement and calculation.

"The result of such a parsimonious attitude may be the exodus of mid-career employees, jeopardizing the latter half of the transition period."

The Administration should agree to liberalize the early retirement provisions and should re-evaluate its position on terms and conditions of employment and collective bargaining in order that the Panama Canal remain a model of efficiency during the 21-year transition period in which the canal is turned over to the Panamanian government, the council said.

"The AFL-CIO supports the aspirations of Panama Canal workers for full and complete protection of job rights and benefits," the statement declared.

To prevent future exploitation and to insure equitable treatment and protection of all workers, it said, full-scope collective bargaining, which is permitted by the treaty, must be implemented.

Article X, Paragraph 9 of the Panama Canal Treaty recognizes the right of employees to negotiate collective contracts with the Panama Canal Commission and recognizes these employees' right to have their unions affiliate with international labor unions, the council pointed out.

It recalled its endorsement of the Panama Canal treaties in August 1977 and again in February 1978 when it urged ratification of the documents: "Our support was and is based on equitable treatment and protection of all workers in the Canal Zone, who must not be caught in the middle and victimized as a result of their government's foreign policy."

Labor Studies Center Lists March Schedule

The George Meany Center for Labor Studies has scheduled three institutes during March at its Silver Spring, Md., campus for officers and staff members of AFL-CIO unions:

Labor Songs and Labor Lore, Mar. 12-14—How to lead songs at union events, learning and relearning labor songs and the lore of the labor movement. The session will end with a public concert in the campus theater at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Mar. 14. Lisa Portman is coordinating.

Major Issues and Trends in Collective Bargaining, Mar. 11-16—Topics include group legal services, pension bargaining, costing union benefits, equal opportunity laws, new devices in disputes settlements, reduction of working hours and the new consumer price index. William Gillen is coordinating.

Grantsmanship for Union Leaders, Mar. 25-28—A workshop on obtaining government grants available for various purposes. Lisa Portman is coordinating.

A fourth institute, **Grievance Arbitration: Preparation and Presentation,** will be offered at the University of California, Berkeley, Mar. 11-16. Mock cases will be argued before professional arbitrators using videotape to permit participants to judge themselves. Lawrence Rogin is coordinating.

Four AFL-CIO unions, one department and three affiliated organizations will use the campus facilities during March.

The union programs have been scheduled by the State, County & Municipal Employees Mar. 4-9; Meat Cutters Mar. 4-9; Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers Mar. 25-30; and the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Mar. 4-9, 11-16, 25-30.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Education has scheduled its annual conference of labor educators Mar. 18-21.

Programs of affiliates include the International Labor Press Association, Mar. 14-16; African-American Labor Center, Mar. 4-9; and the American Institute for Free Labor Development, which will wind up a five-week institute for 40 Latin-American trade unionists on Mar. 16.

Further information on these or other labor studies programs may be obtained from Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., executive director, George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Telephone 301/431-6400.

AFSCME Official Fannie Fine Retires

New York—Fannie Fine, a vice president of District Council 37 of the State, County & Municipal Employees, retired after more than 30 years with the union.

Fine also held other AFSCME offices, including that of vice chairperson of the union's judicial panel. She joined Local 1113 here shortly after going to work as a clerk in the city's Dept. of Finance. She became its president in 1958, holding the position until her retirement.

Interim Goals For Welfare Reform Set

Bal Harbour, Fla. — Organized labor's commitment to comprehensive welfare reform was reaffirmed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council as it urged Congress to enact "interim legislation" pointing to that goal.

The council asked a single national standard of eligibility and said federal minimums for cash assistance and food stamps should be set "at no less than the poverty level." If necessary, that goal could be reached in stages, the council said.

Aid to families with dependent children (AFDC) should be based on family need, the council urged, and states should not be allowed to deny AFDC to families with both parents living in the home. Such coverage is now optional, and 24 states allow AFDC payments only to single-parent households.

The statement reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's opposition to any plan that would require welfare recipients to "work off their welfare payments in substandard jobs."

Citing the 10-year effort to achieve a "truly comprehensive reform" of the welfare system, the council added:

"The provisions we recommend should be enacted not as a substitute for, but as a first step toward, comprehensive welfare reform."

It said interim legislation should be designed to bring an immediate improvement in the lives of the poor and to ease the fiscal burden on state and local governments.

Caution Issued On Transport Deregulation

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The needs of consumers, small communities and small business would be hurt "by wholesale deregulation of the surface transportation industry," the AFL-CIO Executive Council warned.

"Also adversely affected would be workers employed in these industries," the council said, "and any proposed changes in regulations must assure adequate job protection for workers."

The AFL-CIO will evaluate specific proposals for partial deregulation or changes in regulations "in terms of whether they provide the public with rates and services that are fair and reasonable and provide adequate protection for the workers affected," the council said in a statement.

Tracing the history that led to the creation of the Interstate Commerce Commission in 1887 and the broadening of its jurisdiction over many forms of surface transportation, the council said it believed overall regulation must be continued.

The Administration has announced that it will seek deregulation of surface transportation similar to its approach to deregulation of the air transportation industry.

The council warned also that proposed elimination of most of the nation's remaining railroad passenger service "would have disastrous consequences for many communities." The Dept. of Transportation has proposed a 43 percent cutback in the rail passenger network served by Amtrak.

The council pointed out that in a period of energy shortages, rail passenger transportation should be enhanced, not emasculated, and called on Congress "to reject the proposed cutbacks" in service.

Measure Gains in Indiana:

California Rejects Budget Amendment

A labor-opposed resolution to summon a constitutional convention in order to initiate a "balanced budget amendment" was blocked in California but received approval of both houses of the Indiana legislature.

In California, a constitutional convention resolution that had already passed the state Senate was defeated in the Assembly's Ways & Means Committee on an 18-12 straight party vote.

All committee Democrats voted against the constitutional call even though the resolution's most prominent advocate is the state's Democratic governor, Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

The committee subsequently went on record as asking Congress to propose an amendment that would require the federal government to keep outlays in line with revenue, but there was agreement on both sides that such a resolution was meaningless.

A constitutional convention call passed the Indiana House in January by a 96-0 vote, but by the time a companion measure came to the Senate floor on Feb. 19 a spotlight of publicity on the economic dangers of a rigid balanced budget amendment and the political dangers of an untried constitutional convention procedure had at least caused Democrats to take a sharper look at the proposal. It passed the Senate with 29 Republicans voting for it and 20 Democrats opposed.

Minor differences between the House and Senate resolutions must be worked out before Indiana officially becomes the 29th state to petition for a constitutional convention.

If 34 states submit valid petitions for a constitutional convention—and the validity of some of the state resolutions has been challenged—Congress would be obligated to call a convention after first setting up the procedures for holding such a meeting.

A convention is listed in the Constitution as an alternative means of proposing an amendment and submitting it to the states for ratification. But all amendments that have been proposed in the nation's history have been initiated by Congress and sent to the states after receiving a two-thirds endorsement from both the House and Senate.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council took a strong stand against a constitutional convention, declaring that it would oppose such a potentially mischievous device even if called to act on a proposed amendment that labor supports. But the balanced budget proposal, the council said, would create economic "chaos."

Based on news reports, the following states have adopted some sort of resolution asking for a constitutional convention to act on a balanced budget amendment, although not all of the states listed have formally forwarded such a resolution to Congress:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming.



MARCHING IN SUPPORT of striking Steelworkers at the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., members of more than two dozen AFL-CIO unions in Virginia picket the shipyard. The strike for union recognition began Jan. 31, and has the solid backing of the labor movement.

Higher Cutoff Sought For L-G Report Forms

The AFL-CIO has petitioned the Labor Dept. to expand the number of small national and local unions that are permitted to use simplified government forms in submitting annual financial statements under the Landrum-Griffin Act.

Under existing regulations, use of the shorter LM-3 report is limited to unions with less than $30,000 in annual receipts. Unions that have higher receipts are required to file more complex and detailed LM-2 reports to comply with provisions of the Labor-Management Reporting & Disclosure Act.

The federation's petition asks that the cutoff be raised to $100,000 to take into account the impact of inflation over the past two decades and to reduce the reporting burden on small unions.

The $30,000 cutoff has been in effect since 1962, when it was raised from a $20,000 threshhold that came with enactment of the 1959 law.

By increasing the LM-3 limitation to $100,000, the federation pointed out in its petition, more than 7,000 of the nation's 55,000 local unions would become eligible for the shorter reporting form.

A number of intermediate labor organizations and several small national unions would also qualify for the LM-3 filing, the petition noted.

Data submitted by the federation reflect a marked increase in the number of unions that are required to file the longer LM-2 reports since 1964 as annual receipts have grown.

The figures show that nearly 80 percent of the 52,000 unions in 1964 qualified for shorter LM-3 reports, but by 1976, only about 68 percent of the 54,517 unions then reporting were able to meet the LM-3 cutoff.

Conversely, unions required to use the longer LM-2 reports increased from about 20 percent in 1964 to more than 31 percent in 1976.

The annual financial statements that unions must file, whether the LM-2 or LM-3 forms are used, cover assets, liabilities, receipts and disbursements, including salaries, allowances and expenses of union officers.

3/3/79

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Rallies Back USWA Strike At Shipyard

Newport News, Va.—Organized labor showed its strong support for striking Steelworkers at the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Drydock Co., turning out thousands of union members at two separate rallies.

The first occurred here on Feb. 24 when members of AFL-CIO unions in Virginia, marching two abreast, paraded along the main street in front of the shipyard. The line of marchers stretched for 15 blocks.

Another rally, this one sponsored by the national AFL-CIO, was scheduled to take place at the Hampton coliseum at noon Mar. 2, with USWA President Lloyd McBride leading the speakers.

The Steelworkers won a federally-supervised representation election over a "company" union more than a year ago but the shipyard, which is owned by Tenneco, Inc., has persisted in its refusal to bargain. The USWA struck the company on Jan. 31, a year to the day of the election.

Meanwhile, the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond continued to deliberate management's appeal of the election results, but is not expected to reach a decision for several weeks.

Police estimated that some 4,000 workers took part in the Feb. 24 march and rally, about half of them union members from locals in central and southeastern Virginia and the rest striking shipyard workers.

An estimated 100 state and local police officers continued to restrict union pickets at the yard's 17 gates. More than 50 pickets have been arrested on various charges under Virginia's "right-to-work" law since the strike began.

Charles Della Dies, Maryland Leader

Baltimore—Charles A. Della, who retired as president of Maryland-District of Columbia AFL-CIO in 1973, died Feb. 26 at Mount Sinai Hospital here from complications due to a blood clot. He was 68.

Della served as secretary of the Maryland CIO from 1952 until merger with the AFL state body. He became secretary-treasurer in 1957 and was first elected president of the State AFL-CIO in 1963. He was a member of the Steelworkers and the Machinists.

Extension Cut to 1 Year For Wage-Price Panel

The Senate Banking Committee approved a bill to extend the life of the Council on Wage & Price Stability, but only for one more year.

The Administration had sought a two-year extension as well as increased funding. But the AFL-CIO had urged that the agency be scrapped as "an inglorious failure" and replaced by a more equitable and more effective anti-inflation program.

Unless Congress acts, the wage-price council will have to fold up at the end of this fiscal year, Sept. 30, 1979. The Senate committee voted 10-4 to continue it for only one additional year.

A two-year extension bill was being considered by the House Banking Committee.

In another area of labor interest, a House Ways & Means subcommittee approved legislation to improve trade adjustment assistance for workers whose jobs are wiped out by imports.

A similar bill passed both the House and Senate last year despite Administration opposition to some of its provisions, but final approval was a casualty of the adjournment rush.

The bill would broaden eligibility for benefits by including workers making component parts of a product affected by increased imports—such as a plant making bumpers for discontinued automobiles. It would also extend benefits an additional 26 weeks for older workers, to bridge the gap until social security eligibility, and provide a degree of retroactivity for a number of workers laid off before their firms were certified as eligible for impact aid.

The subcommittee dropped one labor-supported change that would have allowed an optional test for eligibility—employment in an import-hurt industry for at least 40 weeks over the previous two years as an alternative to the present requirement of at least 26 weeks of employment in the preceding year. But the full committee will have an opportunity to restore that provision.

No major bills have reached the floor of the House or Senate during the first six weeks of Congress, but committees have been active.

The Senate devoted most of that time to consideration of the compromise change in its filibuster rule which it finally adopted on Feb. 22. In one of its first actions after disposing of the rules change, it approved President Carter's nomination of Leonard Woodcock, former president of the Auto Workers, as the first U.S. ambassador to the People's Republic of China. He had been chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking since March 1977.

157,000 Drew Trade Impact Benefits in '78

Some 157,000 American workers who lost their jobs because of foreign imports received benefits averaging $68 a week in fiscal year 1978, the Labor Dept. reported, although about 80,000 additional workers were denied trade adjustment assistance during the year.

The Labor Dept. said there was a 42 percent increase in the number of workers receiving payments in the fiscal year ended last Sept. 30 over the 110,702 who were paid assistance in the previous year. Total dollar payments increased by 71 percent to $258.3 million from $150.9 million in fiscal 1977.

The 157,000 workers receiving benefits during the year were among 430,000 workers covered by 1,893 petitions certified by the Labor Dept. since April 1975 for adjustment assistance under the 1974 Trade Act.

During the same period, the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research pointed out, 2,256 additional petitions were rejected. These would have covered more than a half-million workers whose jobs were also adversely affected by imports.

Under provisions of the Trade Act, workers affected by imports may apply for cash allowances equal to 70 percent of their average weekly wages, up to a maximum of the full average weekly wage in manufacturing. The program also provides for job retraining, counseling and relocation allowances.

Signalmen's Leader Fills Railroad Safety Post

Joseph W. Walsh, a vice president and national legislative representative of the Railroad Signalmen since 1973, has been appointed associate administrator for safety in the Dept. of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration. Walsh will join DOT in early March after his resignation from the union post becomes effective.

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Jump in Wholesale Prices Exposes Holes in Controls

Congress Pressed On Jobs Goal

The AFL-CIO called on Congress to shape a full employment alternative to Administration policies that would shrink economic growth and add to unemployment.

Both the President's budget proposals and his economic message are incompatible with the Humphrey-Hawkins law, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald testified. He urged the Joint Economic Committee of Congress not to acquiesce in the flouting of the employment goals less than six months after they were enacted into law.

The new law, formally titled the Full Employment & Balanced Growth Act, directs the President to submit to Congress a program and timetable to reduce unemployment to 4 percent by 1984. It also carries a mandate to bring down inflation.

The Administration's program would accomplish neither of these goals, Oswald charged.

By the Administration's own estimate, he noted, the short-term impact would be to push the unemployment rate back above 6 percent this year. And the Congressional Budget Office has estimated that the jobless rate would be at a near-recession 5.5 percent in 1984 unless the Administration changes its economic course.

Oswald, accompanied by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young, urged the Joint Economic Committee to live up to its responsibility to evaluate the Administration program in terms of the Humphrey-Hawkins requirements.

He asked the panel for a clear statement that the Administration's economic goals and policies are not adequate nor appropriate to fulfill the full employment mandate of the Humphrey-Hawkins law, nor to control effectively continuing high inflation. And he urged it to recommend anti-recession measures that the law said should be "considered" in achieving the job goals.

Oswald warned that present economic policies are pushing the economy towards a new recession that would start from a higher level of unemployment than the last downturn.

It can't even be argued that the Administration's restrictive budget is needed to reduce inflation, Oswald told the panel.

He cited congressional estimates that the cutbacks necessary to meet the Administration's "arbitrary" limit on the budget deficit would shave the inflation

(Continued on Page 6)



DEMONSTRATING SOLID SUPPORT for the Steelworkers' six-week-old strike at the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., union leaders and supporters march down Washington Ave., near the shipyard's entrances. An estimated 4,500 workers, some coming from as far away as Chicago, Texas, and Ontario, Canada, turned out for the rally and parade. **(Story, Page 3.)**

Key Index Slumps for 3rd Month

The government's index of leading economic indicators fell 1.2 percent in January, the third month in a row that this key measure has declined.

The index, which tracks changes in 12 areas of the economy, is regarded as the most accurate barometer of the country's overall economic performance. Many economists consider three consecutive declines in the index as a signal of a possible downturn in the economy.

In the same report, the Commerce Dept. revised declines of five-tenths of 1 percent in both December and November to one-tenth of 1 percent and four-tenths of 1

(Continued on Page 3)

Little Impact on Inflation:

Budget Cuts Seen Risking Recession

Budget restrictions sought by the Administration would create needless suffering and increase the risk of recession, while making only a "negligible" dent in inflation, the AFL-CIO testified.

Legislative Director Kenneth Young warned the House Budget Committee that imposing an arbitrary spending limit in an effort to create an illusion of "fiscal responsibility" would have an opposite effect.

The economic slowdown projected by the Administration's "budget scenario" would increase the deficit even further, he said, "as tax revenues decline and the cost of welfare, unemployment insurance and other social programs increase."

But resolutions being shaped by the House committee and its Senate counterpart will set overall spending ceilings on government programs and project total revenues and outlays for the fiscal year that starts Oct. 1, 1979. The President's proposed budget is in effect the starting point for this process.

Young told the panel that the AFL-CIO considers steady economic growth "the best mechanism for obtaining a balanced budget."

He asked the committee to draft a budget keyed to job creation and economic progress. If the amount of deficit is the concern, Young suggested, revenue could be increased "through closing the tax loopholes of wealthy individuals and corporations."

Budget cutbacks proposed by the Administration "are concentrated in programs that are helping the unemployed, retirees, workers, the poor, children, students, women and minorities," Young protested.

He gave these examples of the type of cuts sought by the President that most concern the AFL-CIO:

- A slash of $1.5 billion in employment and training programs, especially in public service jobs and summer youth programs. National outreach and skill-training pro-

(Continued on Page 8)

Meany Sees Consumers Suffering

By James M. Shevis

February's 1 percent jump in the government's wholesale price index is further evidence that the Carter Administration's present anti-inflation program is "too riddled with loopholes to be effective," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

"It is the same old story—everything is going up, up, up," said Meany, pointing out that most of last month's major price increases were for items that are largely exempt from the Administration's price standards.

"All the raw material increases, for example, will be passed on to consumers, along with the added dollar profits which will result from applying the same profit margin to higher costs," Meany said.

"Only when the cost of everything and the income of everybody are brought under control will inflation be halted. Until then, America's consumers will continue to be hurt and hurt badly."

While not as severe as the 1.3 percent rise in January, last month's increase in producer prices for finished goods translates to a 12 percent annual climb. The higher wholesale prices generally are felt at the retail level in a few weeks or months, depending on the product or item.

January's 1.3 percent climb in the wholesale price index was the sharpest one-month increase in over four years. The February rise compared with an average monthly increase of eight-tenths of 1 percent during the last quarter of 1978. There was only one month last year—April—in which the rise

(Continued on Page 7)

Court Upholds Right of Workers To Refuse Hazardous Assignments

A federal appellate court has upheld the right of a worker to refuse a job assignment that he has reasonable cause to believe would expose him to serious injury or death.

The unanimous decision by a three-judge panel of the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals upholds a Labor Dept. regulation spelling out the circumstances under which a worker can refuse an assignment for safety reasons without being penalized by his employer.

Earlier, a different appellate court had come to an opposite conclusion on the validity of the government regulation, making it likely that the Supreme Court will review the issue.

The most recent decision is binding in the 6th Circuit states of Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and Tennessee. But the contrary decision of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals remains in force for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. In other states, the safety regulation remains fully in force unless courts rule otherwise.

An eloquent dissenting opinion in the 5th Circuit case that was decided in 1977 was incorporated in the 6th Circuit decision.

In that case, the Labor Dept. had sought the reinstatement of an ironworker fired for refusing to continue work on an exposed 150-foot structure in a strong wind.

The dissenter on the three-judge panel, John Minor Wisdom, said he didn't believe that a Congress that enacted legislation to assure a safe workplace intended that employees should have to "die at their posts" pending correction of violations.

(Continued on Page 8)

Trade Deficit For January Up Sharply

The nation's trade deficit widened sharply in January, the 32nd month in a row that imports exceeded exports, the Commerce Dept. reported.

Using a new method of calculating the figures, the government said that the January trade deficit totaled $3.1 billion compared to $1.75 billion the month before. The deficit was the widest since February 1978 when the margin was $4.31 billion.

The trade deficit constitutes an inflationary factor since it tends to depress the dollar and thereby increase domestic price levels. The Federal Reserve Board said that

(Continued on Page 7)

Energy Dept. Ruling Boosts Gasoline Price

The Energy Dept. announced a new ruling permitting oil refiners to pass on more of their costs to consumers of gasoline. The ruling means higher prices at the gas pump.

The additional charge—an estimated 5 cents a gallon this year and another 5 cents next year—comes on top of increases already imposed or planned because of inflation and the rising cost of imported oil.

Energy Dept. economists figure that inflation and higher prices for crude oil set by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries last December will add about 9 cents to the 70-cent average price of a gallon of gasoline. The department's latest action thus would raise the average price to about 90 cents by the end of 1980.

Meanwhile, a Congressional Research Services study argued that the oil shortage caused by the halt in imports from Iran is much smaller than stated by the Energy Dept. and many oil companies.

The study by the Library of Congress branch charged that an artificial atmosphere of crisis had been generated to put pressure on the Carter Administration to remove price controls on oil.

The study contended that the shortage resulting from the political turmoil in Iran is 80,000 barrels a day, not the 2 million to 2.5 million barrels estimated by the Energy Dept. and the oil industry.



DRASTIC CUTBACK in rail passenger service was opposed by railroad unions at Senate hearings. Testifying for the Railway Labor Executives Association is James Snyder, right, accompanied by RLEA Counsel William G. Mahoney.

Agency Hit for Skirting 'Buy American' Rules

The AFL-CIO protested an emergency regulation published by the Urban Mass Transportation Administration that violates the intent of Congress by giving preference to foreign bidders and by denying funds to states whose laws do not conform precisely with agency regulations.

In a letter to UMTA Administrator Richard S. Page, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald pointed out that Congress stipulated in the Surface Transportation Act of 1978 that, with four specific exceptions, federal funds may not be used for mass transportation projects unless the materials and supplies involved are of U.S. origin.

Oswald drew Page's attention to a section of the House Public Works Committee's report on the measure that states:

"The Buy American provision was included to protect American manufacturers and suppliers who have suffered substantial losses as a result of competition from foreign imports which, in many cases, are underpriced because of government financial support and cheap labor costs. The loss of business by domestic companies adds to the trade deficit, fuels inflation and leads to unemployment and reduced productivity. The committee believes that this section will contribute to a healthy national economy and is consistent with the national interest."

Yet, Oswald pointed out, the regulation published by the UMTA declares that "materials of foreign origin should be considered for UMTA procurement;" "the nationality of suppliers or the employees of these suppliers does not affect the origin of end products or components to be procured," and "origin of subcomponents is immaterial."

Such language should be deleted or revised to carry out congressional intent and to eliminate the appearance of encouraging waivers for the use of foreign materials, Oswald said.

He also attacked the section of the UMTA proposed regulations that would require the state and local governments to nullify state law or lose mass transit funds.

Supreme Court Limits Access to Test Data

A closely divided Supreme Court ruled against the National Labor Relations Board and the union position in a case involving access to aptitude tests used for promotions.

The 5-4 decision may not be the court's last word on the matter, however, since it was based on the specifics of a particular case, and the majority opinion noted that the issues for Supreme Court review were "relatively narrow." Sometimes, several test cases are required before the ripple effect of a decision can be determined.

In this case, the Detroit Edison Co. had challenged a National Labor Relations Board ruling on an unfair labor practice charge brought by a local of the Utility Workers in a promotion policy dispute.

The company had filled six higher-level jobs outside the bargaining unit after reporting that none of the 10 applicants for the job from within the unit had passed the required aptitude test.

It refused the union's request to examine both the test questions and the answer sheets on the grounds of confidentiality of test questions and privacy of the employees who took the test.

The NLRB eventually agreed that the union had a right to the data it sought in order to pursue the grievance and fulfill its collective bargaining function. But while it told the company to make the material available, it directed the union to safeguard its confidentiality. The 6th Circuit Court of Appeals agreed with the NLRB ruling, but the company appealed further to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court majority held that "the remedy selected by the board does not adequately protect the security of the test" since there was a question of what sanctions could be imposed on the union if it broke the confidentiality obligation and a risk of "inadvertent leaks."

A dissent by Justice Byron R. White, joined by Justices William J. Brennan, Jr., and Thurgood Marshall, found no reason to question the union's good-faith intent to abide by the NLRB conditions and said the collective bargaining function of the union is more pressing in this case than the concern of some professional psychologists about preserving secrecy.

The majority opinion was written by Justice Potter Stewart, joined by Chief Justice Warren Burger and Justices Harry Blackmun, Lewis Powell and William Rehnquist. Justice John Paul Stevens agreed with the majority on one issue but joined with the dissenters on the issue of deferring to the NLRB.

Canadian Gift Honors Equity

New York—Actors' Equity received a unique gift from its Canadian counterpart—a stained glass window as "a gesture of appreciation" for a quarter-century of "support and assistance."

Canadian Equity was a branch of the U.S. union until 1976, when it became an independent organization.

The window, created by artist Ira Ginsburg, portrays the performance of "The Theatre of Neptune," a masque performed at Port Royal, Nova Scotia, in 1606. It is considered the first play presented in North America.

Air Controllers Hit FAA Rule Change

A proposed change in the government's Aviation Safety Reporting System could make air travel more hazardous, the Air Traffic Controllers (PATCO) warned.

The Federal Aviation Administration wants to abolish a policy that exempts persons who report close escapes from mid-air collisions from punitive action by the FAA if the agency concludes some regulations had been violated by the reporting party.

PATCO President John F. Leyden said the union considers the reporting system an important means of pinpointing problems and averting catastrophe.

Jobs, Service at Stake:

Rail Unions Score Plan to Cut Amtrak

Warning that major cutbacks in the nation's rail passenger system could lead to "eventual cessation of all operations," railroad unions urged Congress to reject the Administration's plan to reduce Amtrak by 43 percent.

James Snyder, legislative director of the United Transportation Union, told a Senate Commerce subcommittee that the Dept. of Transportation's proposal to restructure and cut back Amtrak would prevent it from ever becoming "a truly national system."

Testifying on behalf of the Railway Labor Executives Association, Snyder said the plan would begin a process that "can only lead to additional reductions in route-miles and eventual cessation of all operations, except perhaps those of the Northeast corridor."

DOT Sec. Brock Adams defended the plan, which would cut 43 percent of the nation's rail passenger track and leave some 200 cities and towns and ten states without service.

Adams said the "improved Amtrak route system" would save $1.4 billion in tax dollars during the next five years and yet would continue to provide rail passenger service to 91 percent of the riders served by the current system.

Amtrak President Alan Boyd told the subcommittee that "Amtrak—as a public service—is spread too thin. We cannot do the job the American public expects of us, given the extent of the route structure we now have and the resources at our disposal."

Boyd cited numerous problems, including old cars, rundown facilities and poor track.

Boyd emphasized the energy savings possible if the country had a modern, well-used rail transportation system. In a new analysis, released as part of his testimony, he noted that the passenger train is capable of yielding twice as many passenger miles per gallon of fuel as cars, airplanes, or buses.

Boyd suggested that the cost of operating Amtrak be viewed in the context of federal subsidies necessary to operate all modes of transportation. He said federal support of Amtrak represented just over two percent of total federal subsidies to all forms of transportation.

Opposition to the plan also came from senators whose states would lose rail service if the proposal goes into effect. The cutbacks will go into effect Oct. 1 unless either the Senate or House votes to reject the plan by May 15.

In his testimony, Snyder pointed out that the drastic reduction proposed for the Amtrak system would save only about eight percent in government funding when the additional cost of track changes and employee protection is figured in.

The plan would result in the layoff of 3,400 employees—about 17 percent of Amtrak's total workforce—and 2,400 employees of other railroads, Snyder said.

Many hundreds of others will be displaced to lower paying jobs or forced to move their homes or both as a result of the bumping process required by the abolition of 5,800 jobs, he warned.

While DOT estimates the employee protection costs at $97 million for Fiscal Years 1980 through 1984, Snyder predicted the costs could run as high as $300 million or more.

Urging rejection of the plan, Snyder called on Congress to enact legislation that would recognize the "public service mission" of Amtrak.

Typographical Union Okays Strike Fund

Colorado Springs, Colo.—Members of the Typographical Union approved establishment of a $5 million strike fund by a referendum vote of 34,917 to 24,414. The ITU said it went $2 million in debt to pay benefits during last fall's New York newspaper strike.

Mrs. Meany Mourned By Labor, Dignitaries

Eugenie McMahon Meany, wife of AFL-CIO President George Meany, died Mar. 5 at the family home in Bethesda, Md., following a long illness, and Americans in all walks of life mourned her passing.

Mrs. Meany, who was 82, had been a skilled dressmaker and a member of the Ladies' Garment Workers when the Meanys were married in New York in 1919. They have lived in Bethesda, a suburb of Washington, D.C., since 1948.

Survivors include three daughters, Mrs. Regina Mayer, Mrs. Genevieve Lutz and Mrs. Eileen Lee, and 14 grandchildren.

A funeral mass was concelebrated at St. Bartholomew's Church in Bethesda Mar. 7 by Rev. James J. Reddy, Rev. John F. Macfarlane, Msgr. George G. Higgins and Rev. Fred Maguire. All 14 of Mrs. Meany's grandchildren participated in the service.

Among dignitaries attending the services were Vice President Walter F. Mondale, First Lady Rosalynn Carter, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, Senators Edward M. Kennedy and Charles M. Mathias, former Sen. Eugene McCarthy, several members of the House of Representatives, the diplomatic corps and the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

The family requests that expressions of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Leukemia Society of America.



MRS. MEANY

As Strike Continues

NLRB to Expedite Shipyard Hearings

Newport News, Va.—Striking Steelworkers at the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. pressed their campaign for economic justice while awaiting a hearing on the company's challenge to its representation-election victory last year.

USWA leaders interrupted a Mar. 2 rally at nearby Hampton Coliseum to announce that the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond had just rejected the company's request for a new election but had remanded the case to the National Labor Relations Board for a hearing on a single charge of alleged vote fraud.

The NLRB since has ordered its Region 5 director, William Humphrey in Baltimore, to expedite a hearing on the charge before an NLRB administrative law judge. In its ruling, the 4th Circuit dismissed all other company objections.

Bruce Thrasher, USWA District 35 director, called the appeals court finding a victory for the union which "will hasten the day that we bring Tenneco to the collective bargaining table."

Tenneco, Inc., the Texas-based conglomerate that owns the shipyard, has steadfastly refused to bargain with the union ever since a substantial majority of the shipyard's 17,000 workers chose the Steelworkers as their representative over a year ago.

Tenneco has taken the position that it will not negotiate with the Steelworkers until its legal questions about the election are settled. The Steelworkers defeated the company-backed Peninsula Shipbuilders Association by a substantial margin on Jan. 31, 1978, and was certified as the bargaining agent by the NLRB.

Hundreds of labor leaders and supporters of the six-week-old strike poured into the Hampton-Newport News area to demonstrate their solidarity with the Steelworkers. Their number swelled to an estimated 4,500 by the time they reached the Coliseum where speaker after speaker pledged to stand behind the union.

USWA President Lloyd McBride received thunderous applause and a standing ovation when he promised the union's "total support" for the strike. Similar expressions were voiced by President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers and President Kenneth T. Blaylock of the Government Employees. All three are vice presidents of the AFL-CIO.

Thrasher touched off prolonged cheering with his prediction of things to come: "We are going to settle our differences with Tenneco at the bargaining table, and we are going to settle with the governor and other hostile politicians at the ballot box."

Virginia Gov. John Dalton has posted a heavy state police guard at entrances to the shipyard to enforce the state's so-called right-to-work law. Police, with their riot gear and attack dogs, failed to dampen the spirit of the thousands who turned out for the rally.

Strike coordinator Jack Hower told the rally that "if Tenneco can pay off-duty policemen $7.50 per hour, then it is clear that Tenneco can offer the people who build the ships much better wages and benefits." Shortly after the strike began on Jan. 31, the shipyard hired about 65 Portsmouth and Virginia Beach police officers to moonlight for the company after regular work hours.

Also addressing the rally were Pat Greathouse, a vice president of the UAW; USWA Sec. Lynn Williams; USWA Treas. Frank McKee, and USWA Vice President Leon Lynch.

Teachers Sue Defense Dept. Over Schedule

The overseas branch of the American Federation of Teachers has filed a $4.5-million lawsuit against the Dept. of Defense, charging that it illegally extended the school year at military installations abroad without added compensation to employees.

The suit affects some 6,500 American teachers in schools for children of military personnel in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Ernest Lehmann, president of the Overseas Federation of Teachers, accused the Defense Dept. of unilaterally extending the school year by nine days in reprisal for the union's success in winning a previous back-pay suit.

AFT President Albert Shanker said the court action is necessary because the teachers in overseas schools are federal employees who don't have the right to negotiate wages and hours. "This kind of lawsuit is our only recourse," he said.

Economic Indicators Off For 3rd Straight Month

(Continued from Page 1)

percent, respectively. The January drop was the largest decline in the index since a 3 percent slide in January 1975.

The January reading, which is subject to revision as the December and November figures were, showed the index at 136.5 percent of its 1967 average, down from 138.1 percent in December.

Among the indicators whose downward change contributed to the decline were the money supply, building permits, the average workweek, prices of crude materials, and total liquid assets.

The indicators that moved ahead were the layoff rate, the number of companies reporting slower deliveries, contracts and orders for plant and equipment, stock prices, and new orders.

The greatest single contributor to the decline was building permits, which reflected the 20 percent plunge in housing starts thus far this year, the government said. Of the indicators which showed increases, contracts and orders for plant and equipment had the largest influence on the index.

The index's January showing followed a pattern of weak economic performance during the month. In addition to the decline in housing starts, the government earlier had reported that retail sales rose a slim four-tenths of 1 percent during the month while industrial production was up one-tenth of 1 percent.



FIRST OF A LIMITED SERIES of lithographs of George Meany is presented to the AFL-CIO president at the recent executive board meeting of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. The lithograph was made from a pencil sketch by Vice President William Schroeder of the Graphic Arts International Union. From left are Department Sec.-Treas. Earl D. McDavid, Meany, Schroeder; GAIU President Kenneth J. Brown and Department President Joseph D. Keenan.

'Sheltered Workshops' Charged With Exploiting Blind Workers

Thousands of blind workers employed in so-called "sheltered workshops" across the country are being paid subminimum wages—and sometimes no wages at all—while many of the workshops make big profits, the National Federation of the Blind has charged.

The federation petitioned the Labor Dept. to end the exemption of the workshops from the federal minimum wage law. The legislative history of the exemption, the federation told the Labor Dept., "makes it clear that (the law) was intended to curb exploitation, not to provide a breeding ground for it."

The 10-page petition cited extensively from recent reports in the Wall Street Journal. The Journal found that annual incomes of workshop employees often are below $1,500, while many administrators of the workshops, usually sighted persons, often receive salaries in the $50,000 range.

Not only are blind workers being exploited, the federation told the Labor Dept., but generally there is little aid provided them in finding work in private industry—ostensibly a primary goal of the workshops.

"The workshops' self-interest is served by retaining the best workers, who produce the most income," the petition declared.

It charges that private industry uses the workshops "to secure labor at vastly reduced cost."

It quotes a spokesman for General Electric as acknowledging the company subcontracts work to workshops in at least four states because "they don't charge a whole lot of money. It was cheaper than to have our own people do it . . . the cost of labor is really your only difference."

The law allows workshops to pay as little as one-fourth the minimum wage, based on their estimate of the proposition of "normal" productivity that each worker can achieve. It also allows the shops to maintain "work activity centers," where workers can be kept for years in so-called training programs and be paid only carfare.

Not all workshops pay subminimum wages. The Journal quotes Donald Morris, who is blind and is vice president of three workshops in Maryland, as complaining that because he insists on paying the minimum wage, his workshops are at a competitive disadvantage with other workshops in getting contracts.

"I bet if you go down the line of the Fortune 500, you'd find every one of them at some point is buying something for less than the fair costs of manufacture" because of low workshop wages, he says.

Unions have organized a few workshops for the blind and through collective bargaining have succeeded in setting fair wages and working conditions at those work places.

The Labor Dept., said it would review the federation's petition as soon as possible.

The AFL-CIO has for years sought to negotiate an understanding with the National Association of Sheltered Workshops on behalf of the handicapped workers, but has been unable to reach final agreement.

More than a decade ago the AFL-CIO said in a convention resolution that exemptions are too readily granted by the Labor Dept., "resulting in undesirably low wages for sheltered shopworkers." It called on the workshops to adhere to federal and state wage-hour standards and to meet prevailing piece-work rates for similar work done in private industry.

J.P. Stevens Chairman Refuted by Employees

Greenville, S.C.—While J. P. Stevens board chairman James D. Finley was painting a rosy picture of high morale and "excellent" employee-management relations at the company's annual stockholders meeting here, Stevens workers told what it's really like to be employed by the No. 1 labor-law violator in the country.

The workers challenged Finley on all his claims of improved working conditions and higher wages for Stevens employees. They cited instances of continued discrimination, unsafe work places, and management abuses.

Several religious and civil rights leaders strongly criticized the company for its strained labor relations, which have resulted in dozens of NLRB and court rulings over the years against the company, the second largest textile manufacturer in the country.

"There continues to be a . . . flagrant violation of rights of J. P. Stevens employees," W. W. Finlator, a Raleigh, N.C., pastor charged. Dissident shareholders proposed four resolutions asking for the establishment of management oversight policies and practices.

The Clothing & Textile Workers Union, which has been struggling to organize the company's workers, has mounted a worldwide boycott of Stevens products to persuade the company to engage in good-faith bargaining and stop its anti-union activities. The union is the elected representative of Stevens workers at the company's Roanoke Rapids, N.C., plants but has been unable to get the firm to negotiate a contract.

At meetings here on the eve of the shareholders meeting, union members held discussions and presentations underscoring their determination to organize the company's workers.

Some 400 Stevens workers and union supporters were on hand to hear leaders of community, religious, and women's groups from throughout the South decry Stevens's continued flouting of the law. The leaders, many of them Stevens stockholders, represented Southerners for Economic Justice, the National Women's Committee to Support J. P. Stevens Workers, the Resource Center for Women and Ministry in the South, Inc., and the Women's Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union.

ACTWU conducted an in-depth exploration of byssinosis (brown lung disease) faced by thousands of Stevens workers each day. The union's occupational safety and health experts accompanied the discussion with a slide presentation and the showing of a recent "60 Minutes" segment on byssinosis at Stevens plants televised nationally by CBS.

Financing Federal Elections

THE AFL-CIO HAS LONG BASED its political education programs on the principle of increasing the participation of union members in the democratic process. That is why the backbone of labor's political programs has been registration, information and get-out-the-vote drives.

We believe that, in a democracy, votes should count more than dollars. But the events of the 1978 elections demonstrate the phenomenal advantage that accrues to wealth and the undue influence money has over participatory democracy.

The AFL-CIO believes that public financing of federal elections is the only way to ensure that election to public office is not an auction, with the victor being the highest bidder. Public financing would counter the current tendency of potential leaders to reject careers in public service because of the staggering costs of running for office.

Therefore, we will continue to work for enactment of legislation providing federal financing of elections with strict expenditure limits.

Until such legislation is passed, the labor movement has no choice but to continue—and to expand—our efforts to raise voluntary political contributions from union members. If we do not, business and right-wing political action committees will swamp pro-labor candidates with a flood of contributions to their opponents.

In 1976 approximately 150 corporate political action committees were formed as a result of the new amendments and instituted checkoff procedures for contributions by management personnel and/or stockholders. These committees contributed nearly $7 million to candidates favored by the business community.

Two years later, the number of corporate PACs had grown to more than 800, with total contributions of $15.1 million. Most of this money went to candidates who oppose the legislative goals of working people. Concurrent with this development has been the growth in political action committees formed by trade associations and right-wing groups. Some 500 trade association PACs contributed $23.7 million to candidates in 1978, while right-wing PACs gave at least $10 million more.

Thus, campaign contributions by business, trade associations and right-wing PACs totaled nearly $50 million in 1978. By contrast, voluntary contributions from all labor sources totaled $14.5 million.

Union members can never match their employers' contributions, dollar-for-dollar, but we are confident that now that the extent of the business and right-wing challenge is clear, union members will do more to support the candidates who support them in legislative battles. To assist union members, each union should strive to make it as simple and easy as possible for union members to voluntarily contribute to their union's political efforts. The most promising possibility is the voluntary checkoff of political contributions—a system made lawful by the 1976 Federal Election Campaign Act amendments. A number of AFL-CIO affiliates already use the checkoff. Their experience shows that union members favor this way of making their contributions.

Therefore, the AFL-CIO urges its affiliates to establish voluntary political action checkoff systems for workers. We will help our affiliates provide information to union members as to the simplicity and efficiency of checkoff procedures and to promote maximum possible voluntary participation by union members in this program.

—The AFL-CIO Executive Council, Bal Harbour, Fla.

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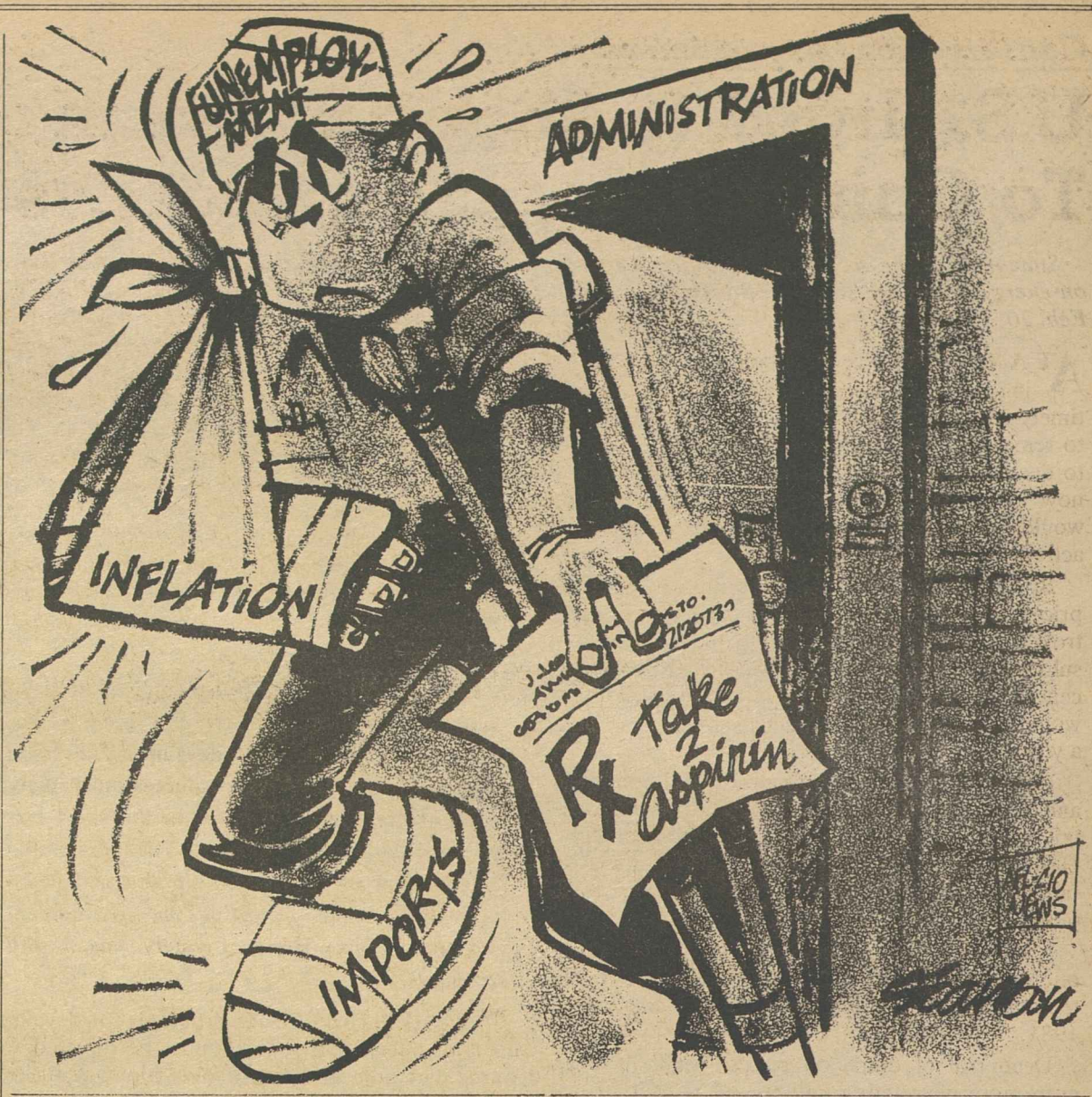
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Noble Notions Not Immune:

Florida's Land Scandal Shows How Good Policies Can Go Bad

By Gus Tyler

THE SCANDAL over the maladministration of the high-minded environmental laws in Florida suggests that even the most noble notions are not immune to the corruption that exudes from the almost ubiquitous larceny that lurks in the human heart.

The laws, passed in 1972, were written to keep the state of sun, sea and oranges from turning into a compound of concrete condominiums dependent on polluted waters.

One-time sparsely settled Florida was racing to become the third most populous state in the union, according to the Census Bureau, moving from a population of 2.7 million in 1950 to 14 million by the year 2000. The laws called for $40 million to buy up land for recreation and another $200 million to protect endangered environmental resources.

It looked like the right thing to do: a quarter of a billion dollars invested in protecting the future so that the growth would not be cancerous. And then the hanky-panky began.

Florida has some expertise in such conniving. For years, the state was infamous for its realty peddlers who hawked away lands under water to unsuspecting customers who bought by mail. The well-honed talent was put to use under the new law.

A central figure in the current scandal is Harmon Shields, director of the State Dept. of Natural Resources, who had the job of watchdog over the environment. He was Mr. Right.

But now he is suspected of being Mr. Wrong as the result of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Justice Dept. into the strategems and schemes surrounding the sale and purchase of "environmental" land. Although Shields has not been officially charged with any malfeasance, he was removed from his position by the governor, with the consent of the state cabinet.

The Tallahassee Democrat newspaper reports an allegation that Shields accepted a five-figure "commission" from land sellers. Among the purchases was land under water, just as in the bad old days of sale to blind buyers. Parcels of land were purchased at prices far above the going market rate.

If these allegations are true, then it appears that the ever-wily realty speculators, in their grab for the quarter-billion dollars made available for land purchase by Florida, made certain that Shields would be no shield.

But whether proven or not, the charges are doing great damage to the cause of orderly growth in Florida.

Voters are far less likely to vote in a huge bond issue in the future—and more money is needed—if they feel that the "good cause" is an evil conspiracy to rip off the taxpayer.

Gov. Robert Graham, who ran a campaign in 1972 to get voters to approve the bond issue to buy the land, is profoundly vexed. He contends that "public support for high quality environment is as high today as it was in the beginning of the decade," but says the "scandal makes it very difficult to go to the people and ask for more money."

Add the present flap in Florida to the catalogue of cases documenting instances where the right policies were ruined by the wrong persons.

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'Make Sure That No One Profits...'

We in the AFL-CIO fully agree that inflation is now the most dangerous economic problem America faces. We are eager to cooperate in swift and effective action to cure it.

Of course, wage increases do contribute to inflation. . . . If controls are the only way to control inflation, wages should be controlled along with everything else.

We are prepared to make whatever sacrifices are needed. But not alone. Not while others make none. Not while the prices of everything we need and must purchase continue to go up.

Not only would that be completely unfair. It wouldn't work. Wages are not the cause of inflation and wage controls alone cannot halt it.

So we say to Congress: Pass a fair, rational, enforceable, universal system of controls that address the real causes of inflation. Control our wages . . . Control the prices . . . make absolutely sure that no one profits from this economic crisis.

And once the inflationary crisis is over, let's get back to the free, open American marketplace.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany to the Jacobi Society, Mar. 3, 1979.

Conservation, Development:

U.S. Urged to Shape Program To Gain Energy Independence

Statement of the AFL-CIO Executive Council on energy prices and supplies, Bal Harbour, Fla., Feb. 20, 1979.

AT A TIME WHEN inflationary fires are burning full blast, it would be ill-advised and untimely for the Administration to initiate measures to remove ceilings from gasoline retail prices and to decontrol crude oil prices. Both of these steps, now under consideration by the Administration, would increase inflation and dampen economic activity.

By the Administration's own estimates, gasoline prices would rise about 4 cents per gallon if controls are lifted. Others estimate the increase resulting from decontrol at a higher level. Each one-cent increase in the price of a gallon of gasoline would cost American consumers about $1 billion a year.

Certainly, if the Iranian cutoff of oil continues and shortages develop, decontrolled gasoline retail prices would rise even more dramatically. Gasoline makes up about 46 percent of domestic oil products. Motor vehicles consume 90 percent of the gasoline.

Mandatory controls on crude oil prices expire on May 31, 1979. However, the President has the authority to continue controls until September 1981.

Decontrol of crude oil prices would have an even more devastating inflationary impact. If domestic crude oil prices were to rise to world levels, the direct cost to American consumers would be about $14.5 billion per year.

In addition, there would be a ripple effect throughout the economy, the cost of which is difficult to calculate. In the past, the Library of Congress has estimated the ripple effect at 1½ to 2 times the primary effect. In truth, decontrol of domestic crude oil prices is a submission to the OPEC cartel and establishes its prices as the U.S. price.

Obviously, the economy would suffer from such an action, and consumers would bear the burden of the effects of decontrol. Only the oil companies would benefit.

We therefore urge the President not to decontrol gasoline and crude oil prices.

At the same time, the Administration should immediately proceed with programs for both developing domestic energy supplies and conserving existing supplies. Recent developments in Iran demonstrate that America is still too dependent for a critical portion of its energy supplies on insecure foreign sources.

So long as there is the current unequal relationship between the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the consuming nations, we can expect continuing oil price increases and resultant inflationary effects. For the United States this is compounded by the willingness of U.S. oil companies to cooperate in these price increase schemes. The only solution is for the United States to develop an import-purchasing mechanism at the governmental level which can deal as an equal with OPEC nations. We, therefore, call upon the government to establish an Energy Import Board, with sole authority to determine the level of U.S. imports and to allocate oil imports, to negotiate with suppliers to develop a purchase mechanism and to take any other steps necessary to end the stranglehold the OPEC nations and the major oil companies now have on the American economy.

While every effort must be made to increase domestic production of oil and natural gas, there is an urgent need to develop all alternate sources of energy. The two sources most likely to be of greatest significance in the short run are coal and nuclear power. The accelerated development of nuclear power and coal must be realized while protecting the environment and maintaining stringent safety and health standards.

AT THE SAME TIME, programs for development of alternative sources must be directed towards such other sources as solar, biomass, fusion, geothermal, gasohol, coal liquefaction and gassification, wind, tidal and any other sources.

Private industry, left to itself, cannot or will not develop the alternative energy sources needed by this country. For that reason, the AFL-CIO believes an Energy Independence Authority should be established to help achieve energy security for the United States, including the power to launch projects for the production and distribution of energy patterned after the TVA concept.

But the immediate threat of gasoline shortages means that the United States can no longer wait before implementing a conservation program that is fair, realistic and effective.

We believe any attempt to ration gasoline by raising prices, either directly or indirectly, is inherently unfair and will not work. Likewise we believe rationing based only on registered motor vehicles, without any provision for allocation on the basis of need, adjustment of inequities or the alleviation of individual hardship, must be prevented.

We urge the Dept. of Energy to consider more than just the views of industry sources. A program designed without meeting the concern of labor and consumer groups would be suspect on its face and would be certain to fail.

Congress Urged to Intercede:

Dangerous Precedent Feared In Social Security Cutbacks

CONGRESS SHOULD REJECT the Carter Administration's plan to roll back social security protections to achieve "short-term political and economic goals," Associate Director Lawrence Smedley of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security urged on Labor News Conference.

Smedley said that while it now appears that the Administration may drop its demand to cut death benefits, student assistance and some other smaller programs, there are clear signs that there will be a major drive to dilute existing safeguards for workers who suffer total and permanent disability. He said that the Administration's 1979 push may be the opening gun for cuts and rollbacks of a number of social security protections in the future.

He warned this could set a dangerous precedent that future Presidents may try to follow as they look for ways to "balance or trim their budget requests."

Smedley agreed that the disability program will be the major social security issue on Capitol Hill this year, noting that the Administration would cap benefits at 80 percent of average indexed monthly earnings. Such a formula, he said, would have an "adverse effect on low-income workers—young workers—particularly among the minorities," most of whom are just beginning work careers and have "low wage records and intermittent employment." He stressed the wide difference between "average wages and actual earnings at the time of the onset of disability."

Social security programs should not be subject to short-term, transitory policies related to short-term budgetary problems, Smedley asserted. He said that changes of the nature proposed by the Carter Administration should be carefully thought out and discussed with the appropriate advisory bodies. That way, he added, "the people who have a right to expect these benefits will have confidence that the system will give them what they have worked and paid for during their working lives."

Reporters questioning Smedley on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Al Goldsmith of Washington Insurance Newsletter and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. Labor News Conference is broadcast weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

"I RATHER THINK THAT the influence of the American press . . . is declining. This, I believe, is because so many newspapers are owned or influenced by reactionary interests and predatory corporations, and are used selfishly to promote the welfare of these reactionary interests, rather than the welfare of the public."

Those words of William Randolph Hearst were uttered in 1924—a year in which American corporations owned 153 newspapers, or eight percent of all dailies. Today, corporations control about 1,100 daily newspapers—61 percent of those printed and accounting for 75 percent of all daily circulation.

Hearst's concern over the decline of independent newspaper ownership rings ironic now because he was a founding father of the trend toward chain ownership and media concentration that poses a serious threat to the public's right to diverse sources of information.

Rep. Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz.) declared recently: "I firmly believe that we have seen the emergence of media giants with such a potential for economic abuse and without redeeming social benefit that the time has come to say 'Enough, there has to be a limit to this gigantism.' "

The "gigantism" of concern to Udall was discussed by Ben H. Bagdikian at a Federal Trade Commission symposium on media concentration. Bagdikian, a professor of journalism at the University of California at Berkeley, has been a reporter and editor for nearly 20 years. A respected media critic, he also was the first president of the Mellett Fund for a Free and Responsible Press.

Bagdikian, who offered the Hearst quotation to the symposium, argues that growing corporate ownership of the means of mass communication is affecting the information provided to the public. He worries that media competition for the $27 billion spent each year on advertising is turning newspapers, magazines, radio and television alike into producers of pablum, with corporate owners more concerned with attracting advertising dollars and compiling impressive profit reports than delivering relevant news.

Bagdikian's research has determined that 167 newspaper chains control the overwhelming majority of American newspapers. And, according to the Census of Manufacturers, 20 corporations control 52 percent of all newspaper sales. It gets even scarier, in the view of Bagdikian and others, when it is realized that 20 corporations also control 50 percent of all magazine sales, 52 percent of all book sales, and 76 percent of all record and tape sales.

"If one counts the three (television) networks and the ten corporations whose sponsorship dominate prime time," Bagdikian adds, "13 corporations control two-thirds of the audience in television and radio. Seven corporations control 75 percent of movie distribution."

Solutions to the problem are not easy to come by. There is serious concern on all sides over the constitutional right to a free press, a press free of government regulation which could, conceivably, evolve into government control.

One part of the solution, in the view of Udall, is embodied in his Independent Local Newspaper Act. This bill, which got nowhere in the 95th Congress but will be reintroduced in the 96th, would change tax laws to enable locally-owned newspapers to more easily avoid the clutches of the large chains.

Bagdikian also has some suggestions, including newspaper staff election of editors as a way of providing insulation against corporate interference with the news, and the placing of public members on newspaper boards of directors.

Another Bagdikian proposal won the endorsement of the 30,000-member Newspaper Guild. The Guild has called on Congress to enact a bill that would put a ceiling on the number of newspapers or total circulation a single media company could control. "There may be those who say freedom of the press makes such a bill impossible. We say that freedom of the press makes it imperative," the union declared.



CUTBACKS in social security benefits sought by the Carter Administration would set a dangerous precedent, AFL-CIO Associate Social Security Director Lawrence Smedley warned. He was interviewed on Labor News Conference by Al Goldsmith of Washington Insurance Newsletter, left, and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc., right. The program is aired on Mutual radio.



LABOR'S CONCERN at the warning signs of a new recession is shared by Rep. Richard Bolling (D-Mo.) at hearings of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress. Bolling, center, talks with AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, left, and Legislative Director Kenneth Young.

Protest Voiced in Jailing Of Malaysian Unionist

The AFL-CIO joined 20 North American transportation unions in a strong protest of the jailing of an International Transport Federation official and other trade unionists by the Malaysian government.

The official, Donald U'ren, a Malaysian citizen who is the ITF's Asian representative, was arrested along with 18 Malaysian Airlines employees who had gone on strike on Feb. 15. U'ren has been held incommunicado at an undisclosed location.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland termed the arrests "a violation of trade union and human rights."

U'ren was arrested at a seminar being conducted by the ITF and the Railway & Airline Clerks for Malaysian transport workers, Kirkland noted. He said the Malaysian government's action demonstrated its "contempt for the free trade union movements of the world."

In a letter to Malaysian Prime Minister Hussein bin Onn and Malaysia's ambassador to the U.S., Zain Azraai, ITF North American affiliates called for the immediate release of the imprisoned trade unionists.

Jack Otero, secretary of the ITF North American Caucus, charged that the arrests were "particularly disturbing coming from a democratic government dealing with a straightforward industrial dispute."

Otero, who is a vice president and international affairs director of the Railway & Airline Clerks, was joined by BRAC President Fred J. Kroll in a separate letter to Zain sharply protesting the Malaysian government's actions.

"It is extremely disturbing that a government that prides itself on being a model of democracy and freedom should act in such an arbitrary manner in dealing with a legitimate trade union and its genuinely modest claims for improvements in wages and other benefits after their collective agreement expired at the end of May 1978," the letter said.

Otero backed up a previous request from AFL-CIO President George Meany to P. P. Narayanan of the Malaysian Trade Union Congress that he take steps to "assist in the immediate redress of this gross violation of trade union and human rights."

Narayanan, who also heads the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, has promised full cooperation in seeking the release of the arrested trade unionists.

ITF officials said that the Malaysian Airlines employees' union had encountered an "uncompromising attitude" by management when it sought improvements in pay and working conditions.

After several months of the carrier's intransigence, the workers reacted by refusing to work overtime. Management suspended a large number of the employees, many were arrested, and non-union workers were hired at higher pay rates than the regular staff received.

At the same time, the government announced that it would "deregister" the union, thus removing its legal right to collective bargaining recognition.

The ITF is an international organization to which most of the Free World's transportation unions are affiliated. U.S. affiliates include the Machinists, Transport Workers, United Transportation Union, BRAC, Maintenance of Way Employees, Flight Engineers, Longshoremen, Seafarers, and National Maritime Union.

Anti-Worker Laws Blocked In Wyoming

Cheyenne, Wyo. — Despite the heavy influence of the mineral industry and employer groups in the recently concluded 40-day session of the state legislature, unions were able to stave off a series of attacks on basic worker rights.

Executive Sec. Keith Henning of the Wyoming AFL-CIO reported that a measure to outlaw strikes by public employees was defeated in the House and an attempt to repeal the state's tenure law for teachers was rejected in the Senate.

And although both houses of the legislature voted to repeal the state's prevailing wage law for the construction trades, Gov. Ed Herschler (D) vetoed the measure.

Herschler also vetoed a bill repealing the state law limiting the working day for underground miners to eight hours. A modified version of the bill, which provides for a longer work shift only with the mutual agreement of workers or their union representatives, was subsequently adopted.

In other action, however, the legislature approved a resolution calling for a constitutional convention to initiate a balanced federal budget.

Congress Pressed On Jobs Goal

(Continued from Page 1)

rate by only one-tenth of 1 percent.

But such a budget would "seriously cripple a number of important federal programs and, worst of all, would cut job programs at a time when even the Administration's own projections indicate that unemployment will go up."

Oswald urged Congress to take the initiative on the countercyclical employment policies that the law commends for consideration. They include:

- Accelerated public works, "including the development of standby public works projects." The program enacted during the height of the last recession has expired, the AFL-CIO noted.
- Public service employment, which the Administration is seeking to cut back at a time when it should be fully funded.
- State and local grant programs. The AFL-CIO asked a "countercyclical" program targeted to areas of high unemployment.
- Adjusting "the levels and duration of unemployment insurance." The AFL-CIO has outlined a package of improvements "to provide adequate protection against the threatening recession."
- "Skill training in both the private and public sectors." A first step would be restoration of a proposed $50 million cut in national training and outreach programs, Oswald said.
- Youth employment programs. But the budget would cut out 250,000 summer youth jobs.
- Community development programs, which the AFL-CIO said would be facilitated by the Administration's proposed National Development Bank. It urged Congress to approve the legislation.
- Federal procurement programs targeted on labor surplus areas. Oswald said Congress should try to ensure that such procurement preferences aren't barred by multilateral trade agreements.
- Triggering of an assortment of employment and training programs by a period of rising unemployment, with a phaseout mechanism when the job situation improves.

Oswald suggested that budget authority for "countercyclical contingency funds and emergency public works" be enacted so as to make possible quicker action "to offset the recession which looms later this year."

Extension Pressed:

Steel Import Limits Termed Key to Jobs

Thousands of workers in the American steel industry could lose their jobs unless import restraints on stainless and tool steels are extended, President Lloyd McBride of the Steelworkers warned in testimony before the U.S. International Trade Commission.

The USWA and the specialty steel industry are petitioning the ITC for continuation of the import limitations which have been in effect since 1976 and are due to expire in June.

"Thousands of tons in new capacity has been constructed abroad, almost all of which was built with the direct assistance of foreign governments," McBride said.

He noted that in addition to Japan and Europe, large new capabilities in specialty steel production have been developed by Korea, Taiwan, Spain, Brazil, Finland and other countries.

McBride supported the testimony of Richard P. Simmons, president of the Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corp. and chairman of the labor-industry coalition on specialty steel in citing the threat of foreign producers.

"They stand poised to decimate our markets, sweeping away the gains we have made in the past three years, and with them, thousands of Steelworkers' jobs," the ITC was told.

In reviewing the gains made under the import restraints, President Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. said that "the dire predictions of price gouging by U.S. companies just did not materialize."

Even with escalating inflation, Clayman said, the U.S. specialty steel industry has shown responsibility in the marketplace.

Citing a Labor Dept. report, Clayman noted that import restraints have not necessarily resulted in higher prices.

"The report makes it clear that 'the performance of the specialty steel industry and the textile industry, and preliminary results in the TV and footwear industries, demonstrate that import relief can be of benefit to the injured [industry and workers] and need not impose an undue cost on consumers in the form of price increases.' "

Since the restraints have gone into effect, Simmons told the trade panel, the industry has invested millions of dollars in new equipment and facilities to improve productivity and reduce costs while keeping price increases moderate.

McBride pointed out that prior to the restraints, the unemployment rate in specialty steel was 40 percent and that entire communities were affected by severe layoffs.

"Although we are still not operating at full capacity, we have enjoyed modest gains in employment," McBride said. He stressed, however, that "the future is clouded by the threat of quota removal."

The ITC had originally recommended that the existing import restraints on specialty steel be invoked for five years, but former President Ford trimmed the period to three years.

Lid Proposed On Scrap Iron, Steel Exports

A labor-industry coalition has called for federal controls on the export of scrap iron and steel to halt an excessive drain of scarce materials and a serious inflationary impact on the U.S. economy.

The Ferrous Scrap Consumers' Coalition, which includes the Steelworkers, the Molders and a number of industry groups, foundries and metal shops, has petitioned Commerce Sec. Juanita Kreps to limit the scrap exports to 600,000 short tons per month. Kreps has the authority under the Export Administration Act to impose the limit, the coalition noted.

It said U.S. ferrous scrap exports reached record levels last year, exceeding 9 million tons for an increase of 54 percent over 1977.

As a result, domestic prices skyrocketed. The price of No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap climbed 18 percent in 1978. And the composite price index in January was 8.5 percent higher than in December.

Unless export controls are imposed, the coalition warned that prices will continue to spurt as U.S. demand increases and scrap supplies dwindle.

One-Sided Controls Called Bad Medicine

An inflation-sick economy "won't cure itself," but a one-sided system of "voluntary" controls is the wrong medicine, AFL-CIO President George Meany told a gathering of physicians.

Meany's speech to the Jacobi Society, a Washington area organization of doctors, said wage increases and physician fees both contribute to inflation. So do interest rates and profits and all of the ingredients that go into consumer prices, he stressed.

That's why labor's economic prescription calls for a full but temporary dose of comprehensive economic controls, established by law "on the cost of everything and the income of everybody," Meany said.

As a doctor might put it, Meany said, "it will taste awful but it will be good for you."

To assure fairness, he urged, "control our wages but control your fees as well. Control the prices we both have to pay and make absolutely sure that no one profits from this economic crisis."

Meany stressed labor's concern for the chief victims of inflation, especially "the poor and the sick, the unemployed and the exploited, those on fixed incomes and those with virtually no income."

Workers generally, he told the doctors, have been losing ground and "have less purchasing power than they did seven years ago."

Nevertheless, Meany said, workers are prepared to make sacrifices "but not alone. Not while others make none. Not while the prices of everything we need and must purchase continue to go up unchecked."

Controls should not stay on any longer than the inflation crisis compels, Meany stressed. When the emergency is over, "let's get back to the free, open American marketplace."

Despite Some Curbs:

Employer Mutual Aid Pacts Still Pose Threat to Unions

Mutual aid pacts—used in the transportation industry for years as strikebreaking weapons—may have been crippled by recent actions in Congress and the courts, but these MAP schemes are still a serious threat to unions in other industries, an article in the current Federationist magazine warns.

The mutual aid agreements have worked so well that rail and airline carriers were able to turn tidy profits even in recent lengthy strikes, the article by Sam Marshall notes.

Marshall cites two notable MAP payoffs: Northwest Airlines collected $108 million during a 109-day strike by the Air Line Pilots and Norfolk & Western Railway received $800,000 a day during a 12-week strike by the Railway & Airline Clerks.

"Congress found that the mutual aid pact in the airline industry was an abuse of the collective bargaining process that could no longer be sanctioned," Marshall asserts in the article. "In passing the air deregulation bill, it outlawed the mutual aid pact."

The legislation imposes strict limits on the Civil Aeronautics Board's approval of any restructured MAP operations by the airline industry.

These structures, along with earlier decisions by Pan Am and Eastern Airlines to pull out of MAP, have dampened the fervor of mutual aid advocates, Marshall observes. A former labor editor, he is now a consultant on labor publications.

The Railway Clerks used the courts to challenge the "Service Interruption Policies" of railroad employers, the article notes.

"BRAC stunned the rail industry when it expanded its strike from Norfolk & Western to other railroads on the grounds that those who contributed to the mutual aid pact were, in fact, participating in the N&W dispute."

Federal courts, as well as U.S. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, upheld BRAC's right to picket the 73 other railroads that were paying into the strikebreaking fund.

After the court rulings, "what had once been an open and unlimited treasury to support the N&W in its campaign to crush BRAC had become an effective weapon for the union," the article points out. "BRAC now was legally clear to use labor's traditioal economic lever, and strike, against all who participated in the mutual aid pact."

While the impact of MAP was weakened in the transportation industry, employer strike insurance must still be reckoned with in the publishing, printing and rubber industries.

Newspaper publishers were first to make use of strike insurance to frustrate the collective bargaining process, Marshall reports. The Newspaper Guild encountered strike insurance resistance in a 1953 Seattle dispute and two years later in Brooklyn.

In the mid-1950s the Guild pressed to have the strike insurance policies outlawed at state and federal levels. The U.S. Dept. of Justice took no action, but in New York State, the Dept. of Insurance rejected applications of about 10 insurance firms for strike policies.

Marshall reports that the American Newspaper Publishers Association responded by taking its business to Bermuda. In 1973, one Bermuda insurance firm listed 450 ANPA members as owners with premium collections amounting to $85 million. A similar plan has been set up in Bermuda by the Printing Industries of America, Inc.

Meanwhile, the American Association of Railroads established its "Service Interruption Plan" in the Bahamas.

Under the ANPA plan, a publisher who continues to operate during a strike can receive benefits to cover actual losses, Marshall points out. Other publishers who lock out employees because of a strike against another newspaper in the community also can collect payments.

As the Rubber Workers prepare for 1979 negotiations with major rubber companies, the URW must consider the potential impact of the industry's mutual aid agreement, the article notes. It quotes URW President Peter Bommarito, who points out that not only do the major rubber firms pool millions of dollars in funds, they also swap production —forcing the union to monitor tire production across the country.

But the rubber industry's mutual aid program was dealt a heavy blow recently when Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. pulled out of the arrangement and reached a no-strike, no-lockout accord with the union for this year's round of bargaining.



2-YEAR-OLD Susie Ballarta holds a picket sign in one hand and her bottle in the other as she accompanies her mother on a Farm Workers' picket line at Gourmet Farms near El Centro, Calif. Gourmet is one of eight growers in the Imperial Valley where UFW workers are seeking higher wages for lettuce-picking.

HRDI Gets $6.9 Million For Job Training Efforts

The Labor Dept. has awarded a $6.9 million contract renewal to the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute to develop jobs and training opportunities for some 14,000 unemployed workers.

HRDI will work with state, county, and municipal governments, federal agencies, the National Alliance of Business, and other organizations in its job training and development efforts.

The contract compares with a similar award for $7.3 million a year earlier. Under nine previous Labor Dept. contracts totaling $39.9 million, HRDI developed more than 185,000 job opportunities and placed more than 90,000 persons in jobs.

Of those placed, almost 50,000 were economically disadvantaged workers while 30,000 were Vietnam-era veterans and over 3,000 were ex-offenders or prisoners on work release.

The new contract is funded under Title III of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act, which is administered by the Labor Dept.'s Employment & Training Administration.

Assistant Labor Sec. Ernest G. Green, who announced the contract renewal, said that HRDI will develop the majority of its private-sector jobs and training opportunities among employers who have collective-bargaining agreements with AFL-CIO local unions.

Special efforts will be made to find jobs for 600 ex-offenders. Another 375 job opportunities will be developed for handicapped individuals.

About 900 of the jobless will be minority youth to be placed as apprentices in the building and construction trades after intensive tutoring to prepare them for entrance exams. About 20 percent of the new apprenticeships are expected to be filled by women.

HRDI was established by the AFL-CIO in 1968 to mobilize the labor movement's resources in a nationwide program to recruit, train, upgrade, and hire the unemployed and underemployed through ongoing Labor Dept. employment and training programs.

HRDI operates job development or apprenticeship outreach programs in 60 cities.

ACTWU Vote Ratifies Merger of Shoe Union

New York—Merger of the 25,000-member United Shoe Workers with the 510,000-member Clothing & Textile Workers became effective as ACTWU members overwhelmingly ratified the action in a referendum vote.

The Shoe Workers had approved the merger at a special convention in Miami Beach in January. The union had suffered a decline in membership as a result of job losses stemming from skyrocketing imports over the past decade.

Under the merger agreement, the top officers of the Shoe Workers become vice presidents and members of the ACTWU general executive board. George O. Fecteau, president of the USW becomes director of the ACTWU shoe division while Angelo G. Georgian, formerly USW secretary-treasurer, becomes assistant director of the division.

The shoe division's membership is concentrated in the New England area, the Midwest, the West Coast and in Canada.

ACTWU President Murray H. Finley and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman hailed the merger approval, and pointed out that the main missions of ACTWU and the newly-created shoe division will be to organize the unorganized shoe workers in the United States and Canada, and to press for enactment of direct restraints on injurious imports benefiting from low-wage foreign production or unfair foreign trade practices.

"In the interests of equity and justice," they said, "we must urge both the U.S. and Canadian governments for a global cap on all imports so that domestic shoe production does not continue as the victim of imports from low-wage foreign countries."

Controls Fail to Check Wholesale Price Surge

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in wholesale prices got above the 1 percent level.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics, in reporting the latest inflation figures, said that prices for producer finished goods—those ready for sale to individual consumers or business firms—were 10 percent higher in February than a year earlier.

Foreshadowing sharply rising retail prices on the horizon, BLS said that prices at the beginning stages of the wholesale process soared 3.3 percent last month, or at an annual rate of 39.6 percent. That was the largest monthly gain for crude prices since May 1975.

Crude food prices—prices that farmers receive before the food is processed—jumped 3.8 percent in February after a 2.8 percent rise the month before. The huge increase confirmed findings of the Council on Wage & Price Stability that farm prices have been rising at a 40 percent annual rate since last November.

"The rapid rise in retail food prices will extend through March," COWPS warned. It also said that stiff increases in energy prices "can be expected to continue during the first half of 1979."

BLS's report on February wholesale prices showed energy prices continuing to climb, with crude petroleum up 1.8 percent and natural gas up 2.7 percent for the month. Gasoline prices went up by 2.2 percent, less than January's 3.2 percent rise but still a discouraging sign for consumers who have been warned by the Administration to expect sharply higher prices at the pump in the months ahead.

Prices for finished consumer foods rose 1.6 percent—an annual rate of about 20 percent—in February.

Among finished consumer foods, prices for beef and veal were up 4.7 percent for the month. Other large food price increases were posted for fresh and dried vegetables, 12.2 percent; fresh fruits, 9.2 percent; fish, 7.2 percent; pork, 2.4 percent; flour, 3.4 percent, and refined vegetable oils, 6.8 percent. Prices for roasted coffee and processed poultry declined.

Prices for consumer non-durable goods other than foods advanced nine-tenths of 1 percent in February after rising 1.2 percent in January. The largest increases were for leather footwear, tires and tubes, and textile housefurnishings.

Trade Deficit In January Hits $3.1 Billion

(Continued from Page 1)

last year's deficit added 1 percentage point to the consumer price index.

The Commerce Dept. said that its new method of calculating the deficit more accurately reflects seasonal variations in the statistics. The complicated methodology resulted in some sharp changes, especially in the oil sector.

Under the new method, imports of oil rose from $3.5 billion in December to $4 billion in January. In addition to oil, there were relatively large increases in imports of machinery and transport equipment, including cars, and in clothing and footwear.

The January statistics showed that overall imports during the month totaled $16.2 billion, up $1.2 billion or nearly 8 percent from December. Exports totaled $13.1 billion against $13.3 billion in December.

The trade deficit for all of 1978 totaled $28.45 billion, compared with $26.53 billion in 1977.

Cutback Plan Rejected:

House Keeps Funds For Health Training

By David L. Perlman

The House refused to go along with President Carter's proposal to slash most of the funds already appropriated to train nurses, doctors, dentists and other health professionals.

Carter had asked "rescission" of $167.9 million of the $263.1 million that the previous Congress had appropriated for the current fiscal year.

But first the House Appropriations Committee rejected all but $61.8 million of the rescission request. And then the full House voted 262-139 to further reduce the funding cut to $24.8 million.

Rescission is a procedure for revoking an appropriation and cancelling the government's commitment to fund the program involved.

The labor-supported amendment restored funding for grants to nursing, medical and dental schools based on enrollments, as well as funding for advanced training of nurses.

The White House has tried to end federal assistance to nurses' training, contending there is no longer a shortage, and Carter last fall pocket-vetoed a bill to continue the program. The funds now in dispute are for the balance of the fiscal year, which runs through Sept. 30, 1979.

In a bow to budget economy, however, the House then balanced the $37 million it dropped from the Appropriations Committee's rescission list by adopting another amendment that deletes an equal amount of funding for a National Institutes of Health building the Administration doesn't want built.

In other congressional action:

- The House Interior Committee approved by a one-vote margin a labor-supported bill that will permit Alaska land development with environmental safeguards. The version approved by the committee is essentially the House-Senate compromise reached in the final hours of the 95th Congress but blocked by a filibuster threat.

- By a one-sided voice vote, the House agreed to extend to next Sept. 30 authority for the Secretary of the Treasury to waive the law that requires the United States to impose a "countervailing duty" when another country uses export subsidies to penetrate the U.S. market. The Administration argument was that the extension is needed until new international agreements dealing with export subsidies can be completed and ratified. The AFL-CIO said waiver of countervailing duties over the past four years has increased trade deficits.

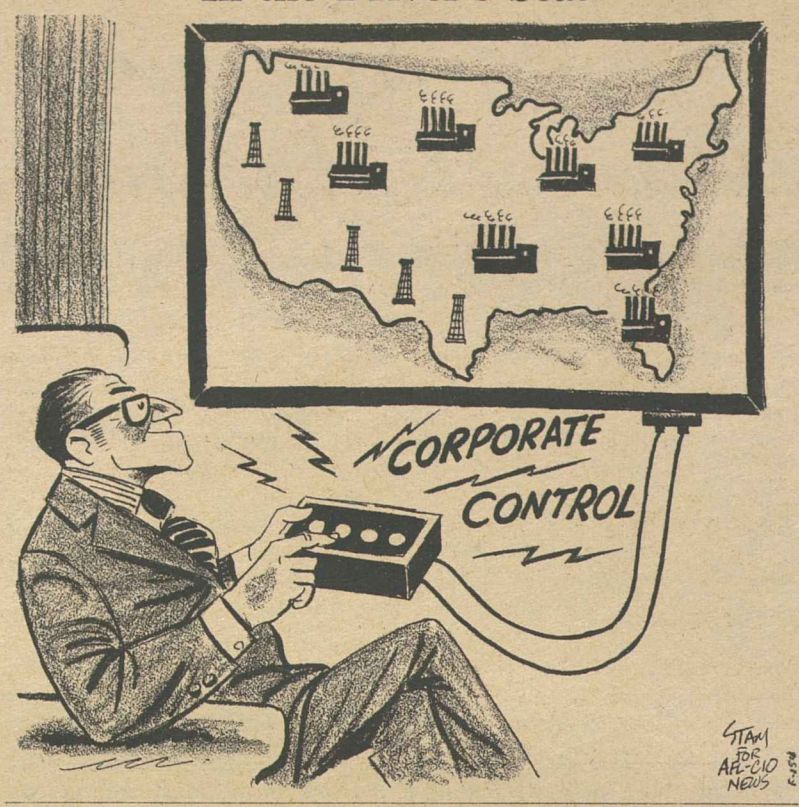
- The Senate Agriculture Committee took an important first step to prevent inflation-forced cuts in the food stamp program. After a key 9-8 vote, it asked the Budget Committee to earmark $6.9 billion for the program in the next fiscal year—even though the amount exceeds the $6.18 billion ceiling set under a 1977 law.

In effect, the budget action is a commitment to follow through with Administration - supported legislation raising or eliminating the ceiling.

- The House Banking Committee approved a two-year extension of the Council on Wage & Price Stability, setting the stage for a debate and vote next week.

- The House Ways & Means Committee agreed to ask the Budget Committee to include in its calculations the $2.5 billion the Administration has estimated as the cost of its "real wage insurance" tax rebate proposal. But the Ways & Means Committee has not yet acted on the wage insurance legislation or set any date for markup of the bill.

In the Driver's Seat



Court Okays Curbs On Lead Exposure

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration was given the go-ahead by a federal appeals court to implement health regulations lowering worker exposure limits to lead.

At the same time, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia temporarily stayed sections of the lead standard requiring employers to institute engineering controls, revise work practices and construct new facilities.

The stay will remain in force until the court rules on the validity of the standard later this year.

The standard, issued by OSHA last November, was to take effect on Feb. 1. But the effective date was postponed after several legal challenges were filed.

The regulation provides for a graduated reduction in workplace exposures over a 10-year period from the current level of 200 micrograms of lead per cubic meter of air to 50 micrograms.

Major lead production and pigment manufacturing industries have three years to lower exposure limits to 100 micrograms. Battery plants have two years to meet the 100 microgram limit, and other lead-using industries must meet the interim level immediately.

The compliance period for the 50-microgram limit will take effect in the various industries in from one to 10 years.

Nearly a million workers are exposed to lead on the job, OSHA notes. Lead can cause kidney disease, anemia and severe disorders of the central nervous system, and can seriously affect the reproductive systems of both men and women.

A key section of the standard provides for workers suffering from high levels in their blood to be transferred to other jobs without reduction in pay or benefits.

Assistant Labor Sec. Eula Bingham welcomed the compromise ruling by the court for permitting implementation of many of "the most important provisions" while the full review is pending.

She said it was apparent that the court "recognized the plight of poisoned workers and saw the crucial importance of the agency's action in providing protective mechanisms so that workers may be immediately protected from the devastating effects of lead."

The court has called for briefs to be submitted by employers, OSHA and unions before oral arguments are heard in October.

Court Backs Worker Right To Job Safety

(Continued from Page 1)

A worker shouldn't have to choose between his job and his life without the "reasonable safeguard" of the Labor Dept. regulation, Judge Wisdom insisted.

The 6th Circuit panel, considering a comparable case, expressed "full agreement" with Judge Wisdom's dissent. Its action, putting two circuit courts at odds over the issue, made it likely that the Supreme Court will consider the issue despite its earlier refusal to do so.

In the case that reached the 6th Circuit, a hazardous area of overhead conveyors at a Whirlpool Corp. plant in Marion, Ohio, had been a source of accidents and near-misses, culminating in the death of a maintenance employee.

According to the court record, the company took only minimal steps to deal with the hazardous conditions, and the plant's safety director reportedly made "veiled threats" to two workers who sought to telephone the area office of OSHA. Later, when the workers refused to walk on steel mesh screens that had been the cause of accidents, they were disciplined for "insubordination." The Labor Dept. ruled that the disciplinary action was illegal retaliation against the workers.

The 6th Circuit opinion, written by Judge Damon J. Keith, found the Labor Dept. regulation "reasonable" and in accord with the job safety law.

The law shouldn't be construed "to permit an employer to, in effect, chain a worker to his post under dangerous conditions" until OSHA can investigate the problem, Judge Keith insisted. His decision also applied to a separate case involving the Detroit Steel Corp.

Budget Cuts Seen Yielding Illusory Gains

(Continued from Page 1)

grams "would be emasculated by the Administration's budget."

- A proposal to abolish most impact aid assistance and an underestimate of the needs of other education programs.

- Health training cutbacks that sharply decrease assistance for nursing and medical students and omit any funds for a start-up of national health insurance.

- "Unwarranted" reduction or elimination of social security benefits, affecting widows, surviving children, the disabled and persons eligible for civil service pensions.

- Cuts in several housing programs plus failure to provide funds to offset a recession-threatening decline in private housing starts.

- Reductions in the school lunch program, with fewer youngsters eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

- Failure to recommend needed additional funding for job safety and health enforcement and for public works programs.

- Achievement of a $3 billion budget "saving" by again short-changing federal workers on "pay raises they have earned and are due under law."

Young told the House panel that labor's position was summed up in this statement adopted at the February meeting of the AFL-CIO Executive Council:

"In human terms, the proposed budget is a disaster; in economic terms, it is illogical."

Ruling on Imported Oil Rigs Saves Huge Windfall for Open-Shop Firm

President Carter has signed a delayed action Executive Order excluding the importation of offshore petroleum drilling rigs from duty-free privileges.

But before the order becomes effective Mar. 1, 1980, Brown & Root, Inc., of Houston, a giant open-shop construction firm, will reap a windfall of several million dollars in import duty savings on two platforms now being fabricated in Malaysia.

The Iron Workers had petitioned the U.S. Trade Policy Staff Committee last October to immediately remove offshore drilling rigs from the General System of Preferences (GSP) and to impose the normal import duties of 9.5 percent on the platforms.

However, the trade policy panel decided not to eliminate the duty-free loophole for another year, allowing Brown & Root's Malaysian subsidiary to complete fabrication of the platforms that will be erected in the Santa Barbara Channel off the California coast.

The trade panel decided that "this compromise will not penalize the beneficiary country which let contracts this year with the understanding that they would receive GSP duty-free treatment. At the same time, the compromise is responsive to the petitioner's request."

But Iron Workers President John H. Lyons pointed out that Brown & Root is the only beneficiary of the one-year extension.

The President's Executive Order —which covered more than 800 changes in GSP status—reversed an earlier Bureau of Customs ruling that allowed the Malaysian-built oil rigs to come into the United States duty-free. Except for the oil drilling rigs, all other changes took effect Mar. 1.

Under the 1974 Trade Act, more than 2,700 items from "lesser-developed" countries have been imported through GSP duty-free privileges on the assumption they do not compete with American-made goods or jobs.

Under this program, imports valued at more than $5 billion came into the United States duty-free last year from developing countries.

The Iron Workers' petition on the offshore oil rigs had been endorsed by the AFL-CIO and a number of affiliates, in addition to about 60 members of Congress led by Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.).

Miller noted that in enacting the 1974 trade law Congress did not intend for "runaway U.S. corporations" seeking tax benefits and lower wages by moving production operations overseas to benefit from tariff exceptions.

In a letter to the trade panel Lyons observed that employees of the Brown & Root facility in Malaysia were only involved in low-skill work on the platforms, while highly skilled technical work is being done by Japanese firms partly or totally owned by the Houston-based company.

Lyons also expressed doubts that Malaysia, which does not have a steel industry, is capable of heavy-duty steel fabrication to meet Bureau of Customs standards for GSP eligibility.

Amalgamated Bank Elects Sheinkman

New York — Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman of the Clothing & Textile Workers has been elected chairman of the board of the Amalgamated Bank of New York, succeeding Jacob S. Potofsky, the union's president-emeritus.

The board also announced that it has elected ACTWU Vice President Joyce D. Miller a member of the board. She is the first woman to hold the position.

Potofsky will serve on the bank's advisory committee. Owned by the union, the Amalgamated is one of the top 200 banks in the country. It is the last of the many labor banks established in the 1920s to survive.

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Labor Files Suit to Block Wage Guideline Reprisals

Blacks Fail To Share In Job Trend

By James M. Shevis

Blacks and other minority workers continue to suffer severe unemployment even though the nation's jobless rate is the lowest in more than four years.

While overall joblessness was falling slightly from 5.8 to 5.7 percent between January and February, the unemployment rate among blacks rose from 11.2 to 11.9 percent. At the same time, the rate for white workers fell from 5.1 to 4.9 percent.

Hardest hit were black teenagers, whose jobless rate last month shot up from 32.7 to 35.5 percent. The rate for adult black males with families to support also rose sharply—to 8.6 percent from 7.5 percent in January.

Analysts consider the rise in black unemployment significant since blacks and other minority members usually are the first to suffer layoffs when the economy begins to falter.

Aside from blacks, the only other group to undergo a change of any significance in its unemployment rate over the month was teenagers. The jobless rate for males and females between 16 and 19 years of age jumped to 16.1 percent from 15.7 percent the month before.

For most worker groups, jobless rates have fluctuated within a narrow range since last summer and have shown "no persistent trend during the past six to eight months," Janet L. Norwood, acting commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics told a hearing of the congressional Joint Economic Committee.

In fact, the overall level of joblessness has been at a plateau just under 6 percent since last August, and the slight reduction in the jobless rate last month does not indicate a downtrend in the unemployment picture.

BLS Economist John Bregger observed that the size of the February decline in the unemployment rate was statistically insignificant and that joblessness was essentially unchanged.

The February rate actually

(Continued on Page 7)

Study Cites Tariff Cuts' Cost in Jobs

Further reduction of tariffs on imports will cause serious disruptions for American workers in industrialized communities throughout the Northeast and Midwest, a study by the Congressional Budget Office concludes.

While a nominal overall gain for the nation's economy may result from so-called liberalized foreign trade relations, it will be distributed unevenly—as will the burden of job losses and plant shutdowns, the CBO said. The analysis, requested by the Senate Finance Committee, covers proposals in the current Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations in Geneva.

Based on expected tariff reductions on certain imported goods ranging from 30 to 40 percent, the study warned that labor-intensive industries will be hardest-hit. Included are textiles, footwear, leather products, pottery, food utensils, steel products, radio and television sets and jewelry.

But if tariffs are reduced on textiles as much as on other commodities, the CBO said job losses in the textile industry could account for nearly 43 percent of the U.S. employment toll attributable to a new trade agreement.

(Continued on Page 7)



WAGE GUIDELINES become illegal mandatory controls when they are enforced by denial of government contracts, AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters at a Washington news conference. That's why the AFL-CIO and its affiliates have asked a federal court to nullify the Administration's contract debarment penalty, he said.

Meany Hits 'Mandatory' Sanctions

By David L. Perlman

The AFL-CIO has asked a federal court to block the Administration from enforcing its supposedly voluntary wage guidelines by denying federal contracts to firms that exceed them.

Joining in the lawsuit are a representative group of nine affiliated unions whose members have a direct and immediate stake in the outcome. These unions bargain this year with companies that face the loss of multi-million dollar federal contracts if they negotiate wage and benefit increases above the arbitrary 7 percent guideline.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told reporters that the federation's Executive Council approved filing the suit because the imposition of sanctions has transformed a voluntary program into a clearly illegal form of mandatory wage controls.

"In our opinion, the President of the United States has every right to ask the American people to voluntarily do anything the President believes is right for the country," Meany said. But "in America, people should not have to fear adverse government actions if they do not 'voluntarily' do what the government asks."

The law that set up the wage-price council is very specific in prohibiting mandatory wage-price controls, Meany stressed. But if the AFL-CIO is successful in its legal challenge, "we hope the Administration will give serious consideration to asking Congress for legislation to replace this hapazard system of ineffective guidelines with a comprehensive, statutory system of mandatory controls on the price of

(Continued on Page 6)

'Short-Term Solution':

Hospital Cost Curbs Called Interim Goal

Labor called on Congress to pass the Administration's hospital cost containment bill as a "short-term solution" to an "unconscionable escalation in medical care costs."

It is "far superior" to alternatives being considered by Congress, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young testified at Senate hearings. But he stressed that it is in no way a substitute for a comprehensive national health insurance program that would include negotiated budgets for all forms of medical care.

The Administration bill would set a ceiling on hospital charges keyed to the overall inflation rate. The immediate goal would be to bring the rise in hospital costs down to a 9.7 percent rate—by mandatory controls if voluntary efforts prove inadequate.

Hospital charges have been rising about twice as fast as other prices, and President Carter told a news conference that the hospital industry's "determined" and "well-financed" lobby was responsible for the failure of the last Congress to pass a cost containment bill.

The Administration bill also received a strong endorsement in joint testimony from two unions that represent more than 300,000 health care workers.

The joint endorsement came from the Service Employees and District Council 1199, the hospital and health care affiliate of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union. Their statement praised the Carter Administration for focusing on the "real causes" of hospital cost inflation — waste, mismanagement and duplicative services — while protecting the wages of low-paid employees.

Young welcomed the Administration bill's focus on the key elements of hospital cost escalation—the proliferation of seldom-used intensive care facilities and equipment that duplicate equally underutilized facilities at other area hospitals.

By contrast, he said, legislation introduced by Subcommittee Chair-

(Continued on Page 6)

House Panel Sidetracks Social Security Cutback

The House Ways & Means Committee voted to sidetrack all but one of the Administration's proposals to cut back social security benefits in order to bring the budget closer to balance.

Its action, reflected in revenue estimates sent to the House Budget Committee, gave a first-round victory to the labor-endorsed national coalition set up to fight the cutback plan and preserve the concept of social security protection as an "earned right" of America's workers.

The one element of the Administration's cost-cutting plan that was not put on the committee's back burner was a proposal to impose tougher eligibility requirements for social security disability benefits. A Ways & Means subcommittee scheduled hearings on this issue, and the AFL-CIO was scheduled to testify in strong opposition.

At its February meeting, the AFL-CIO Executive Council expressed "particular concern" at the proposed disability insurance changes and said the program should be improved rather than cut.

The committee promised future

(Continued on Page 6)

Murray-Green Award Goes To Dr. Selikoff, Mrs. Bayh

Mrs. Marvella Bayh and Dr. Irving Selikoff have been chosen unanimously by the AFL-CIO Executive Council to receive the labor federation's 1979 Philip Murray-William Green Award, President George Meany announced.

Mrs. Bayh, wife of Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), was chosen for her heroic struggle against cancer and her inspiring optimism in the fight to overcome her affliction, Meany said.

Dr. Selikoff, of Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York City, is being honored for his brilliant and tireless efforts in the field of environmental medicine, which have saved countless lives, Meany said, and for his pioneering work in establishing the nation's first health-maintenance organization in occupational health.

The award is named in honor of Philip Murray, late president of the CIO, and William Green, late president of the AFL. It consists of an engraved medal and a grant of $5,000 to be shared equally by Dr. Selikoff and Mrs. Bayh. The award will be presented at the AFL-CIO convention in Washington next November.

Previous winners of the AFL-CIO's highest humanitarian award include President Harry Truman, Gen. Omar Bradley, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir, Dr. Jonas Salk, entertainers Danny Kaye and Bob Hope and Vice President Walter Mondale, among other distinguished world leaders.



50 YEARS OF SERVICE with the labor movement by Katherine Rogers was marked with the presentation of a wristwatch from Sec.-Treas. William A. Lowe of the Office & Professional Employees. Rogers, a member of the OPEIU, began her career at the AFL headquarters in 1929 and has been on the staff of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. since 1938.

New Caseload Record Posted by Labor Board

The National Labor Relations Board handled a record 53,261 cases of all types during the 1978 fiscal year that ended last Sept. 30.

In its 43rd annual report, the agency reported that the 1978 caseload was six-tenths of 1 percent larger than the previous record a year earlier.

The largest number of case filings consisted of 39,652 charges of unfair labor practice against employers or unions, or both. The number of charges, also a record, represented a 4.8 percent rise over the 37,828 complaints filed in fiscal 1977.

The remainder of the cases included 13,609 petitions to decide questions of worker representation. The total was 10 percent, or 1,506 cases, fewer than the 15,115 petitions filed in fiscal 1977.

Other highlights of the report:

- The NLRB recovered some $13.5 million for 8,623 workers who suffered monetary losses because of unfair labor practices, and obtained offers of job reinstatement for 5,533 employes, with 72 percent accepting.
- The agency conducted 8,240 conclusive representation elections among some 420,000 voting workers, with employees choosing labor organizations as their bargaining agents in 46 percent of the elections.
- Of 807 decertification elections that were held, unions won 213, or 26 percent, covering 19,671 workers.
- To cope with its ever-increasing caseload, the NLRB created its 33rd regional office in Peoria, Ill., during the year, and established a smaller resident office in San Diego.

The board said that it was "heartened" by enactment during the 1978 fiscal year of a law authorizing 100 additional positions for administrative law judges throughout the federal government. It expects to receive 30 such positions.

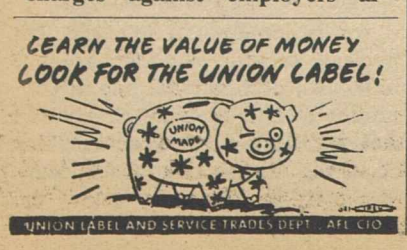
Of the 39,652 unfair labor practice cases filed during the year, charges against employers totaled 27,056, a 3.6 percent increase from the previous year's total of 26,105. Charges against unions increased 7 percent to 12,417 from 11,601 in 1977.

Sixty-three percent, or 17,125, of the 27,056 unfair labor charges against employers alleged discrimination or illegal discharges of workers. There were 8,136 refusal-to-bargain complaints, about 30 percent of the charges.

In charges against employers, unions led by filing 55 percent, or 14,968, of the allegations while individuals filed 12,053 and employers filed 35 complaints against other employers.

The NLRB said that 37,192 unfair labor practice charges were closed in fiscal 1978. Some 95 percent were closed by the agency's regional offices, compared with 94 percent in 1977.

In an evaluation of the regional workload, the NLRB noted that "the number of unfair labor practice charges found to have merit is important—the higher the merit factor, the more litigation required." It said that 34 percent of the fiscal 1978 allegations were found to have merit. The highest level of cases with merit was 36.6 percent in fiscal 1966.



Aggravating the Shortage:

Housing Conference Scores Proposed Budget Cutbacks

The AFL-CIO strongly opposes the Carter Administration's proposed cutback in housing production for the 1980 fiscal year beginning in October, Federation Vice President J. C. Turner told the National Housing Conference's 48th annual meeting.

The budget reduction for housing programs "would contribute to the inflation-generating housing shortage at a time when we can ill afford it," said Turner, president of the Operating Engineers, and a member of the AFL-CIO's standing committees on housing and economic policy.

The lower priority given to housing by the Administration was criticized repeatedly during the three-day meeting. The NHC is a coalition of housing experts in both the private and public sectors whose interests embrace the building, financing, and management aspects of the industry.

The NHC called on Congress to increase authorization of federally-subsidized dwellings from the 300,000 units in the Carter budget to a minimum of 400,000. NHC President Leon N. Weiner said also that Congress should set a target of 2.5 million housing starts annually "because the market and need are there, beyond any question."

Turner pointed to January's drastic decline in housing starts—from a December level of over 2 million down to 1.6 million—and the record level of mortgage interest rates that has kept many families out of the housing market, and charged that they translate into a "deplorable human situation."

Other speakers included Sec. Patricia R. Harris of the Housing & Urban Development Dept.; Stuart Eizenstat, President Carter's assistant for domestic affairs and policy; Rep. Thomas L. Ashley (D-Ohio), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Housing & Community Development, and Sen. Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.), chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Housing & Community Development.

In his address to the 300 NHC members, Turner stressed that a large part of any government housing program has to be geared to providing housing for low-income families. At the same time, however, provision must be made for middle-income families who are squeezed out of the housing market during tight-money periods when interest rates rise, he said.

"Such conditions are now developing and the effect, no doubt, will be felt this year," Turner warned. "For this sector of the population, assisted home ownership programs are fitting.

"If policies can be devised and implemented to maintain a high demand for home purchases and dampen cyclical fluctuations in residential construction it would counteract the cost-raising impacts of a stop-and-go pattern of residential construction, and the shortages which generate inflationary price rises."

To generate more housing production, Turner recommended several government actions called for last month by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its mid-winter meeting. These include:

- Releasing the $1 billion in standby authority for emergency assistance for the Government National Mortgage Association for single-family homes as soon as a depressed housing market threatens.
- Reducing the present 7.5 percent mortgage interest rate under tandem-plan financing to 6 percent.
- Lowering the current 4 percent interest rate for HUD Section 235 homebuyers to the 1 percent minimum allowed by law, thereby enabling low-income families to buy homes.
- Increasing the authorization for public housing, including rental housing for low-income families and elderly individuals in projects owned by local public housing authorities.
- Increasing the Section 8 rental housing assistance authorization so that more low- and moderate-income families can avail themselves of rental housing in privately-owned structures, employing a flexible subsidy.

Turner also urged implementation of selective credit regulation under the 1969 Credit Control Act to reduce credit flows to uses of lower social priority.

Prevailing Wage Laws Under Attack in States

A survey of state legislatures indicates that 1979 will be a critical year for prevailing-wage legislation, with bills already introduced in 18 states.

While a few seek to extend coverage or improve standards of administration, most of the legislative proposals constitute attempts either to repeal existing state prevailing wage laws or to weaken worker protection by reducing coverage or by other means.

State prevailing wage laws, or "little Davis-Bacon Acts," typically require that workers on state-financed construction projects such as schools and roads receive prevailing local wage rates.

Inspired by conservative and right-wing elements, many of the bills introduced in state legislatures thus far include attempts at outright repeal of prevailing wage laws in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming. To date, all of these efforts appear to have been contained.

Bills to reduce coverage include proposals to exclude projects in Massachusetts, Arkansas, Missouri, and New Mexico. A Washington State bill would limit application of the law to laborers.

Other attempts to lower standards or weaken administration have been proposed in Massachusetts, Montana, West Virginia and Missouri where a bill seeks to remove state labor department jurisdiction over the law.

On the plus side, bills in Hawaii and Massachusetts would expand coverage to include public utility construction. A bill in the New York legislature would authorize administrative assessment of civil penalties for wage underpayments.

Also, a New Jersey bill calls for collection from violators of administrative expenses incurred in recovery of underpayments, and administrative enforcement powers would be strengthened by a bill in the Montana legislature.

St. Louis Teachers Win Gains in Strike Accord

St. Louis—City teachers ratified a new two-year agreement raising their salaries between 6.17 and 7.77 percent and closing out one of the longest strikes in the history of the American Federation of Teachers.

The teachers, members of AFT Local 420, approved the pact by a vote of 4 to 1. Most teachers will receive $1,375 in additional pay this year, including $900 already paid in one-time payments from a special fund and from money earmarked for St. Louis schools that the state of Missouri has not released. Another $1,250 will be added next year.

Local 420 President Evelyn Battle termed the contract "the best agreement we've ever had." Under the new contract, beginning teachers' pay will start at $10,150, up from $9,650 previously. The maximum salary for a teacher with a doctorate and over 16 years of experience will rise from the current $20,000 to $21,500 in two years.

The vote to accept the contract came on Mar. 12 following marathon negotiating sessions at the Federation Mediation & Conciliation Service offices here.

Meanwhile, teachers in Washington, D.C., public schools vowed to continue their 10-day-old strike even though their leaders were found in contempt of court for striking in violation of a court order prohibiting the walkout.

Issues in the Washington strike centered on school board proposals to increase the work day and school year without additional pay and a refusal to extend the old contract or to continue to collect paycheck deductions of union dues during negotiations.

The St. Louis strike began Jan. 16 in the face of a court order forbidding a walkout. The school board later withdrew its request for the injunction. The court issued another temporary injunction on Mar. 9, but the settlement came before the effective date of the court order.

AFT President Albert Shanker said that the union was "very pleased that the board finally recognized the resolve and dedication of St. Louis teachers to improve the quality of education in St. Louis." He said that the improved salaries and working conditions were "well-deserved and overdue."

Shanker said that he hoped the eight-week strike would "send a message to other school boards that "teachers, like everyone else, need a meaningful say in determining their work conditions." The main issues in the dispute were pay, class size, and class preparation time for elementary school teachers.

Other highlights of the agreement include assurance of no reprisals against strike participants, an increase in term life insurance coverage from $3,000 to $5,000 and an agreement by the board to follow guidelines on class size that will probably mean a reduction in some cases.

Another step will be added to the union's grievance procedure, giving members an opportunity to request another hearing if a grievance is denied. Also, extra-duty pay will be increased, starting in September, from $7.55 to $8.20 an hour for teachers and by 8.5 percent for non-teaching personnel.

The settlement came after Missouri Gov. Joseph P. Teasdale made available $1.4 million from state funds for teachers' salaries and St. Louis businesses pledged up to $600,000 to help cover any deficit.

Grospiron Appointed To Petroleum Council

Denver—President A. H. Grospiron of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers has accepted an appointment by Energy Sec. James R. Schlesinger to the National Petroleum Council.

The council, initially chartered in 1946, serves as an advisory body to the Secretary on oil and gas energy and related industries.

Alaskan Oil Cited:

Export Curb Backed On Vital Resources

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to continue to ban the sale of Alaskan oil to other countries as part of an export control policy necessary to hold down inflation and prevent erosion of American industry.

Research Director Rudy Oswald told a Senate Banking subcommittee that the Export Administration Act, which expires this year, can be used more effectively "to protect the domestic economy from the excessive drain of scarce materials and to reduce the serious inflationary impact of foreign demand."

Not all exports benefit the economy, Oswald reminded the Senate panel. "Some exports cost U.S. jobs. Some exports cause inflation. Some exports weaken the U.S. industrial base."

Domestic shortages and higher prices are generated by "indiscriminate export of raw materials," Oswald noted. He cited the shortage of lumber in 1971 caused by "the uncontrolled export of logs during a period of rising demand." As a result, he said, "lumber prices jumped 52 percent between 1971 and 1973, pushing up the prices of houses, furniture, wood products and rental units."

Congress is under heavy pressure from oil producers to let the existing ban on export of Alaskan oil expire in June, and the AFL-CIO warned that such a course would lead to job losses, domestic shortages and inflation.

To sell or swap Alaskan oil would further increase this nation's reliance on imports and jeopardize national security, Oswald charged.

"The oil on Alaska's North Slope does not belong to the oil companies," he stressed. "It is an invaluable national resource which belongs to the American people. When the pipeline was built, it was the American people who were promised exclusive use of the oil which it carried."

Oswald charged that the multinational oil companies have been trying to find a way to export Alaskan oil solely to boost profits. If the export bar is dropped, "it is the oil companies which stand to gain and the American people, our economy and our national security which stand to suffer."

Congress should strengthen and not weaken the export curb, the AFL-CIO urged. Present law allows the President to approve export of national oil if he decides that it is in the national interest and Congress does not disapprove his decision within 60 days.

In new legislation, Oswald urged, Congress should be required to specifically approve any presidential decision involving export of Alaskan oil.

As for a claimed "glut" of Alaskan oil coming into West Coast ports, Oswald said there is a surplus only to the extent that oil companies have failed to expand refinery capacity. And Alaskan oil sent through the Panama Canal to Gulf Coast and East Coast ports has "helped hold down the price of oil to refiners in the South, Midwest and East."

Oswald's testimony also expressed concern at the continued export of advanced U.S. technology to nations that don't allow the U.S. equal access to their own markets.

Such exports "gain nothing except small short-term profits" but cost the United States a technological advantage that is the source of jobs and industrial production, he observed.

Ed Welsh Dies at 76, Retired Staff Member

Ed Welsh, a retired member of the AFL-CIO staff and an early member of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union, died recently at the age of 76.

Welsh worked with the AFL-CIO regional staff in Detroit during most of his service with the federation, but also served in Africa on assignment from the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs. He started with the CIO national staff in 1941 and retired from the AFL-CIO in 1967.

Energy Needs Explored By New England Labor

Farmington, Conn.—AFL-CIO leaders in New England tagged energy needs as the most urgent problem facing the region as union officials from the New England states met here.

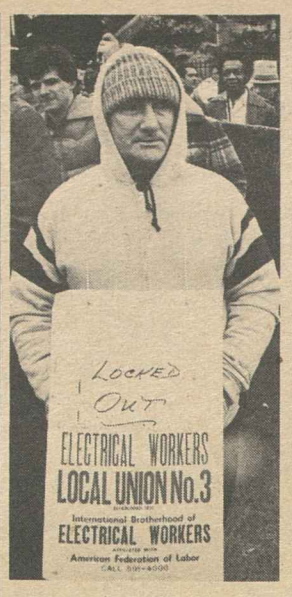
The recently reorganized New England Council of the AFL-CIO said it would press state and federal officials to develop a regional energy strategy to meet the states' short-term energy needs, as well as long-term plans to stimulate job growth in the region.

Connecticut Gov. Ella T. Grasso, addressing the group at the University of Connecticut's Barney House, urged organized labor to work with industry and government in groups such as CONEG in seeking solutions to the energy crisis. CONEG is the acronym for the Council of Northeastern Governors, which includes the six New England governors and those of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Grasso also endorsed the AFL-CIO's position opposing a constitutional amendment to require a balanced federal budget. This, she said, would render Congress and the President "inflexible in dealing with the national economy, which is so closely tied with the level of federal expenditures."

New officers of the council elected at the meeting are President John J. Driscoll, head of the Connecticut AFL-CIO, and Sec.-Treas. Charles O'Leary, who is secretary-treasurer of the Maine AFL-CIO. Council members are the executive officers of each of the AFL-CIO councils in the six states, along with Regional AFL-CIO Director John F. P. O'Malley.

Frank Emig, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, reported on the successful effort to defeat the Missouri "right-to-work" initiative. State federations also made reports on pending "right-to-work" legislation in Connecticut, Maine and New Hampshire.





AQUEDUCT RACETRACK employees, members of Local 3 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, received strong labor support at a giant rally sponsored by the New York City Central Labor Council. About 650 parimutuel clerks were locked out by the New York Racing Association when contract negotiations broke down about three weeks ago. The central issue in the dispute is management's attempt to introduce automated equipment that would eliminate jobs. Above, Local 3 members and their supporters demonstrate in front of the racetrack's gates.

Supreme Court Urged to Affirm Organizing Rights in Hospitals

Union attorneys have asked the Supreme Court to apply the principles of a case it decided last summer to a similar controversy involving the right of hospital workers to discuss unionization.

At issue is whether a hospital can thwart a union organizing drive by imposing severe restrictions on that right based on a claim that patients might be upset if they became aware of union activity at the hospital.

Last July, in a case involving Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, the Supreme Court said union supporters have the right to distribute leaflets at a hospital cafeteria used predominantly by employees. The cafeteria was patronized also by a small number of patients and visitors.

That decision backed the position of the National Labor Relations Board that union organizing can be barred in hospital locations devoted to patient care, but not in such locations as employee lounges and cafeterias.

The Service Employees, the union in the Beth Israel case, also is involved in the case now before the Supreme Court which stems from an organizing effort at the Baptist Hospital in Nashville, Tenn.

The union considers the circumstances in the two cases comparable.

In Nashville, as in Boston, a hospital management posted a sweeping "no solicitation" rule during a union organizing campaign.

It prohibited "solicitations" for membership "in any area of the hospital which is accessible to or utilized by the public." Further, it barred distribution of printed materials "in any work area at any time" and threatened "disciplinary action" for anyone soliciting "employees who are supposed to be working."

The Nashville hospital sought to justify its rule with testimony from two physicians that union activity might be a "disturbing influence" on patients.

But neither doctor knew of any patient having been upset by a union solicitation of a hospital worker. Nor, according to the Service Employees' brief to the Supreme Court, did they see any problem arising out of "a normal conversation" in which one employee asked another hospital worker to sign a union authorization card.

The union noted that the hospital already had general work rules that could be invoked against "loud talking" or other behavior that could disturb a patient's rest or recovery, thus making unnecessary the no-solicitation rule.

In both the Nashville and Boston hospitals, the union points out, the cafeteria is the principal gathering place for employees even though it is open to visitors and some patients.

The brief urged the Supreme Court to follow the principle that five of the nine justices accepted in the Beth Israel case that the NLRB's general rule in distinguishing between areas devoted to direct patient care and other parts of a hospital is sound and has been properly applied.

In the Beth Israel case, four justices who agreed with the conclusion nevertheless took a more limited view of union rights in hospitals and contended that each situation would have to be critically examined from the viewpoint of the welfare of the patients.

The Baptist Hospital case would pass scrutiny under either interpretation, the union contended.

Because the issues involved are of importance to the entire labor movement, AFL-CIO attorneys participated in the preparation of the Service Employees brief.

Ned Bush Dies at 73, Debs Home Curator

Terre Haute, Ind. — Ned A. Bush, curator of the Eugene Victor Debs home and museum, died here at the age of 73.

He was a former president of the Terre Haute Newspaper Guild and became curator of the Debs museum after retiring from the Terre Haute Tribune in 1973. He was a co-founder of the Debs Foundation.

Navy's Denial of Access Seen Defying Safety Act

The AFL-CIO has accused the Secretary of the Navy of evading federal job safety regulations by prohibiting union representatives from participating in an inspection of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in New Hampshire.

The charge stems from an incident in January when officials of local AFL-CIO Metal Trades Council and the federation's industrial hygienist were denied access to the shipyard for a study of the effects of low-level ionizing radiation on workers.

The study is being conducted by the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health, a branch of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

In letters of protest to HEW Sec. Joseph A. Califano, Jr., and Navy Sec. W. Graham Claytor, Jr., the federation charged that the denial of union representation in the study ignores both the provisions of the federal job safety law and policies affecting federal workers under a presidential Executive Order.

George H. R. Taylor, director of job safety and health for the AFL-CIO, disputed Claytor's claim that the Navy is exempt from coverage of the Occupational Safety & Health Act and standards promulgated by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

"Under OSHA, as implemented by the President's Executive Order 11807, the Navy is obligated to conduct health and safety programs in conformity to OSHA standards for all workers employed by the U.S. Navy," Taylor said.

That obligation further requires that union representatives be allowed to participate in NIOSH and OSHA inspections of workplaces, Taylor pointed out in the letters to Claytor and Califano.

Taylor said that Claytor also ignored efforts of the White House staff to have AFL-CIO industrial hygienist Margaret Seminaro cleared for participation in the NIOSH study at the shipyard.

The refusal of Seminaro's access to the shipyard for the study "serves to obstruct the unions in fulfilling their duty to represent their membership, to protect the health and safety of their membership and ignores established laws and regulations requiring union participation in OSHA and NIOSH investigations," Taylor declared.

An earlier study at a government nuclear facility by Dr. Thomas Mancuso, occupational health consultant to the Machinists, showed that radiation-induced cancer was occurring in workers at exposure levels 10 to 20 times below the federal limit.

Enforced 'Voluntarism'

THE PRESIDENT of the United States has every right to ask the American people to "voluntarily" do anything the President believes is right for the country. But, when he asks employers to "voluntarily" hold the wages of their employees to 7 percent or less —and then backs that up with the denial of contracts if employers don't "voluntarily" go along—then he has instituted a "mandatory" program.

It is obvious that the denial of contracts is an enforcement weapon primarily for wage controls, since the price guidelines are for all practical purposes non-existent.

In America, people should not have to fear adverse government actions if they do not "voluntarily" do what the government asks. If the government has the legal, statutory power to order people to take certain actions, then the people—including employers—should fear the consequences if they disobey. But, the fact is, the President does not have that legal, statutory power. So, we contend that use of contract debarment to enforce "voluntary" wage controls is illegal and we have asked the court to so rule.

We are not alone in our view. Others—including the American Bar Association, have voiced the same opinion. This action was discussed and approved by the AFL-CIO Executive Council. And we are joined in this suit by a representative group of unions, all engaged in negotiations this year, who are directly and adversely affected—the IUE, the IBEW the Chemical Workers, the Longshoremen, the Rubber Workers, the Machinists, OCAW, the Steelworkers and the Telegraph Workers.

IT IS OBVIOUS from the recent wholesale price and consumer price indexes that the Administration's anti-inflation program is not working—at least as far as prices and profits are concerned. At the same time, there have been few—if any—reports of violations of wage standards. Clearly, this means that there is price and profit gouging going on. Prices go up and up. And so do profits. Take a look at the reported 35 percent increase in pre-tax profits in the last quarter and you will find that today's inflationary cycle is a price and profit-push inflation.

Inflation today is so bad that we sincerely hope the government's lawyers will not unnecessarily delay a hearing on this suit. The facts are simple, and I am certain the Administration wants a decision as promptly as we do. The faster the decision, the faster the government can take effective action against inflation. Given the severity of inflation, any delay would only compound the problems facing America.

If we are successful in this suit—and we believe the court will rule in our favor—then we hope the Administration will give serious consideration to asking Congress for legislation to replace this haphazard system of ineffective guidelines with a comprehensive, statutory system of mandatory controls on the price of everything and the income of everybody.

We believe the nation needs universal, clearly stated, effectively enforced, across-the-board controls. The only way to do that, under the U.S. Constitution, is by specific congressional action. That's what the AFL-CIO Executive Council called for in its unanimous action last Oct. 31. And everything that has happened since underscores the need for that kind of action.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany on filing suit against the Administration's wage controls program.

AFL-CIO News

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LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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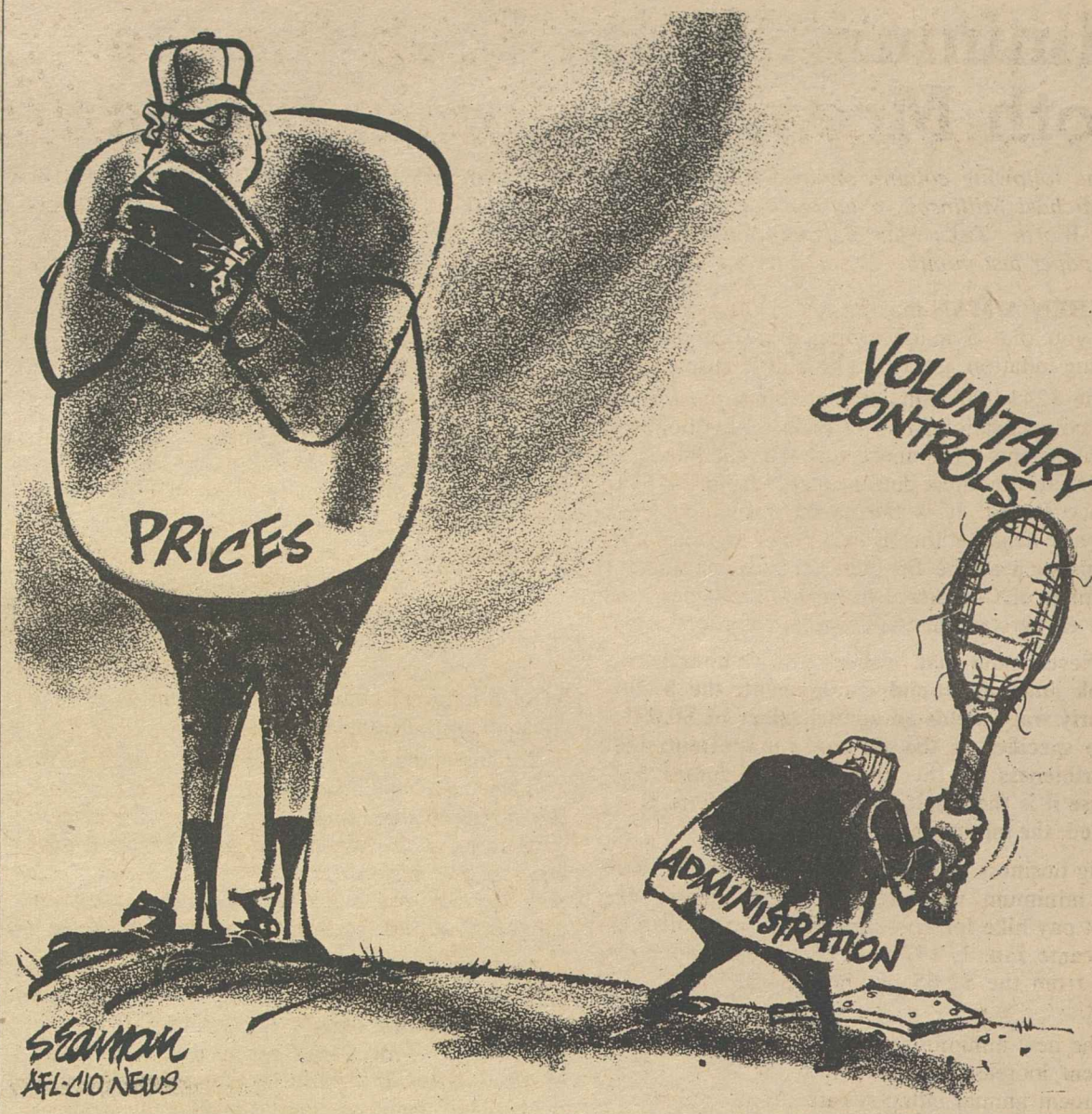
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'Batter Up!'



Beating the High Costs:

Alternatives to Hospital Care Can Bring Substantial Savings

By Gus Tyler

THERE ARE WAYS to cut hospital costs, presently running at an average of $206 a day. The simplest way is to stay out of the hospital.

That remedy is not quite as silly as it sounds for there are ways to get good medical care—even superior treatment—without going into a hospital.

Many persons who are temporarily or permanently handicapped because of acute illness, chronic disease or disability would do best if they had health services at home prescribed for their special needs.

Such services include visits by doctors or nurses, a variety of therapies (physical, speech, occupational), a variety of services (social, nutritional), a variety of equipment (hospital beds, wheelchairs, portable diagnostic devices, etc.).

If such home care were widely available, patients could cut their stay in hospitals, could avoid the indignities and expenses of most nursing homes and could drastically reduce costs.

Some home health services are available under Medicare, but only if the patient requires home nursing or therapy (speech or physical). But if the patient does not fall into these categories, he or she cannot get the many other services—from equipment to occupational help.

Another way to stay out of a hospital is to use a surgicenter. These are places set up for minor surgery on an out-patient basis. The big difference between a surgicenter and a hospital is the cost: hospitals carry an overhead of expensive equipment and often prolonged hospitalization to insure a packed house.

Still another way to stay out of the hospital is to use the hospice, a popular British idea that is now winning wider acceptance in the United States. The hospice is meant for people with known terminal illness as an alternative to our present approach to handling these fatal conditions.

Our way right now is to submit the dying patient to "heroic" measures, to perform medical miracles by keeping the body "alive" even after the once respected human has become insensate. In many cases, the only sensation of the victim is unrelieved pain, a torture protracted by the physician's fascination with the canniness of his craft.

The costs can be incalculable: expensive therapies applied over a long period.

A hospice turns all this around. It seeks, first of all, to relieve pain. It provides pleasantries—physical, social, recreational. It helps the patient —and the patient's family—to meet death with less fear and anger. This program to make the exit as dignified and comfortable as possible can take place in a person's home as well as in an outside facility.

The AFL-CIO has called upon government to pass legislation to extend home health services, to expand surgicenters and hospices. But the unions have another powerful weapon to win the war against inflated hospital costs. The federation has called upon its affiliates to negotiate "for inclusion of home health services, outpatient surgery, and hospice services as benefits under their collectively bargained health benefit programs."

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Low Non-Union Pay Can Be Inflationary

You first have to look at productivity. It's been demonstrated that a unionized labor force typically is more productive than non-union labor. So a lower-paid non-union worker doesn't necessarily translate into a lower cost of product.

Then you have to look at the price side of the picture. Are lower product costs, even where they exist with non-union labor, getting passed through to the economy as lower prices?

Typically no. What you find in this situation is that the producer accepts a higher profit margin rather than a lower price level. The overall effect on the marketplace is purely inflationary. . . .

I personally feel that it's wrong for a state to hold up a non-unionized labor force as an incentive to attract new business or industry.

—John Gentry, deputy adviser to the President on inflation, quoted in an interview in the Miami Herald.

Social Responsibility:

Minimum Wage Foes Ignore Both Moral, Economic Issues

The following column on the minimum wage by Michael Millinson, a business writer for the Fort Worth, Tex., Star Telegram, appeared in that paper last month.

WHEN A MAN making $241,000 a year tells you that a man earning $2.90 an hour is causing inflation, it pays to be a little suspicious.

The $241,000 annually represents the median cash compensation in 1977 (salary plus bonuses) for presidents of manufacturing companies, according to the latest data available from the Conference Board. It is businessmen such as these who are heading the newest drive by corporate groups such as the Business Roundtable and the Chamber of Commerce to brand $2.90 per hour wage earners as the evil cause of inflation.

Never mind that, assuming a 40-hour work week and year-round employment, the $2.90 hourly wage yields an annual salary of $6,032. The specifics of the sin are unimportant: the horribleness of the compensation comes because it is the result of federal legislation. It is called: the minimum wage.

Big business groups have been opposed to federal minimum wage legislation for years. The latest pay hike for non-agricultural low-skilled labor came Jan. 1, 1979—a 25 cent per hour pay hike from the $2.65 per hour earned all during 1978.

The new minimum wage scale represents a 9.4 percent increase—admittedly a bit above 1978's 9 percent annual inflation rate. As a result, some businessmen have been quick to cry out their concern that such pay hikes are "inflationary."

The fact is, though, that corporate profits, executive salaries and even middle-level management salaries have all been going up on average considerably faster than the minimum wage. Unless a business lobbyist is prepared to argue that, by definition, minimum wage increases are inflationary while salary boosts for management employees are not, it is hard to see how the newest anti-minimum wage argument holds water.

The New York management consulting firm of McKinsey & Co. does an annual survey of 500 companies in manufacturing, transportation and retailing, asking what they pay their chief executive officer (CEO).

In 1976, salaries and bonuses for CEOs were 14.5 percent higher than in 1975. That provided a comfortable cushion when compared to an inflation rate in 1975 of 9.1 percent. Minimum wage workers, too, got a raise in 1976. On January 1 their pay went to $2.30 per hour from $2.10 per hour in 1975, a 9.5 percent increase. That's marginally more than inflation, but significantly less than received by the CEOs.

It's not only the top executives, though, who are outdistancing hikes in the consumer price index. Middle-class wage earners like personnel managers, foremen, purchasing agents and buyers are also doing all right. Looking at 20 categories of such workers, a study by the Administrative Management Society found that their average salary went up 14 percent between 1977 and 1978, from $17,668 a year to $20,167 a year. In 1977, the inflation rate was 6.5 percent. It was also a year in which minimum wage workers received no increase whatsoever.

Retail food chains, where the impact of minimum wage legislation hits hardest, had profits down 8.2 percent in 1976, but more than balanced that with a 17.1 percent increase in 1977.

If profits are not visibly being hurt, why then the assault on the minimum wage?

First, to be fair, not all businessmen can absorb minimum wage increases as easily as the larger corporations. For smaller operations—the neighborhood restaurant versus the pastel-colored outlet of a national chain—the minimum wage may cause disproportionate hurt.

But for many other employers, it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that resentment against the minimum wage is simply a matter of predatory economics at its worst—the kind of thing that used to give capitalism a bad name before large corporations began running friendly television commercials and sponsoring cultural exhibitions.

THE MINIMUM WAGE WORKER is an unskilled one. The poor, minorities, women and teenagers all are heavily represented. They are workers with little choice but to take what salary is offered them. If the government did not force an increase in their pay on a regular basis, there would, economically, be no incentive for an employer to raise it himself, no matter what the inflation rate might be. You and I might look elsewhere if our pay was frozen: by and large, the minimum wage worker cannot.

Looked at this way, the issue becomes not simply economic, but moral. True, a rise in the minimum wage may make it easier for an employer to lay off workers and replace them with some form of automation. History, however, suggests that keeping wages low has never forestalled that from happening for very long.

Is it better to pay fewer people wages that will let them earn $6,000 per year, or should we have frozen the minimum wage level at its 1978 level, deciding that $5,512 annually is plenty for "the other fellow" to earn as we tighten our belts against "inflation?"

As Editorial Writer Horace Craig suggested recently, an increase in the minimum wage may, indeed, cause the price of a take-out hamburger to rise (if you decide that increases in executive salaries and other expenses just don't count).

The solution, though, is not to keep the poorest workers poor while everyone else advances up the ladder. If you do that, you'll have more than ground meat in your meal. You will have torn apart social responsibility and shredded compassion, too.

Congressional Review Pressed:

Trade Pact Seen Undercutting Employment, Living Standards

CONGRESS SHOULD take a close, hard look at the Administration's multilateral trade negotiations package before it approves sharp changes in a broad range of laws that would affect U.S. jobs and living standards, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Ray Denison urged.

Stressing that while President Carter has yet to spell out the terms of the pact that will soon be sent to Congress, Denison said that it is already clear that "a whole host of laws that took generations to develop" could be changed drastically to implement the package. He pointed out that current U.S. standards on consumer protections, worker health and safety could be eroded by items produced overseas and brought into the U.S. market place.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Denison declared that the labor movement's concern is "virtually across the board." He noted that the scope of the changes is "mind-boggling and staggering," and warned that they carry "great potential for mischief and damage."

Denison said that the AFL-CIO remains strongly opposed to congressional approval of the President's request to extend his authority to waive countervailing duties on imported products that are manufactured with government subsidies. "If another country subsidizes an export to the United States, then that's an unfair trade practice, pure and simple," he aserted. Unfortunately, he added, Congress will probably extend the President's authority, "ostensibly as paving the way for agreements with Europeans" on the multilateral trade pact.

"We see no reason why we should condone" the free entry of government-subsidized products into the United States to compete against products made here without government subsidies, Denison asserted. He said that that is not a good prelude to "an era of freer trade and more fair trade."

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

WHEN THE FEDERAL job health and safety law was heading towards enactment in 1970, the House Labor Committee commented: "The on-the-job health and safety crisis is the worst problem confronting American workers."

Conservative estimates at that time put the toll at: 14,500 workers killed each year; 2.2 million injured; 390,000 cases of job-related diseases; 250 million man-days of work lost, ten times as many as from strikes; $1.5 billion lost in wages, more than $8 billion lost in gross national product.

The causes of the problem were in the workplace, and years of struggle led to passage of the Occupational Safety & Health Act of 1970. But OSHA's own safety and health have been in danger, initially from years of hostility and sabotage by the Nixon and Ford Administrations. More recently, after an early boost from President Carter's Labor Dept., OSHA's efforts have been stalled by Carter's philosopher-economists who have been wrestling with the dollar value of a human life.

But while it is vitally important to reduce the death and injury toll in the workplace, what about the consequences? What happens when a worker is killed, maimed or temporarily injured?

Workers' compensation has been the answer for most of this century.

As the nation industrialized, the injury rates became horrendous. In 1907, for example, the toll in just the railroading and soft coal industries alone was 7,000 dead. Reliance on the common law where the injured worker had to sue and prove the employer's negligence was obviously obsolete.

Reform of workers' compensation swept the nation, establishing the principle of liability without fault. Because it meant benefits and medical care for workers while limiting liability and fixing costs for employers—and eliminating wasteful litigation—both employers and unions backed the change. Between 1911 and 1920, all but six states passed no-fault workers' compensation laws.

Today, even with improvements which vary greatly state by state, it remains a horse-and-buggy system in a space age society.

EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE the system have been largely futile. When OSHA was passed in 1970, Congress also created a national commission to inspire state progress in the area of workers' compensation.

The commission in 1972 made 84 recommendations to the President and Congress, 19 of them deemed "essential." It also recommended that Congress enact minimum federal standards if a state record of compliance was not adequate by 1975. Not a single state has yet achieved the 19 essential standards.

The average state meets 11 of the 19 standards. According to one source, the best records are in New Hampshire, which meets 18 and Ohio and Wisconsin, which meet 16.

The national commission laid out five objectives: broad coverage of employees and job-related injuries and diseases; substantial protection against income loss; adequate medical and rehabilitation care; encouragement of safety, and an effective delivery system for benefits and services.

Organized labor has been leading the fight in Congress for federal minimum standards. These would include compulsory coverage of almost all workers in private industry, coverage of all job diseases, adequate benefits, full medical care, free choice of doctors, benefits to the totally disabled for the entire period of disability and benefits to widows until death or remarriage.

Last year, legislation sponsored by Senators Harrison Williams (D-N.J.) and Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.) would have met most of these objectives and won labor's support. However, the bill failed to get out of committee.

This year, the new Williams-Javits bill has turned out to be a watered-down version of the last one. It backtracks on benefits, it makes occupational disease standards advisory rather than automatic and it fails to include an inflation adjustment for benefits.



POTENTIAL HARM to U.S. jobs and living standards demands that Congress takes a close, hard look at the Administration's multilateral trade negotiations package, Ray Denison, center, associate legislative director of the AFL-CIO, said. He was questioned on Labor News Conference by Frank Swoboda, left, of the Washington Post and Donald Phillips of United Press International. The public affairs program is aired on Mutual radio.

Hospital Cost Curbs Termed Interim Goal

(Continued from Page 1)

man Herman E. Talmadge (D-Ga.) would have the effect of holding down wages of relatively low-paid hospital workers while allowing other hospital costs to be shifted from government-funded Medicare and Medicaid programs to the private sector.

Young cited repeated studies showing that wages have had "almost no bearing on the runaway inflation in hospital costs" and still lag behind other sectors of the economy.

The AFL-CIO urged a change in the composition of the National Commission on Hospital Cost Containment that the Administration bill would create.

As proposed by the Administration, Young noted, two-thirds of the members would come from the hospital and insurance industries and "the regulated would control the regulators."

He suggested the commission be composed of one-third management, one-third labor and one-third public representatives. These are the groups that pay for health care, he stressed.

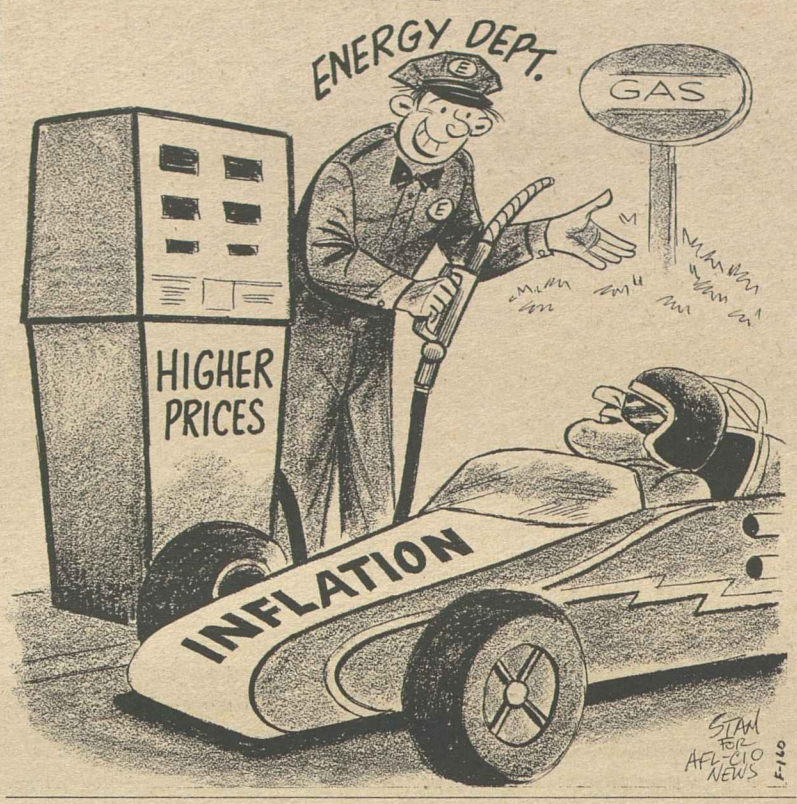
Young acknowledged as a weakness of the Administration bill that "high-cost inefficient hospitals" would be able to increase revenues by the same percentage increase allowed to an efficient low-cost hospital.

That's a big reason why the cost containment bill should be considered merely a stop-gap measure pending national health insurance, he said.

Young reiterated the AFL-CIO's support for the Health Care for all Americans Act that will be introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.). It would establish a budget for health services, at a constant percentage of the nation's gross national product.

Under the present system, Young noted, "the government, Blue Cross-Blue Shield and insurance companies are simply issuing blank checks" to hospitals, physicians and other providers of health care "to fill in as they please."

'Fill 'Er Up, Sir?'



Pilots Ask Strong Action Against Air Hijackers

The Air Line Pilots told a House subcommittee considering anti-terrorism legislation that "the time has come for the U.S. government to demonstrate that it is serious about combating terrorism."

The best way to do this, ALPA Sec. Thomas Ashwood declared, is to enact laws telling the world that the United States will act unilaterally against countries aiding terrorism.

"For too long, we have had the choice of imposing penalties or of doing nothing, and for too long we have chosen to do nothing. Now is the time to incorporate into law real sanctions against the supporters of terrorism," he said.

Sanctions and effective security at foreign airports are the crux of any anti-terrorism legislation, Ashwood said. The two bills that the House subcommittee on aviation is considering would give the President and his Cabinet a number of tools for use in dealing with terrorists, countries that aid them, and foreign airports that have poor security, he noted.

Both measures would require the President to identify publicly those countries that support international terrorism, and take action against them. Ashwood warned, however, that a section of one of the bills giving the President a variety of options if he does not choose to apply automatic sanctions could continue "the present pattern of giving too much latitude to the State Dept., and thereby result in no action taken against countries that support terrorism."

The State Dept.'s "record of inaction" is clear, Ashwood declared. The Anti-hijacking Act of 1974 gave the department a number of sanctions it could impose, he noted, but in four and a half years it has not used any.

"That period is long enough to demonstrate the ineffectiveness of voluntary sanctions," he said.

"Such security screening now takes place in only a few countries," Ashwood observed. "Security in much of the world is usually non-existent or at best ineffective." Both bills provide for U.S. assistance to foreign governments to improve security at their airports.

Ashwood criticized the Federal Aviation Administration for its recent change in the rules governing passenger screening at U.S. airports.

Under the change, which was promulgated over strong objections from ALPA, an armed police officer is no longer required at certain airports to be present while passengers are screened. Instead, he may patrol other areas of the airport terminal while screening takes place.

"We believe that the FAA's change in the rule is a step backward," Ashwood said. "If the police officer is not present when a hijacker is detected, he cannot react immediately and must try to regain the initiative later.

"Indeed, the very absence of an officer may be just enough to encourage a would-be hijacker."

Ashwood said that his testimony was fully supported by the Flight Engineers, another AFL-CIO affiliate.

Mandatory Wage Lid:

Labor Sues to Ban Control Sanctions

(Continued from Page 1)

everything and the income of everybody."

Meany said the denial of contracts is obviously an enforcement weapon "primarily for wage controls, since the price guidelines are for all practical purposes non-existent."

The suit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, asked the court to declare unlawful the mandatory wage control system and to enjoin officials of the Council on Wage & Price Stability and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy from enforcing the guidelines through contract debarment.

Unions participating directly are the Chemical Workers; Electrical Radio & Machine Workers (IUE); International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW); Longshoremen; Machinists; Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers; Rubber Workers; Steelworkers, and Telegraph Workers.

The suit documents their direct interest by listing federal contracts of more than $5 million each held by companies that employ their members. The government limits its enforcement to firms with contracts in excess of $5 million and to "first-tier" subcontractors who meet the dollar test.

Because of the contract denial threat, the lawsuit contends, unions are denied the opportunity to negotiate collective bargaining agreements "free of government dictation" that would allow workers to "maintain their present standard of living."

The consumer price index rose 9.3 percent in the year ending January 1979, the complaint states. "Therefore, compliance with the 7 percent standard would entail a decrease in real wages."

Both the American Bar Association and the General Accounting Office have raised questions about the legality of the contract debarment regulations, and the government ducked an earlier court challenge in a West Coast case by interpreting its contract amount regulations so that it wouldn't apply to the negotiations that were under way.

Meany expressed the hope that the government's lawyers "will not unnecessarily delay a hearing on this suit," since the issue is relatively clear-cut.

"The faster the decision, the faster the government can take effective actions against inflation," he suggested. But a Justice Dept. spokesman told reporters that the government was not planning to respond to the suit with any unusual speed.

Meany said the recent sharp rise in both the wholesale and consumer price indexes makes it obvious that "the Administration's anti-inflation program is not working—at least as far as prices and profits are concerned."

The recently-reported 35 percent increase in pre-tax profits, he suggested, is further evidence that "today's inflationary cycle is a price and profit-push inflation."

Labor is challenging the mandatory features of the guideline program in court because "we don't believe the President of the United States has any right to violate the law," Meany said.

So far as the lawsuit is concerned, the AFL-CIO complaint would be satisfied if the Administration would "remove this threat of cancelling government contracts."

But inflation must still be dealt with, Meany stressed. That's why union volunteers will be taking part in labor's "price watch" and the AFL-CIO will continue to press for "across-the-board economic controls," he said. And "the only way to do that, under the Constitution, is by specific congressional action."

House Panel Sidetracks Social Security Cutback

(Continued from Page 1)

consideration of the other benefit changes sought by the Administration, but noted that no specific legislation has been submitted even though the President claimed a $600 million "saving" in his proposed budget for the fiscal year starting next Oct. 1.

Proposals the committee put aside include elimination of the "death benefit" that helps pay funeral costs, reduction of survivor and disability protection for younger workers and their families, ending survivor benefits now paid to full-time students from ages 18 to 22, discontinuance of a widow's benefit when her youngest child reaches 16, and reduction of social security benefits earned by persons eligible for a civil service pension.

A test of committee sentiment came on a motion to restore as a budget "savings" the Administration proposal to end the death payment. It was beaten by a decisive 12-4 margin.

In other developments:

● A procedural delay postponed scheduled House action on a bill to extend for another two years the Council on Wage & Price Stability and to increase its staff. But the Rules Committee gave it clearance, and it was rescheduled for the week of Mar. 19.

The legislation would not give the council any control authority it does not already have. A House Banking Committee report accompanying the bill called special attention to the plight of low-wage workers and suggested that the 7 percent guideline would have to be raised next year.

● A labor-supported effort was expected soon to bring a proposed constitutional amendment for direct election of the President and Vice President directly to the Senate floor, bypassing the Judiciary Committee.

A similar amendment passed the House in 1969 but was killed the following year by a Senate filibuster. Opponents have repeatedly used delaying tactics in the Judiciary Committee, causing Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), the principal sponsor, to place the proposal directly on the Senate Calendar.

The measure, which would abolish the Electoral College mechanism for choosing the President, has 39 cosponsors, including 12 Republicans.



NLRB Reverses Ruling On Job Corps Center

The National Labor Relations Board, reversing a 1976 ruling, asserted its jurisdiction over an employer operating a residential Job Corps center under a Labor Dept. contract.

The center in Detroit, operated by the Singer Co., provides job training and other supporting programs for youths between the ages of 16 and 21 under a two-year agreement with the government. Michigan District Council 77 of the State, County & Municipal Employees union had sought to represent the center's 82 educational and counseling employees.

The NLRB majority—Chairman John H. Fanning and Members Howard Jenkins, Jr., and John C. Truesdale—ruled that the Labor Dept.'s control over the center's labor relations is not so pervasive as to prevent Singer from effectively bargaining in good faith with AFSCME. In so ruling, the NLRB expressly overruled the board's 1976 decision in Teledyne Economic Development Co., in which the agency declined to assert jurisdiction over two Job Corps centers in Pittsburgh.

In a dissenting opinion, Members John A. Penello and Betty S. Murphy observed that the Labor Dept. indirectly controls virtually all important aspects of the Detroit center's labor relations and said that the center must obtain the Labor Dept.'s prior approval in the selection and continued retention of key personnel, the range of salaries for all positions, the type and amount of employee fringe benefits, and changes in the number of employees for each job classification.

The majority said that subject to overall budgetary limitations contained in its Labor Dept. contract, Singer is free to increase wages as long as no employee receives a raise of more than 10 percent over his previous salary and the employees' wages remain within the ranges set for their jobs.

While the facts in the Singer case are not significantly different from those in the Teledyne case, the majority said, the 1976 case should be overruled because employers who have contracted to operate Job Corps centers do not share the Labor Dept.'s exemption from the National Labor Relations Act.

"While the employer must negotiate with the Labor Dept. over the final terms of its contract, the employer may negotiate with a union representing its employees concerning the proposals which will be included in the employer's initial bid to the department," the NLRB explained.

Congressional Study Warns:

Tariff Cuts' Burden To Fall on Northeast

(Continued from Page 1)

"The brunt of the job layoffs in the United States resulting from trade liberalization will be borne disproportionately by semiskilled workers—primarily machine operators, assembly line workers and nonfarm laborers," the study found.

Most of the job losses will be in the Northeast sector of the country, particularly in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. But in relation to their population, the New England states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts will suffer most from the job losses.

Conversely, a pickup in jobs could be made by the southern and western parts of the country with an increased demand for higher-skilled and technical workers.

Accompanying the plant shutdowns and layoffs will be "marginal" benefits for some consumer and industrial products with the freer-flow of imports. One source estimates the price of imports would drop only 2 to 3 percent over the next decade.

"It will, of course, be of small comfort to those businesses and workers to learn that the gains accruing to others are much greater than the losses they themselves are suffering," CBO economists C. R. Neu and Emery Simon noted in the study.

The authors said that the economic benefits coming from a new foreign trade arrangement should be kept in proper perspective. They pointed out that "for the U.S. economy as a whole, the effects of trade liberalization—while positive—will be quite small in comparison with the effects of other recent economic developments."

Nor will a new trade agreement be of great help in reducing the nation's massive trade deficit, the study suggests in estimating that the U.S. net trade position could shift "$1 billion or $2 billion one way or the other."

The U.S. trade deficit last year, based on the balance of payments account, was $34.3 billion, the report noted. Imports in 1978 amounted to $176 billion, while exports totaled $141.7 billion.

The CBO said that Congress will have little opportunity to alter the formal terms of any agreement reached in Geneva by the Carter Administration's trade negotiators.

"No amendments to the proposed agreement will be permitted during the formal congressional debate over its approval," CBO observed. "The Congress will have to vote for or against the agreement as it stands."

However, the study points out that should Congress ratify the measure, it will have wide latitude through its legislative powers determining U.S. policies for compliance with the agreement.

"Even a highly successful conclusion of the Geneva talks will leave a number of difficult problems for U.S. trade policy," the CBO warns.

One major concern is the continuing impact of import competition resulting from industries subsidized by foreign governments, the CBO said. It suggested a need for monitoring the practices of other nations to determine if they are in compliance with the new accords.

But the most difficult problems resulting from the agreement would arise from the injury to certain industries and workers, the report stressed.

"In many cases, the workers most likely to suffer from trade liberalization are those least able to move easily into other occupations, and the federal government is widely seen as bearing some social and economic responsibility for the relocation of affected workers," the authors observed.

The CBO found that existing assistance programs for workers and firms adversely affected by imports are inadequate. It suggested that "restructuring of these programs will most likely be an important element of any set of policies designed to promote or take advantage of a liberalized system of international trade."



VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE joins in presenting the Eugene V. Debs Award of the Social Democrats, USA, to President Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers, second from left. Also taking part in the presentation were Carl Gershman, executive director of the Social Democrats, USA, right, and Bayard Rustin, the organization's national chairman, next to him. Chaikin, an AFL-CIO vice president, was honored for his efforts in behalf of the working poor and in promoting unionization in the industrialized world.

Chaikin Cited for Effort To Gain Human Rights

New York—Inflation is "robbing the poorest of us and making more of us poor," President Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Union told an audience here as he received the 1979 Eugene V. Debs Award of the Social Democrats, USA.

Citing the devastating impact of unemployment and inflation in the United States, Chaikin deplored the apparent inability of the federal government to cope with these twin scourges.

In his acceptance remarks, Chaikin stressed that the complexity of problems facing the United States and other nations with highly developed economies requires "an attack on the problems with the knowledge that no simple formula will work." His remarks followed an address by Vice President Walter Mondale, who praised Chaikin for his efforts in behalf of free trade unionism around the world.

Mondale, who arrived at the dinner presentation just two hours after seeing President Carter off on his mission to the Middle East, conveyed Carter's praise of Chaikin, particularly for his efforts in behalf of promoting human rights.

In his message, Carter said that "no one represented America better" at the Belgrade review conference on the Helsinki Final Act than Chaikin.

AFL-CIO President George Meany sent a message congratulating Chaikin on his selection for the honor and the Social Democrats, USA, for choosing a man who, "as well as any man I know, carries on the Debs tradition." Also sending congratulatory messages were New York Gov. Hugh Carey, Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.), and former AFL-CIO Vice President A. Philip Randolph.

Bayard Rustin, national chairman of the Social Democrats, USA, presided at the presentation. The citation accompanying the award stressed Chaikin's concerns for the "plight of the working poor" and "his efforts to promote union organization in the industrialized world."

"No area of activity where the democratic purposes of trade unionism may be furthered is foreign to Chick Chaikin's concerns," the citation read. "This is true, above all, of his involvement in international affairs.

"He has given outstanding support to Histadrut, Israel's labor federation. And from Belgrade to Chile, he has carried labor's message about human rights—that no dictatorship, whether it calls itself left or right, warrants anything but the firmest condemnation by free workers everywhere."

Trend Shows Increase in Job-changing

American workers are changing their occupations more often than they used to, according to the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics.

About 11.5 percent of workers surveyed in January 1978 reported they were in a different occupation than they had a year earlier. Only about 9 percent reported such an occupational change in a 1973 survey.

The occupational mobility rate was highest among non-farm laborers, with a 20.4 percent rate for men and 16.5 percent for women. Semi-skilled males had the next higher rate, at 15.1 percent. Semi-skilled women had an 11.6 percent rate.

The occupational change rates were lowest for farmers and professionals, occupations for which extensive capital, education or training are generally needed, BLS noted.

About 7 of 10 persons who changed occupations also changed industries and 9 of 10 changed employers, the survey showed.

The occupational mobility changes between 1973 and 1978 rose from 9 percent to 11.5 percent for men and from 8.2 percent to 11.7 percent for women. BLS said the fact unemployment was much higher in 1977 than in 1972 may be one reason for the rise in mobility rates.

When unemployment is high, many workers find themselves forced to take any available jobs, even lower-paying jobs in the same plant.

Workers 18 and 19 years of age had the highest occupational mobility rates. The rates decrease sharply as workers get older and find their occupational niches, BLS observed.

About 36 percent of all workers who changed jobs over the year were under age 25, a group that made up only 15 percent of all workers with jobs in January 1973, BLS said.

Among men, the occupational mobility rate during 1977 was roughly the same for blacks and Hispanics as for whites. Among women, the rate for blacks was much lower than the rates for whites and Hispanics.

The data on occupational mobility were obtained in January 1978 through supplemental questions to the monthly Current Population Survey.

Pension Plan Insurance Rule Left Standing

An appellate court ruling that a common form of multiemployer pension plans is covered by the government's mandatory termination insurance program became final when the Supreme Court refused to review the case.

Trustees of an Operating Engineers pension fund on the West Coast had contended that the nature of their pension plan exempted it from the requirement to pay termination insurance to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.

The plan covers nearly 30,000 employees of area home builders. Employers are obligated to contribute an amount that is set through collective bargaining for each hour worked by a covered employee. The amount of the pension a retired worker receives is based on years of service multiplied by a dollar factor that is adjusted from time to time by the trustees to reflect both the assets of the fund and the rate of return on its investments.

A district court had initially ruled that such a plan was not subject to the termination insurance program. But the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals last year reversed that ruling and held that the plan was covered. It was this conclusion that the Supreme Court let stand.

Black Jobless Rate Up Despite Overall Decline

(Continued from Page 1)

worked out to 5.74 percent but was rounded down while January's rate was actually 5.76 percent and was rounded up, Bregger pointed out. The December rate was 5.9 percent.

At 5.7 percent, however, the nation's jobless rate was the lowest since August 1974 when unemployment was 5.4 percent of the labor force. A record 63.9 percent of working-age Americans held jobs in February.

Employment expanded by 347,000 to 96,647,000 in February following a 445,000 gain in January. All of the increase occurred among adults, BLS noted. Meanwhile, the labor force grew by about 345,000 to 102,527,000, leaving 5,880,000 workers unemployed.

The jobless rates for adult men at 4 percent, adult women, 5.7 percent, and fulltime workers, 5.2 percent, were unchanged from the previous month.

White-collar workers, particularly professional and clerical workers, benefited most from February's growth in new jobs, Most of the employment gains were in the retail trade and other service industries, although there was some increase in durable goods industries.

The only major employment drop was in construction where jobs declined by 31,000 to 4,348,000.

Nonfarm payroll jobs increased 301,000 or three-tenths of 1 percent, to 87.8 million, following a gain of 184,000, or two-tenths of 1 percent, in January.

A 115,000 gain in retail trade marked the second consecutive monthly rise in the industry. Other sizable over-the-month growth occurred in the transportation equipment, machinery, and electrical equipment industries, with smaller gains in finance, insurance, real estate, transportation, and public utilities.

State-County Names Political Action Director

Betsy Wright, executive director of the National Women's Education Fund, has been named political action director of the State, County & Municipal Employees.

Wright has been active in Democratic Party affairs in Texas for a number of years. She also worked with the Texas AFL-CIO in directing a study on no-fault insurance and group legal insurance and has served as director of the Texas Health Security Action Committee, promoting national health care legislation.

Meany Asks Participation:

Price Watch Keyed To Fight on Inflation

AFL-CIO President George Meany has called for the cooperation of all affiliates in the federation's operation Price Watch, a nationwide monitoring system aimed at curbing inflationary price hikes.

The program, coordinated by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, is enlisting volunteers from the ranks of union members and their families to check on food prices, rents, physicians' fees, utility rates and fuel costs.

"The information gathered by our volunteers will help us make a better public case for a fair and workable anti-inflation program, and will help to arouse public support for such a program," Meany said in a letter to the presidents of international unions.

He urged all internationals to dispatch a representative to a special conference on the price monitoring program in Washington Apr. 9.

"It is important," Meany stressed, "that we do everything possible to stimulate local participation in our Price Watch."

Citing severe increases recently in the wholesale and consumer price indexes, Meany at a press conference announcing the AFL-CIO's suit to overturn mandatory aspects of the Carter Administration's "voluntary" controls, renewed his attacks on the anti-inflation program as ineffective.

He pointed out that the Council on Wage & Price Stability lacks the personnel to handle an effective price monitoring program.

"We are going to try to monitor at the local level, using whatever means we have at our disposal to expose the people who are paying no attention to the price controls," Meany told reporters.

He said it was ridiculous for 130 members of the COWPS staff to attempt to monitor the nation's 400 largest corporations, when it would take that many persons just to keep tabs on Mobil Oil, a conglomerate of some 140 comporations that includes Montgomery Ward.

As far as enforcement of the government's price standard is concerned, "it's really a joke," Meany said. "They are not enforcing. They are just going through the motions."

The best proof of that, he observed, is reflected in today's double-digit inflation rate.

In other developments, John Gentry, deputy adviser on the Administration's anti-inflation program, admitted at a Miami labor law seminar that monitoring wages is much easier than prices.

"The typical wage settlement is highly visible and its true costs can be computed down to one-tenth of 1 percent," he noted. "But there are tens of thousands of individual price decisions made in this country, in secret, every year. They defy monitoring."

Continuing price increases in the absence of effective monitoring indicate that "widespread price cheating is going on, particularly in the nation's medium-sized companies," Gentry said.

COWPS Chairman Alfred Kahn, in an address to the Chicago Economic Club, also accused smaller and medium-sized firms of failing to comply with the price guidelines.

"How long will labor be willing to demonstrate restraint while prices are rising at a rate several points higher than the one at which we are asking labor to settle," Kahn questioned the business group.

At the same time, he noted, "every indication is that profit reports are going to be extremely high in the months ahead."

He said recent reports of record-high corporate profits are almost as much of "a catastrophe" as the producer price index in January.

The figures "underscore a strong belief that the business community hasn't been doing its share in the anti-inflation fight," he declared.

That point was made clear in early returns to the Inflation Watch program set up by the Machinists.

One IAM member reported that the price of a brand-named product he had purchased rose from 55 cents to 69 cents in one week, an increase of 25 percent. He sent the box tops from the packages to President Carter, suggesting that since consumer goods are not being held to the anti-inflation guidelines, neither should his wages.

The IAM is now analyzing the early responses to the inflation survey by its monthly newspaper.



LUNCHTIME CONCERT is presented by the Howard Roberts Chorale for workers at Montefiore Hospital in New York under the auspices of the Bread & Roses cultural arts project sponsored by District 1199 of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union. The group will perform for other 1199 members in the New York area in coming months.

State Dept. Help Pressed to Free Jailed Malaysian Trade Unionists

American trade-union concern over the whereabouts and condition of a score of Malaysian labor leaders jailed without trial by their government grew as the AFL-CIO lodged a formal protest with the U.S. State Dept.

In a letter to Sec. of State Cyrus Vance, Federation President George Meany said that the Malaysian government's "authoritarian action" must be viewed as a "serious violation of human rights and legitimate trade-union freedoms."

Meany expressed hope that the U.S. government would take "all appropriate measures" to resolve the situation, clouded by the failure of Malaysian authorities to respond to earlier AFL-CIO requests for a status report on the imprisoned labor leaders. Among those being held is Donald U'ren, a Malaysian citizen, who is the Asian representative of the International Transport Workers' Federation.

Meany asked Vance to pursue the matter through diplomatic channels with the Malaysian government "so that the health and safety and the legal disposition of those who have been detained can be determined."

Separately, Meany wrote to Malaysia's ambassador to the United States, Zain Azraai, and sent a cable to Malaysian Prime Minister Hussein bin Onn in Kuala Lumpur expressing the AFL-CIO's "deep concern and dismay" over the Feb. 15 arrests of U'ren and other leaders and members of the Malaysian Airlines Employees Union.

The arrests stemmed from a dispute between the union and Malaysian Airlines System in which the union instituted a work-to-rule campaign to get the carrier to bargain on its long-standing requests for better pay and working conditions.

Meanwhile, a number of AFL-CIO airline unions joined in urging President Carter to enforce his human rights policies by denying Malaysian Airlines the U.S. landing rights it is now seeking from the State Dept.

The Airline Coordinating Committee, meeting at AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, strongly condemned the Malaysian government's "dictatorship-like reaction" to efforts by the Malaysian Airlines Employees Union to improve its members' working conditions. It approved efforts to secure the release of the imprisoned trade unionists "or at least to obtain information from the Malaysian government regarding their safety."

The airline unions, including the Air Line Pilots, Railway & Airline Clerks, the Flight Engineers, the Transport Workers and the Machinists, agreed to take concerted action with the ITF to refuse service to Malaysian aircraft wherever possible.

In addition, the airline unions will send representatives to a meeting of the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations in Amsterdam this week to request appropriate global action in support of the Malaysian unionists.

Other representatives will go to an ITF World Executive Board meeting in London on Mar. 20-22, at which time action is contemplated calling for an international boycott of all cargo destined to and from Malaysia by whatever means of transportation.

In his cable to Hussein, Meany urged that "in conformity with democratic and international practices, these trade unionists be released from jail, and that an amicable solution to the dispute" between the Malaysian airline and its employees be found.

Labor Backs Bill to Expand Child Care Aid

The AFL-CIO renewed its endorsement of expanded child care assistance for working parents and urged federal standards that would assure quality care in programs receiving government funding.

In a statement submitted to a subcommittee headed by Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young expressed concern that only a small percentage of working mothers is able to get adequate child care.

"The rest are forced to face the never-ending uncertainty of making arrangements with a changing group of sitters or with relatives," he wrote, "leaving their children in custodial parking lots."

The AFL-CIO statement commented in detail on provisions of Cranston's bill, endorsing many of its provisions and suggesting revisions in others.

Young urged that only public and nonprofit groups be allowed to participate in a federally-assisted program.

In view of the "sorry performance" of profit-making organizations in nursing homes, health care and education, he said, the AFL-CIO remains strongly opposed "to the involvement of profit-making entrepreneurs in the field of child care."

Fred Waldeck Dies, Help Found CWA

Fred D. Waldeck, one of the leaders in establishing the Communications Workers and its predecessor National Federation of Telephone Workers, died early this year at Boynton Beach, Fla. He retired from the CWA staff in 1976.

Congress Urged to Limit Contract Agency's Role

Union witnesses asked the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee to bar the Office of Federal Procurement Policy from using its authority over government contracts to override decisions of the Secretary of Labor on worker protection standards.

The agency's funding authority is up for renewal, and AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said the OFPP should be continued provided it sticks to the role Congress intended for it, to coordinate federal procurement policy.

Labor's quarrel, he said, is with the agency's assertion that it can second-guess government departments that have been designated by Congress to administer specific laws.

The episode that has particularly aroused the trade union movement was the assertion by the OFPP that an Air Force contract for aircraft engine overhaul and maintenance was not covered by the prevailing wage and benefit safeguards of the Service Contract Act, even though the Labor Dept. ruled that it was and a federal court said the Secretary of Labor's decision was final.

Nothing in existing law gives the procurement agency such power, Oswald said. But because the agency has repeatedly claimed final jurisdiction, "the AFL-CIO calls upon Congress to restate clearly the limits of OFPP's authority."

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. said the procurement agency would be able to nullify virtually all federal labor standards, including the Davis-Bacon Act, if its jurisdiction claim were allowed to stand.

"We want to clarify OFPP's authority once and for all," Georgine testified. "This can only be done if this committee conditions further appropriation of funds to OFPP on the understanding that it may not meddle in matters relating to labor standards which are within the Secretary of Labor's exclusive authority."

President Kenneth T. Blaylock of the Government Employees said his union considers the procurement agency a useful check on the "contracting-out" policies of government agencies.

But he said the AFGE will "continue to oppose" the agency's attempt to supersede the Secretary of Labor on interpretation of the Service Contract Act, the Walsh-Healey Act and the Davis-Bacon Act.

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Zooming Profits Spotlight Ineffective Price Controls

Jobless Pay To Strikers Up to States

A 6-3 majority of the Supreme Court rejected an employer's attempt to overturn a state law that allows strikers to draw unemployment compensation after a waiting period.

The effect of the decision is to leave intact the varying state approaches to unemployment resulting from a labor dispute. Congress could have mandated a uniform policy, the court found, but it chose not to do so.

The case that reached the Supreme Court stemmed from a seven-month strike in 1971 by members of the Communications Workers against the New York Telephone Co. Under New York's unemployment compensation law, which dates back to 1935, the strikers qualified for jobless benefits after the eighth week of the dispute. Rhode Island has a similar law, with a seven-week waiting period.

The phone company challenged the New York law, claiming that it forced an employer to finance a strike against himself and contradicted the intent of federal labor law.

But the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals backed the position of the state and the labor movement, and the employer sought Supreme Court review.

Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts hailed the decision as "a victory for all working men and women" as well as CWA members in New York.

"We believe that unemployment compensation should be available to any jobless person," he said, "in

(Continued on Page 8)



PUBLIC SECTOR UNIONS can count on the labor movement's full support for goals of economic and political equality, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told a national legislative conference of the Public Employee Dept. Shown seated are William H. McClennan, president of the department and of the Fire Fighters, and Postal Workers President Emmet Andrews.

600 Attend Conference:

Public Unions Open 'Justice' Campaign

Public sector unions launched a coordinated lobbying effort on Capitol Hill on behalf of an "agenda for justice" drawn up by the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept.

Their program carries the "full support of unions and their members in the private sector," AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland stressed in an address to the two-day national legislative conference.

Kirkland told the 600 delegates that lifting Hatch Act restrictions on federal and postal workers is more than "a parochial issue" for the unions directly affected. Denial of political rights because of employment is "no less unjust" than denial on the basis of race or sex, he said.

The AFL-CIO shares the alarm of its public sector affiliates at the hazards of a constitutional convention, Kirkland said. And it joins in the call for tax justice in contrast to Proposition 13 "tax prohibitions."

Inflation can't be cured by exhorting private employers to hold down wages, he stressed, or "by arbitrarily limiting government employees to a fraction of the earned pay increases they need and deserve."

President William H. McClennan of the Public Employee acknowledged that the political climate in Washington is "cold" to some of labor's goals.

"We will be working to change the climate," he stressed. "We won't lie down and play dead. We will continue to work and push and shove" for labor's program.

McClennan, who is president of the Fire Fighters, said the department's affiliates firmly reject any form of second-class status.

Before delegates met with their home-state congressional delegations, a panel of union presidents briefed them on key issues:

- Government Employees Presi-

(Continued on Page 2)

Court Bars Bargaining For Religious Schools

A sharply divided Supreme Court ruled that teachers at church-operated schools aren't protected by federal labor law, but its 5-4 decision avoided the constitutional issue that most attorneys had considered the key to the dispute.

Congress must now decide whether to amend the National Labor Relations Act to specifically cover parochial school teachers.

It should do so promptly, the American Federation of Teachers urged. AFT President Albert Shanker predicted that any attempts by church-related schools to use the court decision as a shield against bargaining would lead to "more strikes and other forms of direct confrontation."

Four dissenting justices expressed astonishment at what they termed the court majority's "plainly wrong" reading of federal labor law and "irresponsible" avoidance of the constitutional questions.

In the case that reached the Supreme Court, lay teachers at two

(Continued on Page 7)

Business Hypocrisy Assailed by Meany

By James M. Shevis

Corporate profits went through the roof in the fourth quarter of 1978, proving the "hypocrisy" and "deception" of the business community in its pledge to cooperate with the Carter Administration's anti-inflation program, the AFL-CIO charged.

Federation President George Meany said that the 9.7 percent earnings jump in the last three months of the year—a compounded annual rate of 44.8 percent—also shows the "total ineffectiveness" of the Administration's price guidelines in holding down today's price and profit-push inflation.

The latest profit figures reported by the Commerce Dept. demonstrate "the greed of corporations and their disregard for the general well-being of the economy," Meany declared. "This is the grossest demonstration of profit gouging since the opening days of the Korean War."

The roaring profits, reflecting rapid economic growth and price markups, occurred during the first three months of President Carter's stepped-up anti-inflation drive. Carter announced his voluntary wage-price standards on Oct. 24, retroactive to Oct. 1, the first day of the fourth quarter.

Chairman Alfred E. Kahn of the Council on Wage & Price Stability, which is charged with administering the Carter anti-inflation program, said that the profits explosion "puts business on trial in the eyes of the American people . . . at a time when we are asking all segments of society to exercise restraint, and have seen a real demonstration of restraint by labor."

Carter's top political adviser, Hamilton Jordan, told a National Press Club audience that "we think

(Continued on Page 3)

House Vote Stirs Fight On Budget

By David L. Perlman

The House narrowly defeated a recession-breeding "balanced budget" proposal and a concerned citizens group was formed with AFL-CIO participation to turn the tide against a reckless attempt to force a constitutional convention on the issue.

In the House, an attempt to tack a rigid balanced budget requirement to a routine bill raising the federal debt limit was turned back by a hairsbreadth 201-199 margin. **(Rollcall, Page 6.)**

Starting a year from October, it would have required a two-thirds vote for any deficit spending, no matter how urgent the need for job programs and economic stimulus to keep a recession from feeding on itself.

An identical proposal was being considered by the Senate as the AFL-CIO News went to press, with the outcome uncertain.

Only one Republican—Marc L.

(Continued on Page 8)

New Drive to Focus on Union-Busting Advisers

Baton Rouge, La.—Advising a client to break federal labor law is no different than advising a client to rob a bank, and the lawyer who does either should be punished, Thomas R. Donahue told the Louisiana AFL-CIO convention.

Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, said that the lawyers and other consultants who teach employers to violate employee rights are a "growth industry" in business.

"This is not just an effort to weaken you—like the compulsory open shop law Louisiana is currently saddled with," he told delegates. "It is a deliberate, calculated campaign to destroy your union and all unions."

Donahue said he thought, or at least hoped, there were responsible members in the business community who would not tolerate the drive for a "union-free environment" if they had thought through what one violation of individual rights might mean to other rights or to the nation.

But, Donahue said, American workers could not wait for the business community to call a halt, for lawyers to impose their own canons of ethics on their law-breaking members or even for the

(Continued on Page 3)

World Unions Protest Jailing Of Malaysian

London—The executive board of the International Transport Workers' Federation called for the release of Donald U'ren and other Malaysian trade union leaders jailed by the Malaysian government six weeks ago in a labor dispute.

The ITF board adopted a resolution instructing its general secretary to mobilize the resources of the trade secretariat and affiliated unions throughout the world to bring pressure on the Malaysian government to settle the dispute.

U'ren and his colleagues were imprisoned Feb. 15 after the Malaysian Airlines Employees Union began a work-to-rule campaign to get the Malaysian Airlines System to bargain with it. U'ren is ITF's Asian representative, and has been a Malaysian trade union member for about 40 years.

Meanwhile, in a speech to the Malaysian Parliament in Kuala Lumpur, Prime Minister Hussein bin Onn urged that the two sides solve their differences at the bargaining table but did not say how this could be done with the union leaders in jail.

U'ren, a leader in the Malaysian Locomotive Engineers Union for years, was instrumental in bringing together several railway unions in his country into a single trade union now known as the Railwaymen's Union of Malaysia (RUM.)

Later, he was elected president of the Malaysian Trade Union Congress (MTUC), and elected to the ITF world executive board. He resigned his posts with RUM, MTUC, and the ITF executive board in 1964 to become ITF's Asian representative.



MALAYSIAN TRADE UNION leader Donald U'ren is widely known in American and international trade union circles. The imprisoned Asian representative of the International Transport Workers' Federation has attended AFL-CIO and Railway Clerks' conventions in the United States and union gatherings elsewhere, such as this one in Manila.

Civil Rights Allies Join In Tribute to Mitchell

The trade union movement joined with other segments of a broad-based civil rights alliance to join in a birthday party and retirement testimonial for Clarence Mitchell, who for 30 years was the NAACP's top Washington representative.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland was one of those expressing appreciation for Mitchell's leadership at a dinner attended by some 1,000 guests including high-ranking public officials and colleagues from the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. Mitchell is continuing as chairman of the Leadership Conference.

The enduring alliance between labor and the civil rights movement has been "one of the most productive coalitions in political history," Kirkland stressed.

Mitchell has had only one standard of civil and human rights, Kirkland noted. Thus, "he recognized that the fight for a living minimum wage is a human rights fight." And he saw also as part of the same battle "the right of construction workers to picket their employer . . . the issue of labor law reform . . . political expression by government workers."

Kirkland noted the long and close association between Mitchell and Andrew J. Biemiller, who recently retired as the AFL-CIO's legislative director. The enactment of the landmark civil rights laws in the 1960s was a fruit of that partnership, he added.

The occasion was the 68th birthday anniversary of Mitchell, and the dinner was a major fund-raiser for the NAACP, whose executive director, Benjamin Hooks, was program chairman.

Kirkland, State, County & Municipal Employees President Jerry Wurf, and UAW President Douglas Fraser were among the co-chairmen of the dinner. Murray H. Finley, president of the Textile & Clothing Workers; Frederick O'Neal, president of the Actors & Artistes, and Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Foundation, were vice chairmen.

Joint Panel Backs Administration:

Congress Tilts Right In Economic Report

The Joint Economic Committee of Congress, endorsing the Administration's overall policy of budget restraint, urged in its annual economic report that top priority be given to government policies that encourage savings and investment in the hopes of lessening inflation and increasing productivity.

The 251-page report, the first to be endorsed by all members of the committee, Republican as well as Democratic, stressed conservative rather than liberal themes—a departure from the panel's traditional position. The committee, chaired by Sen. Lloyd M. Bentsen (D-Tex.), called for restraint in budget and spending policies and for a moderate monetary policy geared to a gradual reduction in money-supply growth. "The key is moderation, a policy of gradualism," the panel declared.

"This report illustrates an emerging consensus in the committee and in the country . . . that the major challenges today and for the foreseeable future are on the supply side of the economy," Bentsen said. He added that the thrust of the report marked an end to 30 years of preoccupation "with the problem of maintaining an adequate level of demand in the economy."

Rep. Clarence J. Brown (R-Ohio), the committee's ranking minority member, observed that the report's general theme "is to stimulate economic growth through investment and productivity gains." He added that the consensus report was "evidence of the fact that the country's extreme economic problems are producing a convergence —rather than a divergence — of economic thought within the committee."

The report recommended consideration of incentives to promote industrial research and development. It also called for a more rational and effective federal regulatory system and reduced reliance on energy from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Other recommendations included:

- Expansion of federal manpower training programs "to equip unemployed workers with skills to meet entry-level requirements."
- Liberalized depreciation allowances, an expanded investment tax credit, and a corporate tax reduction to stimulate capital investment.
- Possible "unilateral" action to restrict imports if consultations and negotiations fail to produce a reduction in trade imbalances.
- Creation of a federal energy bank to make low-interest loans for solar energy and other forms of renewable energy.

Only scant reference to the 1978 Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment & Balanced Growth Act was contained in the report. The report also rejected mandatory wage and price controls as a way to try to control inflation.

Steelworkers Oppose Relaxing Pollution Rules

Los Angeles—The legislated goals for a healthful environment must not be ransomed to those who claim federal air pollution regulations are inflationary or block progress, the Steelworkers told the National Commission on Air Quality.

The USWA testimony at the commission's regional hearings stressed the need for strengthening the Environmental Protection Agency to effectively implement and administer the nation's environmental laws.

Cass Alvin, USWA regional representative, said there is little hope unhealthful conditions in workplaces will be corrected unless the entire environment is cleaned up.

Alvin charged that both "the public and workers are being blackmailed into believing that there must be a trade-off between a healthy environment and a sound economy, between clean air and jobs."

He refuted claims that EPA clean-up efforts have had an adverse impact on employment.

"We cannot identify a single worker who has lost a job in any industry we represent in the West due to the imposition of any EPA air quality standard or decision," Alvin told the commission.

Alvin is public relations and information coordinator for the USWA's 14-state western region.

He said that periodic economic downturns and unacceptable high unemployment would occur in industry even if there were no environmental laws.

Capital outlays by industry to comply with environmental regulations are not excessive when compared with planned expenditures for routine replacement of equipment and plant expansion, Alvin maintained.

In nearly all cases, he observed, engineering and other improvements not only contribute to a healthier environment inside and outside the workplace, but companies also become more productive, cost-efficient and profitable. The savings in the long run will far outweigh the capital expenditures, he added.

Even so, the government's air pollution program can be improved by incentives and innovations to help bring about compliance with air quality standards, Alvin said.

He suggested further exploration of proposals to make compliance easier, including more liberal tax credits, long-term loans at low interest rates, relaxation of price guidelines when abatement expenditures affect operating costs, and outright grants for research, development and construction of new abatement systems.

Alvin urged the commission to provide an improved atmosphere to help develop programs on economic planning of compliance efforts.

"The 1977 Clean Air Act has spurred a process in which states, communities and industries are finally forced to sit down and plan how to match economic needs and air resources," he observed.

"This can be very positive from our standpoint in that it will lead to more rational growth that will not have to run the risk of enforcement confrontations and the possibility of job displacements in the future."

Budget Amendment Pitfalls Outlined

An analysis of the dangers posed by the campaign to call a constitutional convention to enforce a balanced federal budget is set out in a new AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation fact sheet.

The fact sheet reviews the legal questions, the constitutional problems, the economic impact and other aspects of the convention campaign. It urges letters to state legislators, congressmen and senators in opposition to both a constitutional convention and the proposed balanced budget amendment.

Reasonable quantities of 1979 Fact Sheet No. 1—Constitutional Convention for a Balanced Federal Budget—are available without cost from the AFL-CIO Pamphlet Division 815 16th Street N.W., Washington, D.C., 20006.

Public Unions Backed On Legislative Goals

(Continued from Page 1)

dent Kenneth T. Blaylock put "highest priority" on lifting of Hatch Act restrictions. He expressed the resentment of federal workers at repeated scuttling of pay comparability principles by Democratic and Republican administrations alike, and stressed that actions taken against one group of public workers quickly spread to other parts of the public sector.

- Postal Workers President Emmet Andrews charged that mingling the civil service retirement system with social security would amount to "a ripoff of federal and postal employees." Andrews has asked his own union to adopt a special assessment to finance a campaign against any merger of the two programs.
- Service Employees President George Hardy urged the importance of working with other community groups for genuine tax reform and charged that corporations now are paying "only a small portion of their fair share of the cost of government." The "frustrations" of ordinary taxpayers are being exploited by right-wing groups, he warned.
- Teachers President Albert Shanker stressed that the untried mechanism of calling a constitutional convention to bypass the role of Congress in initiating amendments had such potential for irresponsibility that the AFL-CIO would oppose the procedure even if it were intended to adopt an amendment labor supported. In addition to the threat of a rigid balanced-budget amendment, Shanker expressed concern at proposals for tax credits for private school tuition which he said could lead to decimation of the public school system.
- Letter Carriers President Vincent Sombretto spoke of the beating that workers and consumers have been taking from price-gouging, multinational oil companies. Labor's "only effective weapon," he said, is the strength that comes from "being together."

At the closing session of the conference, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) got an enthusiastic ovation when he protested the imposition of rigid controls on workers' wages while banks and big oil corporations are raking in "huge profits."

"Who's watching the store on the other side of the street?" he asked.

The conference also heard Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Thomas P. O'Neill, III, denounce both the mandatory balanced budget proposal and the "radical and most dangerous" constitutional convention procedure.

As for a balanced budget requirement, O'Neill said it was federal aid in a deficit year that put Massachusetts back on the road to economic recovery during a 1974 recession in which the unemployment rate climbed over 11 percent.

Inspector General Post Filled at Labor Dept.

The newly-created post of inspector general of the Labor Dept. will be filled by Majorie Fine Knowles, a former law professor who for the past year has been an assistant general counsel in the Inspector General Division of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

She was named to the Labor Dept. post by President Carter, subject to Senate confirmation.

Organizers Detail Encounters:

Educators Explore Management Ploys

Three veteran organizers with extensive experience with union-busting techniques told the AFL-CIO annual education conference here that labor is going to have to get better at the fundamentals of organizing if it is to stave off threats from increasingly militant employers.

"We're going to have to pursue the basics more rigorously," said Bob Muehlenkamp, organizing director of 1199, National Union of Hospital & Health Care Employees. "They're doing their job better than we."

Muehlenkamp was joined by Al Bilik, organizing director of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, and Harold McIver, organizing director of the AFL-CIO's Industrial Union Dept., in a panel discussion of labor's response to the tactics of anti-union employers.

McIver, whose activities have been concentrated in the southeastern United States, told the 120 union educators and labor specialists of his experience with "the biggest union-buster of them all," J. P. Stevens & Co. The three-day conference was held at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies.

Taping management "captive audience" meetings, then transcribing and distributing the remarks to union organizers is another technique. In the Stevens campaign, he said, IUD and Clothing & Textile Workers organizers also showed workers films such as "Anatomy of a Lie," to prepare them for propaganda that the company might be expected to spread about unions.

Both McIver and Muehlenkamp stressed the need to change the distorted image of labor during organizing campaigns, allocating greater resources to this end.

"This is as much a part of an organizing campaign as any other element," Muehlenkamp said. Muehlenkamp, who has been engaged in organizing hospitals primarily in the Northeast and the Midwest, outlined the main elements of a "maximum" campaign mounted by an anti-labor employer.

These include the use of "educational consultants" such as Modern Management Methods, Inc., who advise hospitals on how to keep unions from organizing and winning representation elections.

Once hired, such consultants seek complete control of the institution during the campaign. They coordinate their hospital activities with community efforts to put the union in a bad light.

"They are totally cynical about everything this country stands for, and they regard a union election as a complete con game," Muehlenkamp said. "They systematically try to destroy the union's leadership," firing, promoting or transferring pro-union workers.

Muehlenkamp said that District 1199's response to such tactics has been to prevent the employer from putting together a maximum campaign. "We try to put them on the defensive," he said.

The IUE's Al Bilik said that even unionized companies such as General Electric keep up a steady stream of anti-union propaganda. GE "breeds its own" consultants in its "non-union department," and attempts to keep its unorganized plants "union-free."

Other panel discussions included an analysis of labor's successful campaign last fall to defeat a right-to-work proposition in Missouri. Assistant Director Allen Y. Zack of the federation's Public Relations Dept. led the discussion.

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO's Dept. of Organization & Field Services, delivered the keynote address on the role of educators in organizing training programs.

Elsewhere during the conference, delegates divided into workshops on collective bargaining, health and safety, and training women for union leadership positions.



TEACHERS PRESIDENT Albert Shanker, addressing the AFL-CIO's annual education conference at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies, outlined some of the main problems facing educators today. Seated next to him is Director Walter G. Davis of the federation's Dept. of Education, which sponsored the three-day meeting.

Machinists Set Vote on New United Accord

The Machinists agreed on a new three-year contract covering 18,000 workers at United Airlines after round-the-clock mediated negotiations at the Labor Dept.

Ratification of the pact is expected to take up to three weeks. The basic contract follows the union's agreement with Trans World Airlines, which led off IAM's current bargaining round with the industry last fall.

An earlier tentative settlement with United was rejected by a substantial margin. The negotiations, presided over by a National Mediation Board official, involve mechanics and other ground personnel represented by the Machinists.

The union said that details of the agreement would not be made public until the ratification process had been completed. The vote will take place at union meetings.

The TWA settlement, which was reached before President Carter's voluntary wage-and-price standards went into effect, called for wage increases totaling 30 percent over three years plus cost-of-living adjustments.

Profit Gouging Bares Ineffective Controls

(Continued from Page 1)

profits are unnecessarily high," adding that the President intends to "take steps to deal with this."

The fourth-quarter earnings surge was the same before and after tax withholdings, 9.7 percent more than the July-September level. Profits before taxes rose at an annual rate of $225.3 billion, up $19.9 billion from the third quarter and up $47 billion, or 26.4 percent, from the fourth quarter of 1977.

The increase in before-tax profits of 26.4 percent was the highest yield since an increase of 84 percent in 1950, the year that the country became engaged in the Korean War.

Profits after taxes rose at a $130.7 billion annual rate in the fourth quarter, and were 25.2 percent higher than the same period a year earlier.

By a third measure, which discounts inventory gains, the fourth-quarter corporate earnings increase was 19.4 percent over the fourth quarter of 1977. "It's a pretty good gain by any standard," William Cox, deputy chief economist at the Commerce Dept., observed.

Indeed it was, especially for the industry giants. Profits over the year rose 40 percent for Eastman Kodak, 44 percent for Dupont, 37 percent for Phillips Petroleum, 30 percent for Bank of America, and 36 percent for Minnesota Mining & Mfg.

The figures clearly point up the one-sidedness of the wage-price standards, the AFL-CIO's President Meany said in his statement. While the income of the wealthy—those who have more than enough to live on—is unrestrained by the Administration guidelines, real after-tax wages of the average worker have fallen by nearly 1.5 percent since last October, he said.

"This program has held down wages, but not profits or prices," he said. "Unless there are effective and enforceable controls on prices and profits, workers cannot be expected to seek wage increases that do not catch up with lost buying power and maintain their families' standard of living."

Meany pointed out that the AFL-CIO has supported, with some recommended improvements, the Administration's "real wage insurance" proposal to protect workers against inflation in excess of the 7 percent wage guideline.

"But that alone will not insure equality, and so we advocate a 'fair price incentive tax' on excessive profits to encourage businesses to be more responsible in setting prices and profits," he said.

Along with its report on profits, the Commerce Dept. announced that revised estimates of "real" gross national product—the market value of the nation's total output of goods and services—showed that the economy grew at an annual rate of 6.9 percent in the fourth quarter of 1978. That was eight-tenths of 1 percent higher than the original 6.1 percent announced in January and a half-percent above an earlier revision last month. The gain in real GNP for the year was an even 4 percent.

The department's so-called GNP implicit price deflator, regarded as the broadest measure of inflation, was revised to show that fourth-quarter prices rose at an 8.2 percent annual rate, little changed from earlier estimates of 8.1 percent.

HRDI Names Mike Arnold As Director

President Alan Kistler of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute announced the appointment of Michael Arnold as HRDI's executive director.

Arnold, 39, will assume the directorship on Apr. 2, succeeding Charles E. Bradford, who has resigned to become director of apprenticeship, employment, and training programs for the Machinists.

The AFL-CIO's manpower arm, HRDI is responsible for promoting training and employment opportunities for disadvantaged, unemployed, and underemployed Americans.

Kistler praised Bradford for his efforts over the past 10 years to expand HRDI's services and programs. "His unparalleled commitment to serve the labor community and the disadvantaged have been the basis for many of HRDI's achievements," Kistler said.

Arnold has been HRDI's assistant director in charge of building trades programs since 1972. In this capacity, he has been involved in establishing the Navajo Construction Industry Manpower Program, the Native American Apprenticeship Outreach Program, and a not-yet operational Apprenticeship Opportunity Center in Houston.

He spent his first three years with HRDI as an area representative in Dallas, later becoming Southwest regional director. Arnold has been a member of the Bricklayers since 1957.

Donahue Calls for Bright Spotlight On Tactics of Anti-Union Advisers

(Continued from Page 1)

federal government to enforce the law.

Consequently, he described—and enlisted the help of Louisiana unions in pursuing—the campaign against the union busters which the AFL-CIO launched at its February Executive Council meeting.

He described a four-part program beginning with identifying the attorneys and consultants who make a profession of advising employers on how to get away with thwarting workers' efforts to form a union.

"In less than a month, the committee has collected data on 108 firms and 125 individuals—people like the notorious law firm of Kullman & Land in New Orleans," Donahue said. He asked the help of all segments of organized labor in both collecting and disseminating this information through the National Organizing Coordinating Committee.

"We are finding out what tactics they use, who profits from their advice, how much they are making and who controls them," Donahue said.

After that step, Donahue said, the effort will focus on enforcing current laws, getting bar associations to police their own ranks and finally "to make the case to the responsible business community to assess the tactics and role of the labor-management consultants."

In addition to violating federal labor laws that protect workers' rights to organize, Donahue said, large numbers of the "consultants" are in violation of a Landrum-Griffin requirement that they register with the Labor Dept. Those who enter into agreements with employers for the purpose of persuading employees not to join a union are required by the same law to meet financial disclosure requirements, Donahue noted.

Donahue also traced the union-busting effort to related corporate crimes in political slush funds, overseas bribes and price-fixing and noted that the labor-management consultants were closely akin to the employers who use lie detector tests and other intimidations designed to produce workers who are scared, pliant and willing to spy on each other.

"Corporate lawbreaking has become an everyday function of the corporate breed," Donahue said, noting a six-month period in 1978 in which every issue of the Wall Street Journal carried at least one story on corporate corruption.

"In their pursuit of profit, the Winn-Dixies and J. P. Stevenses of the corporate world do deliberate and malicious damage to their fellow human beings," Donahue said. And crimes against human rights are far more serious than their crimes against property, where corporate slush funds are used to bribe, buy and sell each other.

That list of human rights violations—illegal firings for union activity, captive audience meetings and other devices of intimidation—would have largely been cleaned up by the labor law reform effort that fell to a Senate filibuster in 1978, Donahue said.

"But we are not going to wait for labor law reform," he vowed. "We are going to identify the individuals, their tactics and their legal and ethical responsibilities," with special emphasis on the lawyers who are supposed to be "officers of the court" and know a little more about the law they are violating.



Profits and Inflation

WHENEVER A NEW CONGRESS convenes, the nation's magazines and newspapers break out in a rash of articles about the state of the labor movement, producing all sorts of analyses of what labor really wants and how effective labor is going to be on Capitol Hill.

This year is no exception. We have hysterical warnings from the right that the mighty unions are about to overwhelm a weak and compliant Congress and gloomy warnings from our left critics that labor has lost not only its clout but its bearings and has its back to the wall.

It's about the same mixture of uniformed nonsense that we have been getting since the time of Gompers. Anybody who believes either view has no sense of history or the way we got where we are.

INFLATION CAN and must be controlled, but there are better ways to do it than to starve the states and cities. Inflation isn't caused by funding necessary government services, and it can't be cured by dismantling those services.

It can't be cured by exhorting employers to hold down their employees' wages, and it can't be cured by arbitrarily limiting government employees to a fraction of the earned pay increases they need and deserve.

The President arbitrarily cut the wage increases due federal workers under the law. Not because they didn't earn them, weren't entitled to them, didn't need them, but to "set a good example" to the rest of America.

Did he ask the federal workers if they wanted to "voluntarily" sacrifice a portion of their wages to the public welfare? Did he ask if they wanted to provide an example to the rest of America?

And what was the result? Did the stores keep prices down for federal workers? Did landlords freeze rents, or businessmen trim profits?

Of course, the answer to all these is: No. And the reason is simple. The real source of inflation is ordinary human and corporate greed in the marketplace. It is the product of individual decisions made every day by retailers, wholesalers, producers, landlords and bankers.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL surveyed 449 companies and found profits up 28 percent during the fourth quarter alone. The Commerce Dept. predicts profits will rise another 35 percent in this first quarter. Gains in bank profits last year were in the same ballpark. BankAmerica reported a 34 percent increase, Citicorp 28 percent. An industry tabulation of the earnings of the 98 largest banks showed an average increase of 29.6 percent in 1978 earnings.

The result: The consumer price index jumped 9 percent during 1978. Over the same year, the government reports, the purchasing power of the average worker's paycheck declined by 3.4 percent.

Our opponents' warnings that only economic injustice toward workers can save the economy, that the sky will fall unless employers are permitted to continue to break the labor laws with impunity, or that civilization will collapse unless the oil companies are allowed to loot the national pocketbooks are no longer persuasive.

—From an address by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to the Public Employee Dept. legislative conference.

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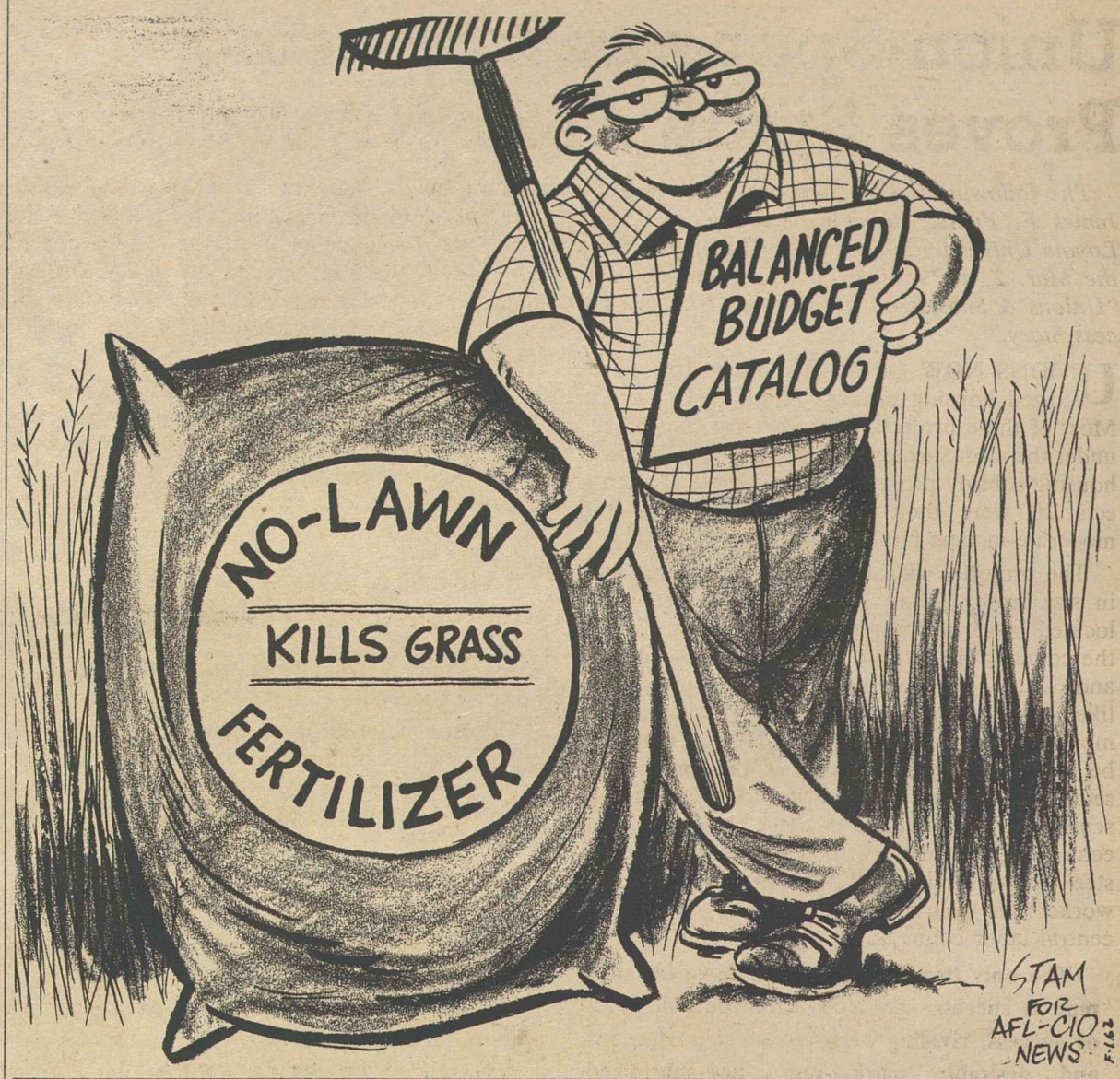
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Spring Fever



Economic Straitjacket:

Budget Balancers Threaten Constitution's Historic Role

By Gus Tyler

IF THE PRESENT PUSH for a constitutional convention continues, it may well be that by 1987 we will be celebrating the bicentennial of the original Constitution of the United States by undoing the work of our Founding Fathers of 1787.

The men who wrote the Constitution were profound students of human nature and of history. They knew that if a government were to endure, it had to be strong to check the anarchic impulses of individuals and factions and that it had to be flexible to allow change with changing times.

The U.S. Constitution was put together to give strength to the newly liberated colonies, to centralize the scattered states, to get more government than was possible under the feeble Articles of Confederation. To allow for change, the Constitution carefully avoided telling the President or Congress what to do.

The document is a brief statement that distributes powers and then leaves it to elected officials to do the best they can to cope with the troubles of their time. With this combination of strength and flexibility, the Constitution has served the nation well—and with very few written changes.

In nearly 200 years, there have been only about a dozen significant amendments—almost all of which extended the power of the individual citizen to make and enforce law through elected officials.

The first 10 amendments—the Bill of Rights—were passed en bloc at the time the Constitution was ratified. The Prohibition Amendment—product of a momentary mood—was passed and then repealed. Four of the amendments—12, 20, 22, 25—tinker with the manner of choosing a President and his successors.

That leaves us with the three epic amendments written in the spirit of the Emancipation Proclamation, with the right of women and 18-year-olds to vote, with poll tax repeal, with a voice for the District of Columbia in presidential elections, with direct election of U.S. Senators, with the power to tax incomes.

What is significant about all the amendments—with the exception of the ill-starred Prohibition Amendment—is that they did not restrict the powers of the federal government. They did give citizens a greater say in their own political destinies.

The present push for a constitutional convention would reverse the historic process: it would rigidify and, thereby, weaken government and it would lessen the voice of the voter. The rationale for calling a Con-Con is to enact an amendment that would compel the President and Congress to balance the budget every year.

THE GOVERNMENT WOULD have no discretion to escape this straitjacket—no matter what the peril to the country. If the nation is suddenly attacked, if it is stricken by some plague or natural disaster, if there is an insurrection, if the economy collapses as it did in 1929, Uncle Sam would not be permitted to raise the needed funds by borrowing against the nation's future.

And no matter how the citizens felt about it, they could not get action without going through a lengthy and potentially fatal delay to amend the Constitution.

And if the Con-Con goes beyond balancing the budget to cement into the Constitution all the other pet and peevish propositions and prejudices prevalent at this anti-institutional moment, then the supreme law of the land would be a fossil in the womb, a menace to the nation that mothered it in hate and haste.

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Free Society Issue In Attack on Unions

The business community has a choice: either learn to live with the American trade union movement or face the consequences which would result from its destruction.

I don't think most American businesses have really thought that question through. They should.

No free society ever survives if a free labor movement is destroyed. If companies seek to deny workers their voice in the economic system through their own unions, then the voice the companies will hear speaking for workers will not be one they like.

—Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to George Meany, to Louisiana AFL-CIO convention, Baton Rouge, Mar. 20, 1979.

4,000 Subsidized Units:

Union-Sponsored Housing Proves Small Projects Work

The following is excerpted from an article by James F. Fuerst, director of urban studies at Loyola University in Chicago, which appeared in the Mar. 2, 1979, issue of Commonweal titled "Unions & Subsidized Housing—A Hidden Success Story."

UNIONS NOW OPERATE about 100 subsidized housing projects around the country. Most of these projects were built for the elderly, under the most successful and "safe" of all federal housing subsidy programs; but of these 100 projects 20 were built specifically for low- and moderate-income families.

The projects, with a total of 4,000 units, vary in size from 100 to 350 units each. They are located in various kinds of communities all over the country—in larger cities like Chicago, Miami and Seattle, but mostly in smaller communities like Redding, Calif.; Traverse City, Mich.; Fairmont, W. Va.; and Monticello, N.Y. It may well be that one key to success is the small town setting. In any case, the variety of unions represented in the ownership of these projects is truly ecumenical: bartenders, food handlers, plumbers, steel workers, electrical workers and aerospace workers, as well as building trades councils and central labor councils.

The only thing these projects have in common is success—an almost unbelievable level of success, rivaling even the most prosperous and desirable market-rent, non-subsidized apartment developments.

Vacancies average only 1 to 2 percent at the end of most recent months for all the projects. Rent collection is even better: arrearage varies from zero to 1 percent for all but two of the projects—and even those two report arrears averaging no more than 4 to 5 percent. Rents apparently are paid without pressure from management, and in one recent representative month, half the projects reported no back rent in arrears at all.

Even more significantly—particularly in light of the wide geographic spread—all but one of the projects are racially integrated, with an average racial breakdown of 70 percent white, 30 percent black and Spanish-American.

One of the biggest problems facing subsidized low-income housing generally in the United States has been the predominance of single-parent families on public assistance—often the tragic source of multiple, festering housing problems when concentrated together, isolated from other types of families.

Yet in the union-sponsored projects, such families have not been allowed to dominate tenancy, as has happened in many public housing projects.

Nevertheless, families receiving public assistance and single-parent families form a significant portion of the nation's low- and moderate-income population. Yet not one of the union project managers reported any difficulties because of these families, either within the project or with the surrounding communities.

Subsidized housing in this country generally falls into two classes: those projects which are built by private developers in order to make a profit; and those projects built by non-profit organizations as a community service or philanthropic gesture. Interestingly, the for-profit projects have by and large been much more successful and long-lasting than the not-for-profit projects. Private developers participate in the federal subsidy programs in order to generate profits under a tax shelter, at no little cost to the public purse, however successful many of the projects might be.

Unfortunately, projects started by non-profit organizations—fraternities, church groups, coops, and other private social welfare agencies—most often turn into flops, the housing projects quickly being foreclosed by HUD and virtually lost to the community. These organizations normally do not have the funds to support deficits or pay for upgrading; their commitment to housing projects often does not seem strong enough to carry them through; and in their zeal to be good fellows, they are too permissive both in tenant selection, tenant eviction and management.

THAT CONTRAST MAKES the union-sponsored projects seem all the more remarkable. Without exception, the union projects were characterized by a determination on the part of the sponsoring union to make the development succeed. When problems develop, the sponsors seem willing to pitch in and do whatever is necessary, including committing more money, to solve the problems and upgrade the housing.

Several project managers admitted that at the start their developments had suffered from poor initial management, due to inexperience. In each case the sponsoring union had identified the difficulties, brought in new management, and reacted to problems much more quickly than non-profit organizations generally react.

Whether these successes can be repeated on a larger scale, if more unions were to get involved in housing programs, remains to be seen; obviously, one cannot automatically predict success for any large-scale project, based on such limited experiments.

But if the nation's labor unions ever do begin to sponsor housing on a grand scale comparable to that in Europe and elsewhere—based on the success of every single one of the 20 union projects thus far in existence—we could conceivably see a new era in successful subsidized housing.

Curtailing Passenger Runs:

Congress Pressed to Reject Proposed Cutback of Amtrak

THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S plan to wipe out nearly half of Amtrak's rail passenger routes makes neither social nor economic sense and should be rejected by Congress, Legislative Director James Snyder of the United Transportation Union said.

Snyder took sharp issue with the claim of the Dept. of Transportation that there would be only slight impact on people who depend on rail passenger service. He pointed out that runs to 235 cities and towns would be dropped, which, in many cases, will leave those communities without public transportation.

He said that the entire Midwest would be especially hard hit, because it relies heavily on railroad transportation. During its severe winter conditions, the railroads are "the only form of transportation," he asserted.

Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, Snyder stressed that DOT's plan would force 5,800 Amtrak employees onto the unemployment rolls at a time when there are already too few jobs in the economy. He said that severance payments and relocation costs that would have to be borne by the federally subsidized system would eat up a big part of any savings that would flow from the cutbacks.

Snyder said that the Administration has failed to properly assess the need for the highly energy-efficient transportation provided by rail passenger service, particularly in light of the nation's energy crunch.

He warned that Congress should not be "too hasty in reducing train service, because once you get rid of these passenger trains, you can kiss them goodby—they are not coming back." He noted that Transportation Sec. Brock Adams, questioned during Senate hearings about reactivating the full system in the event of an emergency, acknowledged that "it would take five to 10 years to get it back into working condition."

Reporters questioning Snyder on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Fred Frailey of U.S. News & World Report and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. Labor News Conference is broadcast weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

by Press Associates, Inc.

THE MANIFOLD RISKS to health and safety encountered daily by millions of workers have received welcome attention in recent years. Studies by unions and the scientific community have documented safety dangers inherent in scores of occupations and the more subtle but potentially no less deadly health dangers in countless others. Every day seems to bring new revelations about the risks that come with working in a highly industrialized society.

But it is the nature of industrialized society itself, rather than any single sector, that has led some scientists to take a closer look at a relatively new factor in the job health and safety equation—the consequences of shift work.

An estimated 20 percent of the American workforce reports in daily for a "lobster trick," a "graveyard shift" or one of the several other workhour deviations from the basic "nine-to-five" or daytime schedule. A recent study by the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health has found that these workers face disproportionately high risks of encountering physical, psychological and social problems.

In general, NIOSH said, its study "seems to support the view that there is a tendency for shift work to have a deleterious effect on the physical and psychological wellbeing of some shift work employees, particularly on their sleep patterns, digestion, mood and personal, social and domestic activities."

These effects, NIOSH found, seem to be more severe with greater departures from the conventional daytime work schedule: "We found that rotators and night shift workers reported significantly more dissatisfaction and discomfort . . . than did afternoon or day shift workers. Not surprisingly, day shift workers reported the least ill effects."

Perhaps the study's most distressful finding was that rotators—people who work, for example, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for one week, followed by a week working 4 p.m. to midnight and then a week of midnight to 8 a.m.—"seem to consistently fare the worst. . . ."

The rotators, the study reported, "tend to have more serious physical complaints, more accidents, more clinic visits, more digestive problems, worse sleeping problems, more fatigue, more menstrual problems, to use alcohol more, to encounter more interference with their sex lives, and to find less satisfaction in their personal and domestic pursuits. . . ."

"Our findings," said NIOSH, "tend to identify rotation as being a scheduling system that imposes excessive physical and psychological costs on shift workers."

NIOSH NOTES that not all workers react adversely to shift work. While a disproportionately higher number of these workers have problems, many evidence no difficulties and some even favor that type of schedule.

At least one previous study, NIOSH said, found workers favoring shift work because it can stimulate the growth of "a special, supportive subculture." Another early study found greater job satisfaction among non-day oil refinery workers than among day shift workers.

But, says NIOSH, it is clear that shift work is replete with problems for huge numbers of workers, and they should have as much say as possible on whether they go the shift route.

There's a potential way out for many workers covered by collective bargaining agreements containing seniority and job-bidding language. That language can be put to use, if desired, to transfer out of unsatisfactory work shifts. Employees without such contracts, however, are forced to deal with management as best they can to get more livable schedules.

NIOSH concludes: "It should be relatively easy to assess shift worker preferences and then to maximize a successful match between those choices and all the possible permutations of shift work scheduling. The complications of monitoring and assessing shift worker selections should be offset by what we believe would be a clear improvement in worker morale."



CONGRESS SHOULD REJECT the Administration's plan to slash about half of Amtrak's rail passenger routes, James Snyder, center, legislative director of the United Transportation Union, said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Fred Frailey, left, of U.S. News & World Report and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The AFL-CIO public affairs program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

House Rollcall on Budget Maneuver

The House blocked a rigid balanced budget amendment to a bill raising the national debt limit by a key 201-199 procedural vote on Mar. 15. The amendment would have compelled a balanced budget starting in fiscal 1981, regardless of economic conditions, unless two-thirds of the House and Senate voted otherwise. It would have meant that in a severe recession with high unemployment, the federal government couldn't help out with added funds for job programs, housing and other measures to stimulate the economy.

On labor's scoreboard, right votes (R) were cast by the 200 Democrats and one Republican who voted against the maneuver. Voting wrong (W) were 145 Republicans and 54 Democrats.

Numerals show congressional districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) A
5. Flippo (D) W
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Shelby (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Stump (D) W
4. Rudd (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) A
2. Bethune (R) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Anthony (D) A

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Matsui (D) R
4. Fazio (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) PR
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Vacancy
12. McCloskey (R) PW
13. Mineta (D) R
14. Shumway (R) W
15. Coelho (D) R
16. Panetta (D) R
17. Pashayan (R) W
18. Thomas (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Beilenson (D) R
24. Waxman (D) PR
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Dornan (R) PW
28. Dixon (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D) R
32. Anderson (D) A
33. Grisham (R) W
34. Lungren (R) W
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Lewis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Dannemeyer (R) W
40. Badham (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Kogovsek (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Kramer (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) PR
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) PW
5. Ratchford (D) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL Evans (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Hutto (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) A
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Ireland (D) W
9. Nelson (D) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Mica (D) W
12. Stack (D) R
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) PR
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) R
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Fowler (D) R
6. Gingrich (R) A
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Evans (D) W
9. Jenkins (D) R
10. Barnard (D) W

HAWAII
1. Heftel (D) R
2. Akaka (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Stewart (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary (D) R
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) PR
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane, Philip (R) PW
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Corcoran (R) W
16. Anderson (R) PW
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) W
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Crane, Dan (R) A
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Benjamin (D) W
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Quayle (R) W
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) W
7. Myers (R) W
8. Deckard (R) W
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) W

IOWA
1. Leach (R) W
2. Tauke (R) W
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) A
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Jeffries (R) W
3. Winn (R) W
4. Glickman (D) W
5. Whittaker (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Hopkins (R) W
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Livingston (R) W
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Leach (D) W
5. Huckaby (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Snowe (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Mikulski (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Barnes (D) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) W
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) W
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Shannon (D) R
6. Mavroules (D) R
7. Markey (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) Speaker
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) W
11. Donnelly (D) W
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Pursell (R) W
3. Wolpe (D) R
4. Stockman (R) W
5. Sawyer (R) W
6. Carr (D) R
7. Kildee (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Albosta (D) R
11. Davis (R) W
12. Bonior (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Erdahl (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Vento (D) R
5. Sabo (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Stangeland (R) W
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) R
2. Bowen (D) R
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Hinson (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Young (D) R
3. Gephardt (D) R
4. Skelton (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Coleman (R) W
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Volkmer (D) W
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Williams (D) R
2. Marlenee (R) W

NEBRASKA
1. Bereuter (R) W
2. Cavanaugh (D) R
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) W

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Hollenbeck (R) W
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) W
13. Courter (R) W
14. Guarini (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Carney (R) W
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Ferraro (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) PR
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) A
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Green (R) W
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Weiss (D) R
21. Garcia (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (D) R
24. Otinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) W
26. Gilman (R) PW
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Straton (D) R
29. Solomon (R) W
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Michell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Lee (R) W
34. Horton (R) W
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Lundine (D) R

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Fountain (D) R
3. Whitley (D) R
4. Andrews (D) R
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) PR
8. Hefner (D) R
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Gudger (D) R

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Luken (D) R
3. Hall (D) PR
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) A
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Pease (D) R
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) PW
18. Applegate (D) R
19. Williams (R) PW
20. Oakar (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) PW

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Synar (D) W
3. Watkins (D) W
4. Steed (D) W
5. Edwards (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) A
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Myers (D) R
2. Gray (D) R
3. Lederer (D) R
4. Dougherty (R) W
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) W
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Kostmayer (D) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) W
11. Flood (D) PR
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Ritter (R) W
16. Walker (R) W
17. Ertel (D) R
18. Walgren (D) R
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Bailey (D) R
22. Murphy (D) R
23. Clinger (R) W
24. Marks (R) R
25. Atkinson (D) R

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) W

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) W
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Campbell (R) W
5. Holland (D) A
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Daschle (D) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Bouquard (D) W
4. Gore (D) R
5. Boner (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) R
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Hall (D) W
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Mattox (D) R
6. Gramm (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) A
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Leath (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Wyatt (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Stenholm (D) W
18. Leland (D) W
19. Hance (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Loeffler (R) W
22. Paul (R) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Frost (D) R

UTAH
1. McKay (D) R
2. Marriott (R) W

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) W

VIRGINIA
1. Trible (R) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Swift (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Dicks (D) R
7. Lowry (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Rahall (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Vacancy
7. Obey (D) R
8. Roth (R) W
9. Sensenbrenner (R) W

WYOMING
AL Cheney (R) A

Federationist Article Warns:

'Price' of Regulation Distorted by Foes

Businesses and conservatives, cleverly exploiting various popular resentments, have launched a major campaign against government regulation, an article in the Federationist points out.

To hear these critics of regulatory programs such as environmental protection, consumer safety, occupational safety and health, and equal opportunity tell it, freedom itself is endangered by their existence. And now, they are trying to say that they are a cause of today's inflation.

"Allegations that health, safety, environmental and anti-discrimination regulations are a major cause of inflation are little short of grotesque," Steven Kelman charges in the AFL-CIO's monthly magazine.

Kelman, who teaches at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, points out that much of the business thunder about regulation begins by citing some overall figure for the "cost of regulation," and focuses on agencies like the Occupational Safety & Health Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency.

"These agencies are chosen, however, only because business dislikes them especially, not because they are major contributors to the 'cost of regulation,'" Kelman observes. "Most of the cost of regulation is imposed by the market-fixing agencies, like the International Commerce Commission, that the business world likes . . . because they were formed to protect business from 'excessive' competition."

Kelman establishes early in his article that the alleged popular groundswell against government regulation of business does not, in fact, exist. He cites a Harris survey showing that, by 53 to 30 percent, those polled favored either more regulation or the same amount as now, over less regulation.

"Repeated polls have shown wide popular support for measures to make workplaces safe, and to clean up the environment," he asserts. "The absence of any groundswell against the new regulatory thrust of the last decade is reassuring because the conservative and business counterattack is, I believe, largely wrong."

New regulatory programs neither threaten freedom nor contribute significantly to inflation, Kelman declares. What is more impressive than any bureaucratic excesses in the program is "the unfinished work the new agencies still have before them to deal with the injustices that promoted their creation in the first place," he points out.

Kelman notes that estimates of the "cost" of regulation often ignore widespread benefits that do not have a direct monetary value, but are real nonetheless.

Environmental regulation has produced significant improvements in the quality of air in the United States, for example. Without regulation, the situation would have gotten worse because economic growth tends to increase the level of pollution.

Lives have been saved by other regulatory actions. The introduction of child-proof containers on household poisons appears to have reduced accidental poisoning.

"There is no way of objectively determining whether these non-priced benefits justify the net monetary costs," Kelman notes.

In sum, Kelman contends that the thrust of the current movement against social regulation in the United States is a wish by the strong to regain prerogatives "whose disappearance, for the most part, is one of the most welcome events of the past decade."

"Individual regulations can and should be criticized," the author concludes. "But the assault on the concept of regulation must be resisted if we are to continue to be a decent people living in a decent society."

Court Bars Bargaining For Religious Schools

(Continued from Page 1)

Catholic secondary schools in the Chicago area and five in northeastern Indiana had voted for union representation at NLRB-supervised elections, but school administrators refused recognition.

The 7th Circuit Court of Appeals refused to enforce the NLRB's bargaining order, holding that the labor board could not assert jurisdiction over church-operated schools without unconstitutionally interfering with religious freedom.

Although the elections involved unaffiliated associations, both the AFL-CIO and the American Federation of Teachers filed briefs urging the Supreme Court to uphold the NLRB's jurisdiction. The AFT bargains for teachers at Catholic schools in several dioceses that have accepted collective bargaining.

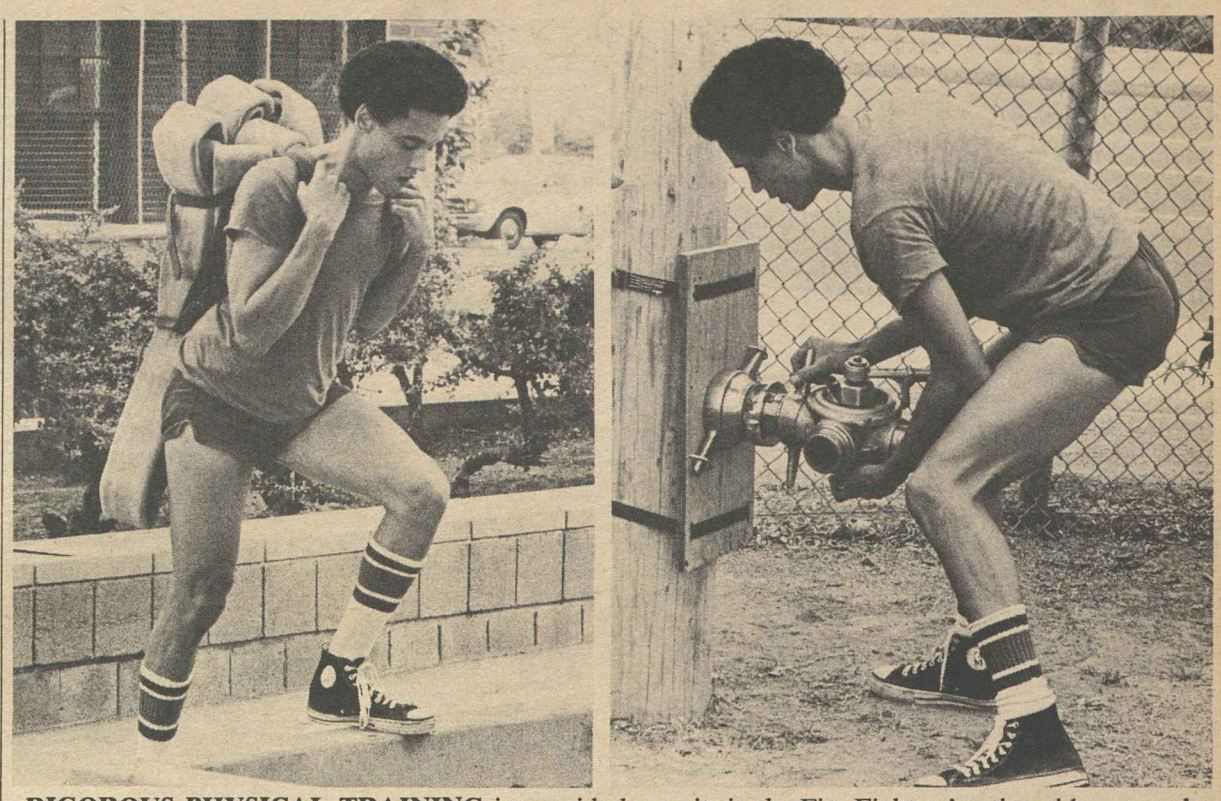
The AFL-CIO brief suggested that the constitutional issue was in effect decided years ago when the Supreme Court upheld the applicability of federal labor law to newspapers and wire services. The employer argument it rejected then was that freedom of the press would be impaired if publishers had to deal with unions and couldn't fire reporters for union activity.

The majority decision in the school case, written by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, contended that Congress "did not contemplate" that teachers at church-operated schools would be affected when it passed the original National Labor Relations Act in 1935. It was not until 1970 that the NLRB asserted jurisdiction over non-profit educational institutions and even later before it specifically included parochial schools.

The sharp dissent by Justice William J. Brennan noted that the federal law listed specific categories of employment that would not be covered. It subsequently added to the exempt category non-profit hospitals but five years ago repealed that exemption. And the final version of the 1947 Taft-Hartley Act pointedly did not include a House provision that would have exempted religious and educational institutions.

Brennan expressed incredulity that the court majority avoided the constitutional issue "by a cavalier exercise in statutory interpretation which succeeds only in defying congressional intent."

Joining his dissent were Justices Byron R. White, Thurgood Marshall and Harry A. Blackmun.



RIGOROUS PHYSICAL TRAINING is provided recruits in the Fire Fighters' nationwide outreach program to spur hiring of the minorities by local fire departments.

Fire Fighters' Outreach Program Helps Minorities Meet Standards

Increasing numbers of minority group members are being hired for fire service jobs by local communities with the help of an outreach recruiting effort that the Fire Fighters initiated in 1971.

In the past eight years, the IAFF Labor Recruitment Program has conducted 53 outreach operations in 34 localities. Nearly half of the minority group members, veterans and women who had been assisted by the IAFF in qualifying for eligibility lists in recent years found jobs.

Roscoe J. Hamby, Jr., administrator of the IAFF nationwide program, attributes its success to the active support of union members and participating local governments.

Although the IAFF efforts have faced difficulties in recent years due to widespread cutbacks in municipal spending, Hamby said, "the program has been able to show continued success in placing applicants on eligibility lists, in getting them hired and in seeing them do well enough so that some of the earlier participants are now climbing the promotional ladder within their department."

The need for such a program emerged with the urban unrest of the late 1960s when fire fighters were shocked to find themselves the targets of ambush and sniping as they responded to fire and rescue calls, Hamby observed.

"More fire fighters than police were killed during the riots," he noted. "Even those who did not personally suffer the effects of harassment were dismayed at the crumbling of the long-held stereotype of the fire fighter as the beloved hero of the community."

Under the leadership of IAFF President Williiam M. McClennan, the union was determined to encourage the recruiting and hiring of minority group fire fighters while maintaining entry standards to ensure that proper educational and physical qualifications were met, Hamby said.

Maintenance of standards is essential to both the safety of fellow fire fighters and the efficiency of their operations, particularly when fire services are understaffed, he stressed.

The program was launched with a $435,000 grant from the Labor Dept. and has been refunded on an annual basis since.

Unlike some other union outreach efforts, the IAFF program is not responsible for the hiring of the participants. This is a province of the local governments, Hamby points out.

Municipalities hold periodic examinations to establish eligibility lists. A combination of five types of tests are provided, including written exams, physical agility tests, background investigations, personality tests and oral interviews.

"Because cities hire from the top of the list, applicants must do well in all the exams to place high up on the list in order to get a job," Hamby pointed out.

Since the program began, 1,660 of the 6,170 participants received fire service jobs. But the hiring rate has shown a marked gain in recent years, he said.

In 1977, the program was conducted in nine cities that hired 649 fire fighters. Of these, 271, or 41 percent, were LRP participants. Last year, nine cities where the program was operated hired 486 new fire fighters, including 230, or 47 percent, who went through the IAFF program.

In addition, Hamby points out that over the past four years, program participants have achieved an 86 percent retention rate.

"These figures actually understate the success of the Labor Recruitment Program," he said, "because eligibility lists typically remain in effect for more than a year. Individuals who achieve eligibility status, but are not immediately chosen for jobs, can often be chosen at a later date."

Based at the IAFF headquarters, the program has a professional staff of 10 that handles the administration, operations, planning education, counseling, training and field coordination.

A typical local project takes approximately five months from start to finish. Before it is established, the national union locates operating quarters; recruits, indoctrinates and trains a local project staff, and coordinates efforts with local community agencies to recruit participants.

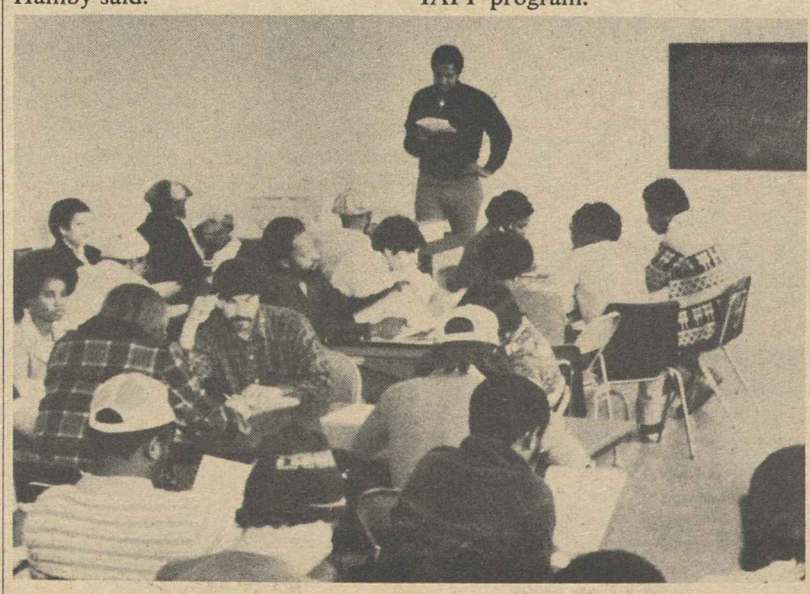
Soon after the national program was initiated, the IAFF staff found that it could operate effectively only with strong local support, Hamby said. This includes the enthusiastic support of the IAFF local, the community and the municipal government. There also must be a realistic chance that jobs will be available for the participants and that mature and stable recruits are available.

Cities are considered for inclusion in the program only with concurrence of the IAFF local affiliate, Hamby said. The selection of localities is also based on entry examination schedules, a city's intention to hire fire fighters and a demonstrated interest by the city administration, its hiring body and relevant community groups.

This year, the IAFF plans to train about 1,700 recruits in 11 cities across the country under federal grants of $750,000.

IAFF President McClennan said the union is proud of its successful program.

"It would be a success if all it did was provide our fire service with a new source of well-qualified fire fighters. But it does much more. It strengthens community support of the fire service. It strengthens the commitment of members of IAFF unions, and it provides a needed service at very reasonable cost."



MINORITIES AND WOMEN received classroom instruction from local IAFF representatives in preparation for written tests to qualify candidates for fire service jobs.

AFL-CIO Tells Congress:

Disability Pay Cuts Would Hurt Needy

A social security disability benefit cutback approved by a House Ways & Means subcommittee would penalize "the most defenseless and the neediest," the AFL-CIO charged.

Persons qualifying for disability benefits after this year would receive payments averaging about 15 percent less than under present law, with the impact greatest on younger workers and especially those with families. The bill would not change the benefits of those already on the disability rolls.

Before the subcommittee acted, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Robert McGlotten testified in strong opposition to the cutbacks proposed by the Administration and by Subcommittee Chairman J. J. Pickle (D-Tex.) in a similar bill.

In many ways, McGlotten said, the present disability program is too stringent rather than too generous.

McGlotten urged the need for a less rigid definition of disability for older workers. Presently, only someone so severely disabled that he or she can't work at any job is entitled to benefits. For an older worker, McGlotten said, a more realistic definition would be inability to continue to work at his usual occupation.

The AFL-CIO endorsed several provisions of the bills that McGlotten said would encourage disabled workers to try to return to work.

These include automatic reinstatement of benefits to a worker who tried to hold a job but found within a one-year period that he was unable to do so. Another improvement would immediately reinstate Medicare coverage if within five years the worker again becomes fully disabled. Under present law, he must wait 24 months after going back on the disability rolls before Medicare coverage is restored.

While these changes are all desirable, McGlotten said, it would be unrealistic to expect them to result in major budget savings especially considering the obstacles to employment of severely disabled persons during a period of high joblessness.

As a further incentive to attempt to return to work, he suggested that the earnings limit for persons receiving disability benefits should be phased in on the same basis as the retirement test for social security beneficiaries under 65.

Presently, disability benefits are cut off entirely when earned income exceeds $240 a month. Instead, McGlotten urged, benefits should be reduced by one dollar for each two dollars of earnings above the cutoff amount.

But McGlotten expressed the AFL-CIO's strong dissent to limiting family benefits for disabled workers and to lowering disability benefits for younger workers by restricting their right to drop out five years of low or no earnings in computing the average wage on which benefits are based.

The subcommittee bill would limit the maximum disability payment to 80 percent of pre-injury average earnings or to 150 percent of the worker's "primary" benefit, whichever is lower. The primary benefit itself would be reduced by denying workers under the age of 47 at the time of their disability the right to drop out five years of lowest earnings in computing average covered wages. And the 150 percent of primary benefit limitation on the total family payment means that a disabled worker with four children would receive no more than if he had a dependent spouse and no children.

McGlotten noted that "the early years of employment are usually ones of very low earnings, especially among minorities and women." Thus, the cutback would hurt the most needy.

Further, he said, a worker totally disabled at a relatively young age is denied the normal expectation of higher real earnings and an improved standard of living in the future.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE in New York had more than the usual amount of labor input this year with John J. Sweeney, president of Service Employees Local 32B-32J, serving as grand marshal. Sweeney, who also is a vice president of the SEIU, led the march on Fifth Ave.

Wage-Price Council Continued by House

The House voted to grant only a one-year extension to the Council on Wage & Price Stability, and made clear that the agency has no mandatory powers to compel adherence with its guidelines.

President Carter had asked a two-year extension of COWPS, to Sept. 30, 1981. But the House voted 252-150 to cut the figure in half. The Senate has not yet acted on the bill but its Banking Committee has also proposed a one-year limit.

During the House debate, a proposed amendment to give the President standby authority to impose mandatory price and wage controls —comparable to the authority invoked by former President Nixon —was ruled out of order.

The presiding officer held it would be in direct conflict with the section it sought to amend specifically asserting that nothing in the law "should be construed to confer mandatory wage and price control authority upon the Council."

This same restriction is in the existing law and is one of the grounds for the suit the AFL-CIO and one of its affiliates filed recently in federal court.

The suit asks the court to block the Administration from enforcing its supposedly "voluntary" wage guidelines by threatening denial of government contracts to companies that negotiate wage increases carrying pay and fringe benefits exceeding 7 percent.

In a report accompanying the bill extending the life of the wage-price council and expanding its funding, the House Banking Committee expressed some concerns over the guideline restraints.

"In practice, if not in design," it suggested, "the program of restraint will bear more heavily on wages than on prices."

And while the 7 percent figure, when first adopted, held out a "reasonable possibility" that it would allow workers to keep even with inflation, it is now likely that "the majority of workers this year will experience at least a small decline in their real incomes."

The House committee said it "strongly urges" a second-year guideline "that, at the very least, will keep wages even with a realistic forecast of the probable rise in prices."

Another section of the committee report noted that exempting workers earning less than $4 an hour from the pay standard still leaves covered many with family earnings "well below" the Labor Dept.'s minimum-level budget which this year would require hourly earnings "in excess of $5." The committee said that "the burden of fighting inflation should not be disproportionately borne by the poor and near poor."

These were among the criticisms the AFL-CIO made of the Council on Wage & Price Stability in recent testimony.

The AFL-CIO position was that COWPS has been "an inglorious failure" and that new legislation should establish fair and universal controls "on the price of everything and the income of everybody."

But pending that, the federation said, wage standards should be made more equitable to enable workers to maintain "real purchasing power."

Court Upholds State Policy On Strike Pay

(Continued from Page 1)

all 50 states, regardless of the reason of unemployment."

While employers are assessed the unemployment insurance payroll tax, Watts said that workers in fact contribute to the funding "through their productivity and earnings" and should be able to rely on the program during all "times of joblessness."

Because of the importance of the case, the AFL-CIO and the New York State AFL-CIO had filed a joint brief arguing the clear intent of Congress to leave the issue of compensation payments to strikers up to the states, and refuting assertions that the National Labor Relations Act required that strikers be denied unemployment compensation.

The brief noted also the wide variances in state laws, ranging from rigid disqualifications of unemployment resulting from a labor dispute to various in-between categories with numerous exceptions.

In reaching the same conclusion, the six Supreme Court justices in the majority took three different paths. But the basic majority opinion, by Justice John Paul Stevens and two concurring opinions agreed that Congress was clearly aware of the controversial issue of benefits to strikers and deliberately chose to leave the decision to the states.

Attorneys for New York refuted an assertion that the availability of unemployment insurance prolonged strikes. The fact is, they told the court, the average duration of strikes is less than in most other states.

The dissenting opinion, by Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., was joined by Potter Stewart and Chief Justice Warren E. Burger. It denied that Congress had ever squarely addressed the issue and claimed the New York law illegally altered the "balance" of collective bargaining.

Polish Unionist Wins Release From Custody

Warsaw, Poland—Kazmierz Switon, a prominent human rights and free trade union leader, has been released from custody following widespread protests of his arrest both here and abroad.

Switon, a leader of the Committee for Free Trade Unions in Poland, had been arrested on trumped-up charges of assaulting police officers while protecting his ill wife from attack by the officers.

A Katowice court convicted Switon on the relatively minor charge of obstructing the officers from carrying out their orders. He paid a modest fine, and was released from prison where he had been held for more than four months.

His imprisonment led AFL-CIO President George Meany to urge free trade unionists around the world to protest the illegal detention and trial.

Johnson Appointed To Wage-Hour Post

C. Lamar Johnson has been named deputy administrator of the Labor Dept.'s Wage & Hour Division, Assistant Labor Sec. Donald Elisburg announced.

Johnson, who has been with the Labor Dept. since 1962, served as regional administrator of the wage-hour division in Denver for the past seven years.

House Bars Budget Curb by 2 Votes; Citizen Alliance to Fight in States

(Continued from Page 1)

Marks (Pa.)—voted against bringing up the balanced budget proposal and 54 Democrats voted for the politically mischievous maneuver in the House test.

The new Citizens for the Constitution, headed by Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Thomas P. O'Neill III, is coordinating efforts of public interest organizations, including labor and civil rights groups, to fight the constitutional convention call in state legislatures—seeking rescissions where resolutions were passed with no real debate, and seeking to avert additions to the list of 28 states that have called for a convention. Thirty-four states can compel a convention.

The Montana Senate defeated, 31-18, a constitutional convention resolution that had easily passed the House earlier this year.

It had been expected to pass the Republican-controlled Senate just as easily, but the Montana labor movement hammered away at the irresponsibility of the proposal and turned the vote around. State AFL-CIO Executive Sec. James W. Murry said the huge rise in business profits reported on the eve of the Mar. 22 vote reinforced labor's argument that the federal budget was not the cause of America's inflation.

The White House has set up its own task force to seek to stem the tide of state convention calls.

A New York Times story said President Carter decided on an active campaign of opposition after receiving concerned reports from Council of Economic Advisers Chairman Charles L. Schultze and Harvard Law Prof. Lawrence H. Tribe, a constitutional authority.

Schultze is quoted as warning that a mandatory balanced budget "would guarantee that short-lived economic recessions are converted into long-lasting depressions."

Tribe's memorandum was said to have argued against "trivializing" the Constitution with matters that do not belong in the nation's basic document. It said a constitutional convention could lead to "nightmarish" confrontations with Congress and the Supreme Court.

The AFL-CIO has warned that a runaway convention could initiate drastic changes in the nation's structure.

Meanwhile, the House Republican Policy Committee voted to endorse a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution that would allow exemptions only for national emergencies.

House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes (Ariz.) joined in the statement even though he had previously opposed a constitutional amendment.

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Affirmative Action Put to High Court

Test Set On Minority Jobs Pact

By David L. Perlman

The Steelworkers and the AFL-CIO asked the Supreme Court to uphold the right of a union and an employer to voluntarily negotiate an affirmative action program in an effort to overcome a lopsided racial imbalance, even if neither party was guilty of past racial discrimination.

In immediate dispute is the validity of a national agreement the Steelworkers negotiated in 1974 with the Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. It set up craft training programs at all Kaiser plants that were designed to increase the supply of skilled black workers but also opened up higher-level job opportunities for large numbers of white production workers.

Of even broader importance, as union attorneys see it, is the right of parties to a collective bargaining agreement to shape a remedy for an admitted problem without government compulsion.

The case reached the courts on the complaint of a white worker at a Kaiser plant in Gramercy, La., Brian F. Weber, who alleged "reverse discrimination" because he was denied admission to the training program while blacks with less seniority were accepted.

Under the agreement setting up the training program, 50 percent of the slots were to be filled by members of minority groups until their ratio in the skilled jobs matched their proportion in the workforce of the community from which the plant draws its employees.

A federal appellate court, on a split decision, found the temporary 50-50 quota an illegal form of discrimination against white workers. But the AFL-CIO joined the Steelworkers in urging the Supreme Court to make an important distinction between this type of affirmative action and the governmental quota in the Bakke case, which involved admission to a state medical school.

The AFL-CIO had not taken a position in the Bakke case, on which groups with strong commitments to civil rights were divided. But an Executive Council statement following that decision stressed the federation's continued commitment to affirmative action.

The council statement urged "aggressive, positive efforts to integrate, instead of mere passive agreement not to discriminate."

It is that sort of commitment

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Congress Pressed to Help Stem Runaway Inflation

Senate Nips Rigid Curb On Budget

The Senate narrowly defeated a potentially disastrous proposal to compel the federal budget to be balanced each year, but then adopted a patchwork compromise that appeared subject to a wide range of interpretations.

Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas, one of the contenders for the Republican presidential nomination, sought to add a rigid balanced budget amendment to a House-passed bill raising the federal debt limit.

His proposal was identical to an amendment the House had defeated by a scant 201-199 vote. It would have required a federal balanced budget, regardless of the condition of the economy, unless two-thirds of both the House and Senate voted to allow deficit spending.

In effect, it would have given a minority of Congress a veto power over congressional spending, and alarmed economists warned that such a measure would almost guarantee that any economic downturn would worsen into a catastrophic recession.

In the hope of picking up additional support, Dole modified his proposal to allow a three-fifths vote to waive a balanced budget. But the Senate tabled it by a slim 46-44 margin.

Meanwhile, the Senate leadership and key committee chairmen sought to come up with a "compromise" that would allow senators to cast a vote for the politically

(Continued on Page 3)



SCREEN ACTORS GUILD award for "outstanding achievement in fostering the finest ideals of the acting profession" is accepted by Mrs. Francis Bergen in behalf of her late husband, Edgar Bergen. SAG President Kathleen Nolan, left, made the presentation at the union's annual membership meeting. Bergen's son, Kris, accompanied his mother. **(Story, Page 2.)**

Federal Contract Standards:

Labor Dept. Upheld On Wage Authority

The Labor Dept. and not a cost-cutting federal management agency will continue to have jurisdiction over wage and benefit standards for workers employed by government contractors, Atty. Gen. Griffin Bell ruled.

Bell had been designated by President Carter to resolve an interagency dispute stemming from what the AFL-CIO termed an attempted "power grab" by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy.

The OFPP, which is part of the President's Office of Management & Budget, had told the Air Force to ignore the Secretary of Labor's decision that contracts for overhauling aircraft engines must comply with the prevailing wage and benefit standards of the Service Contract Act.

Congress had placed administration of the Service Contract Act, the Davis-Bacon Act and other laws to protect labor standards in the Dept. of Labor.

But OFPP Administrator Lester Fettig contended that a 1974 law establishing a procurement agency to oversee the letter of government contracts gave him the final say. He ruled that the engine overhaul contract need comply only with the meaningless federal minimum wage level set by the Walsh-Healey Act.

Chairmen of House and Senate panels with jurisdiction over the labor standards laws joined an outraged trade union movement in protesting the OFPP action.

At House Labor subcommittee hearings quickly called by Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.), AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said it was inconceivable that Congress had intended to hand over control of all labor standard laws to the budget agency. He and a parade of other union witnesses warned that the same OFPP juris-

(Continued on Page 8)

Meany Says Voluntary Plan Fails

By James M. Shevis

The newest burst of inflation—a 1.2 percent surge in February consumer prices—points up the failure of Congress and the Administration to meet the problem and underscores the need for mandatory, "full and complete controls on the price of everything and the income of everybody," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

"We now officially have double-digit inflation in America, and the Administration's program can't stop it," Meany said. "Workers' wages have not kept up with prices, which have gone up 9.9 percent in the past year. Obviously, a 7 percent wage guideline is indefensible."

The only answer to the country's sizzling inflation rate, Meany said, is a congressionally-enacted economic controls program that is fair and equitable to all. "Congress—if it intends to do its duty—must address that issue without further delay," he said.

"Congress is neglecting its responsibility to protect the American people from (price) increases which are undermining every family's standard of living," Meany said. "It is not enough for the Congress to extend for one year an ineffective, worthless agency—the Council on Wage & Price Stability (COWPS)—and claim it has given the President the tools to fight inflation."

(Continued on Page 2)

Agenda Set for Price Watch Conference

The inflationary impact of soaring business profits and sharp price hikes point up the importance of an effective nationwide monitoring program, AFL-CIO President George Meany said in urging affiliates to participate fully in the federation's Operation Price Watch.

The price monitoring effort will be the focus of an Apr. 9 conference in Washington that is expected to draw more than 150 union representatives and presidents.

Major speakers at the all-day meeting will include Chairman Alfred E. Kahn of the Council on Wage & Price Stability and Sen.

(Continued from Page 8)

Carter's 'Piecemeal' Health Plan Called Far Short of Basic Needs

By John R. Oravec

The Carter Administration's approach to solving America's health care problems falls far short of a needed national health insurance program, AFL-CIO President George Meany said.

Worse yet, Meany warned, the Administration's so-called Phase I health care proposal is "a piecemeal, misdirected first step that could undermine enactment of a truly comprehensive national health plan."

Meany issued the warning in reaction to an outline sketched by Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Joseph A. Califano, who said that Congress would accept only a nominal approach to national health care this year.

But Meany pointed out that earlier fragmented attempts to correct the nation's ailing health care system resulted in excessive costs, poor quality and unnecessary services.

"We find nothing in the Administration's approach that would prevent a repetition of that experience," he observed.

"The only effective method for controlling all health care costs is through a comprehensive national health program, such as Sen. Kennedy's Health Care for All Americans Act, which we support."

Meany said the comprehensive health care bill, which will be introduced soon in Congress by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.)

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SUPER-SIZE TICKET will admit Colorado Gov. Richard D. Lamm, right, and tens of thousands of others to the AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show in Denver. Helping to hold it are John Lutz of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept. and Colorado AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Zelda Bransted.

Screen Actors Assess Post-Strike Strength

Hollywood, Calif.—The impact of the recently concluded seven-week strike by the Screen Actors Guild and the Television & Radio Artists over broadcast commercials loomed large in speeches and floor discussions at SAG's annual membership meeting here.

The significance of the successful walkout goes "much deeper than the issue which caused it," Exec. Sec. Chester L. Migden told the 1,000 Guild members at the Hollywood Palladium.

"The significance lies in our serving notice that we will not be bullied, that there is strength and fiber in this membership and that it will, when challenged, use it."

Throughout the country today, management is mounting a hard line against labor, Migden warned. "It's not the crude, brute force anti-unionism of the '30s, but rather the polished action of university and seminar-trained management labor relations staff and lawyers specializing in the field," he said.

The strike also served as the touchstone for a speech by SAG New York Branch President Larry Keith, who praised members for bringing new strength and purpose to the Guild, not only for the duration of the strike but for the future.

SAG President Kathleen Nolan said that new developments in the industry have made it necessary for actors to take action on their own behalf. "With the explosion of motion picture development and telecommunications technology, whether we work or not depends on our ability to influence not merely the casting director, but also the corporation; not only the network, but also the government."

SAG's annual award "for outstanding achievement in fostering the finest ideals of the acting profession" honored the late Edgar Bergen. Nolan said that Bergen "became a legend in his own time. His objective in life seemed to be to make people happy, and he did just that for over six decades." Accepting the award were Bergen's wife, Frances, and son, Kris.

Bergen died last September, shortly after his selection as the award recipient.

In the business session of the meeting, proposals were adopted spelling out changes in Guild membership and governance regulations, approving an annual budget, outlining contract goals, and establishing a Guild office in Nashville.

"The industrial contract proposals involve several novel approaches designed to increase employment opportunities for SAG members in the area of educational film," Migden said. "We also expect these innovations to expedite organizing in the field."

The decision to open a Nashville office was designed to meet the demands of a growing entertainment market in that city. The office will be staffed by David Maddox.

The possible opening of an office in the nation's capital to press SAG's legislative goals also was explored.

Participation at the International Federation of Actors meeting in Budapest in September was approved for both the president and executive secretary of the Guild.

NLRB Hearing Continues on Shipyard Vote

Newport News, Va. — A National Labor Relations Board hearing on the Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Co.'s challenge to a Steelworkers representation election at the giant shipyard last year went into its second week.

Melvin Welles, the NLRB administrative law judge hearing the case, took testimony from additional witnesses for the company. Neither the union nor the NLRB had called any witnesses as the hearing resumed on Mar. 26.

The hearing is over allegations of voting irregularities during the Jan. 31, 1978, election, which the Steelworkers won by a substantial margin.

The company, which has refused to bargain with the union, appealed to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals for a new election but was turned down. The court instead remanded the case to the NLRB for a hearing on a single charge of alleged vote fraud, dismissing all other company objections.

The company's failure to recognize the union led the Steelworkers to strike on the anniversary date of the election. Tenneco, Inc., the Texas-based conglomerate that owns the shipyard, has taken the position that it will not negotiate with the union until all legal questions surrounding the election are settled.

Meanwhile, students at the University of Pittsburgh sponsored a rally on the university campus in behalf of the striking shipyard workers. The turnout included members of the Clothing & Textile Workers, the unaffiliated Mine Workers, and minority groups.

Meany Cites Failure of Guidelines:

Congress Pressed to Help Stem Double-Digit Inflation

(Continued from Page 1)

COWPS's ineffectiveness in keeping down prices was made painfully clear with last month's jump in the government's consumer price index. The 1.2 percent rise—the sharpest increase in the CPI in four and a half years—represents a 15.4 percent inflation rate if compounded over 12 months. That is more than twice the Administration's forecast of a 7.4 percent rise in consumer prices for all of 1979.

"It is the price tags on the necessities of life for every family—food, energy, and interest rates—that continue to lead the parade," Meany observed. "These items are basically exempted from the Administration's ineffective price guidelines."

Food and beverage prices over the three months ended in February rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 17.9 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported in its monthly consumer price survey. In the same period, heating oil went up at an annual rate of 18.8 percent, rents 19.2 percent, home ownership 13.7 percent, and gasoline 25 percent.

"If the President decontrols oil and gas prices," Meany warned, "the sky will be the limit."

"It is obvious that corporate America is not content with the outrageous and gross profits reported for the fourth quarter of last year. It is once again pushing prices up to further pad profits."

Last month's higher prices played a major role in reducing workers' buying power below the January level. In a separate report on "real" wages, BLS said that spendable weekly earnings — take-home pay expressed in constant 1967 dollars —decreased eight-tenths of 1 percent in February and were 1.2 percent below the year-earlier level.

The decline gave the typical blue-collar worker with three dependents average real spendable earnings of $91.26 last month, compared with $91.96 in January, $92.65 a year earlier, and $96.16 in calendar year 1972.

In Elk City, Okla., where he attended a town meeting, President Carter said that he was "deeply disturbed" by the February consumer price increases.

"Too many business leaders seem to feel that the anti-inflation program just doesn't apply to them," he said. "The result is higher prices for everybody." He said he would tighten some of the Administration's price guidelines and reporting requirements and step up price monitoring activities.

About three-fourths of the February increase in the consumer price index was due to a 1.7 percent rise in food and beverage prices and a 1.3 percent climb in housing costs. Rising home ownership costs, including steep increases in mortgage interest charges, were primarily responsible for the sharp jump in housing prices, BLS said.

The 1.7 percent increase in food and beverage prices over the month compared with a 1.5 percent rise in January and an average increase of nine-tenths of 1 percent in 1978. Grocery-store foods accounted for the bulk of the increase. Meat prices rose 4.8 percent, with beef up 6.7 percent.

Poultry and pork prices increased 2.7 and 1.8 percent, respectively. Prices for fresh fruits, bakery products, dairy products, and fats and oils also rose substantially. Restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages were up 1.5 and eight-tenths of 1 percent, respectively, over the month.

Fuel and other utility costs rose eight-tenths of 1 percent in February, compared with five-tenths of 1 percent in January, largely due to a 3.2 percent increase in the price of fuel oil.

Transportation costs rose 1.1 percent, the fourth straight month of large increases in this category. New car prices went up 1.3 percent, and used cars eight-tenths of 1 percent. Automobile finance charges continued to show large increases.

Continued Export Curb Asked for Vital Goods

The AFL-CIO renewed its demand that Congress reaffirm the policy declaration of existing law that the export of goods which are in short supply should be more stringently controlled to protect the U.S. economy.

Research Director Rudy Oswald told a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee that the 1977 Export Administration Act which expires this year should be extended.

"Unregulated exports can result in job loss, domestic shortages, and inflation," Oswald declared. He gave similar testimony earlier this month before a Senate Banking subcommittee also considering extension of the two-year-old law.

Oswald told the House panel that the export controls law could be a major tool in selectively curbing those exports that cause harm and injury to the U.S., particularly at a time of double-digit inflation.

"The experience of recent years has proven that indiscriminate export of raw materials causes domestic shortages to develop," Oswald observed. "When combined with increasing demand, these shortages force up the price of the raw material. In turn, rising raw material costs force up the price of finished goods."

He cited several examples of unregulated exports that have caused inflation at home—lumber, hides, scrap steel, grain—and warned that it would be a great mistake to allow the export of Alaskan oil to other countries.

At present, he noted, domestic oil production satisfies only half the U.S. petroleum demand. The deficit must be made up with imported oil.

"If we relinquish control over all or any part of Alaskan oil, we further increase our dependence on imports," he said. "Ever-increasing reliance on imports can only hurt our economy and jeopardize our national security."

The AFL-CIO believes that it is essential to the national interest that Congress retain control over the disposition of Alaskan oil and other domestic energy resources, Oswald told the subcommittee.

"Exporting or swapping North Slope oil will take money away from the American consumer and put it in the pockets of the multinational oil companies. "Exporting Alaskan oil will aggravate our balance of payments deficit."

"Alaskan North Slope oil production should be increased for American, not foreign, markets," Oswald urged.

Senate Votes Authority To Waive Tariff Penalty

The Senate passed and sent to President Carter a tariff-waiver bill that the AFL-CIO warned will allow more imports subsidized by foreign governments to penetrate the U.S. market. The vote was 82-15.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald had argued at committee hearings against the Administration push for quick enactment of legislation renewing the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to waive enforcement of the "countervailing duty" law.

Without such a waiver, the Treasury Dept. is obligated to impose an extra tariff on imports that are subsidized by foreign governments, a device used to penetrate the U.S. market. The 1974 Trade Act allowed the Treasury to excuse the countervailing duty for a four-year period in anticipation that an international agreement would be worked out to deal with export subsidies.

The waiver authority expired in January, and the Administration has been pressing for its renewal as a prerequisite to final approval of the package of trade agreements shaped in negotiations that have been taking place in Geneva. Robert Strauss, the chief U.S. trade negotiator, told the Senate committee that renewal of the waiver authority was "absolutely essential" to conclusion of the trade accords.

Oswald challenged this reasoning and warned that if subsidized imports are allowed to continue, the damage to U.S. industry and jobs may be irreparable even if acceptable trade agreements are subsequently put into effect.

The U.S. trade deficit has more than tripled in the four years since the waiver authority was granted, he reminded the committee. "Proliferating subsidies have encouraged nations all over the world to ship to the U.S. market and undercut U.S. production."

As for the reported insistence of other countries that the United States waive its law against unfair competition in order to continue negotiations, Oswald protested that "no other nation is asked to change a law that attacks unfair trade in order to continue to discuss the issues at the negotiation table."

Continued failure to enforce countervailing duties "will merely add to the U.S. domestic problems from a trade imbalance, a weak dollar and an economic slowdown," he warned.

Wages, Pensions Top Agenda:

ILGWU Bargaining Begins for 177,000

New York—The Ladies' Garment Workers announced that it will seek "a substantial wage increase" in addition to improvements in retirement, health and welfare benefits in its bargaining with the garment industry this spring.

ILGWU President Sol C. Chaikin told a gathering of about 1,000 union and employer representatives here that special attention will be given to improving pension benefits, which currently are about $100 a month.

About 177,000 workers, mostly in the Northeast, are affected by the negotiations, which will begin in earnest in the next few weeks. Directly affected will be workers employed in the women's coat and suit, dress, rainwear, children's apparel, knitwear and sportswear trades in New York City, upstate New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and areas of New England.

For the first time this year, all of the union's outerwear pacts with some 40 major employer associations will expire on the same date, May 31.

The union's bargaining goals were reached after a series of rank-and-file membership meetings throughout the Northeast over the past few months. The meeting here marked the opening session of the contract negotiations.

In his remarks, Chaikin said that he was making one overall presentation of the "basic ingredients" for the new agreements but that negotiations would be carried out, as in the past, between local unions and their respective employer associations.

Negotiations will be coordinated in the dress, cloak, and rainwear industries by Sec.-Treas. Shelley Appleton and in sportswear by Vice President Edward Schneider, general manager of the New York Sportswear Joint Board.

Without naming a specific figure, Chaikin said that a "substantial" wage boost is needed to make up for ground lost to inflation over the past three years and to prepare workers for "the difficulties of making a living in this industrial society over the next two to three years." He said that even with the 23 percent wage increase provided by current contracts, outerwear workers had fallen at least 5 percent behind inflation, leaving garment workers worse off in terms of buying power than they were three years ago.

Chaikin said that while the union would adhere to the spirit of the Carter Administration's wage guidelines, it "would not be governed by a statement out of Washington that our agreement must take a certain form."

The ILGWU leader said that the union would "work very hard" to contribute to the lessening of inflation but "will not conform mechanically to the government's 7 percent formula" for allowable pay raises.

Noting that the cost of ladies' and children's apparel had risen only half the average of other retail prices, Chaikin said that "we are not the creators of inflation and we don't want to be the major victims."



ILGWU PRESIDENT SOL C. CHAIKIN briefs union members and representatives of major employers on proposals for new outerwear agreements in the ladies' garment industry. Close to 1,000 attended the opening session of negotiations in New York. At the dais, from left, are ILGWU Executive Vice President Wilbur Daniels, Chaikin, Sec.-Treas. Shelley Appleton, and Executive Vice President Frederick R. Siems.

Boycott Success Cited As Stevens Profits Lag

New York—Profit figures for major American textile firms offer clear evidence that J. P. Stevens & Co. is losing ground to its competitors as the Clothing & Textile Workers boycott against the firm becomes more effective, the union said.

"No matter what Stevens says, the company's own figures show that the Stevens profit picture is off," ACTWU President Murray H. Finley and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman declared in a statement.

While Stevens reported a 3 percent profit increase last year over 1977, they noted, Cannon Mills reported a 10 percent rise in sales and a 36 percent increase in profits. In the same period, Fieldcrest Mills posted an 11 percent increase in sales and a 31 percent boost in profits, and Spring Mills jumped sales 12 percent and profits 47 percent.

"This adds up to solid success of the consumer boycott campaign," Finley and Sheinkman said, "and can only be attributed to the efforts of the clergy, minority groups, civic, and community leaders, women's and campus organizations and others who have studied the issues, and decided to support the Stevens workers in their struggle to gain dignity and social and economic justice from J. P. Stevens."

ACTWU began the boycott in 1976 in an effort to force Stevens to negotiate a first contract with its employees at Roanoke Rapids, N.C., who had two years earlier chosen the union as their representative. Stevens has been branded the nation's No. 1 labor-law violator by organized labor.

ACTWU cited company figures showing that in 1976, before the boycott began, Stevens reported sales of $1.4 billion and profits of $41 million. Company profits last year were 12 percent below the 1976 level, at $36 million, despite record sales of $1.65 billion.

Stevens Chairman James D. Finley reported in a letter last November that, "during the 1976-77 years, many of our products were selling substantially below cost."

Although the company denies dumping its products to keep sales figures up, boycott supporters around the nation continue to report that Stevens is continually underpricing its product line.

Labor Arbitrations Jump 12 Percent

New York—The American Arbitration Association reported its caseload covering labor-management disputes rose about 12 percent last year as 16,437 cases were filed with the AAA, compared with 14,661 in 1977.

The AAA also reported that the number of expedited labor arbitration cases increased by 188 over the year to 1,413.

In addition to labor arbitration cases, which make up about one-third of the AAA's caseload, the service organization handles accident claims and commercial disputes.

Senate Nips Rigid Curb On Budget

(Continued from Page 1)

attractive slogan of a balanced budget without binding Congress to its consequences.

The result was a directive to the budget committees of the Senate and House to draw up budgets for future fiscal years that would show how the various government programs would fare under a balanced budget, and the anticipated impact on unemployment and inflation. It would then be up to Congress to decide what to do.

Sponsors of the compromise gave varying explanations of how they thought such a requirement would work, with some saying it would compel a vote on a balanced budget and others seeing the process merely as presenting an assortment of budget options.

The Senate amendment would either have to be adopted by the House or modified by a House-Senate conference committee before the debt limit bill can be enacted.

During the Senate debate, which stretched out for most of a week, Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.) was one of the few to boldly attack the assortment of balanced budget proposals as demagogic nonsense.

Moynihan said he had asked the Council of Economic Advisers to test on its computer the effect a balanced budget would have had in 1975, when the United States was trying to climb out of recession. "We'd still be trying to dig our way out," he said.

Textile Workers Seek 15 Percent Wage Boost

Greensboro, N.C.—Delegates to a southern regional strategy conference of the Clothing & Textile Workers' textile division voted unanimously to seek a 15 percent wage increase from the textile industry this year.

Sol Stetin, ACTWU senior executive vice president and textile division director, said the increase is needed to offset sharp rises in the cost of living and to narrow the increasing earnings gap between textile workers and workers in other industries.

Stetin, the keynote speaker, told the 250 delegates that textile workers earn an average of $4.28 an hour while the average factory worker receives $6.16 an hour. "This inequity cries out for correction," he said.

Stetin warned that the textile industry will try to hide behind the Carter Administration's 7 percent wage guideline "as a means of avoiding its responsibility" to workers. Considering the fact that some other industries in the South now pay more to a janitor than the textile industry pays to a skilled loom fixer, he said, "we cannot and must not permit this to happen."

Scott Hoyman, southern director of the union's textile division, chaired the all-day conference. Paul Swaity, the union's organizing director, reported on drives to organize firms in the South.

Delegates represented ACTWU members in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia, and the Carolinas, including those at several Stevens plants. Also represented were workers at American Thread Co. plants in Willimantic, Conn., and Clover, S.C., where the union has had contracts for many years, and from Rosman, N.C., where the union won an election last June.

A delegation from a Masland Carpet Co. plant in Atmore, Ala., where a union decertification election was beaten back this month, was introduced to great applause.

AFL-CIO, Teachers Hit Proposal to Split HEW

The AFL-CIO and the American Federation of Teachers reiterated labor's opposition to carving up the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare in order to establish a separate Dept. of Education.

"A new face at the Cabinet table" won't compensate for the disruption of federal programs brought about by creation of a new department, AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis told a House Government Operations subcommittee.

It would be "counter-productive," Davis said, "to set education off by itself while the children federal programs seek to help still must deal with poverty, a lack of health care and family instability."

AFT President Albert Shanker scoffed at the argument that a Cabinet department "will magically increase education's prestige."

He reminded the House panel that prestige is something that is earned at the local level by improving the quality of education and not through establishment of another layer of government.

A Dept. of Education bill recently was approved by the Senate Government Operations Committee, somewhat trimmed back from the Administration's proposal. Its version would leave the Head Start, school lunch and Indian education programs outside the new department.

The bill is likely to pass the Senate, which in the 95th Congress voted 72-11 for a separate department. But the issue is seen as much closer in the House, which failed to act on the measure last year.

Clerks Gain Pattern Pact With Conrail

The Railway & Airline Clerks reached agreement on a new 39-month contract with the Consolidated Rail Corp., covering 20,000 of the system's 97,000 workers.

BRAC President Fred J. Kroll said that the pact continues the same policy and benefits schedule that was negotiated between the union and other major railroads in January. That package called for a 37 percent increase in wages and benefits over 39 months.

Besides economic matters, the agreement resolves other specific issues affecting BRAC members employed by Conrail. The contract is retroactive to Jan. 1, 1978.

The new agreement was reached late on Mar. 23, after the two sides compromised on some issues that had deadlocked them for weeks.

One key issue was the number of employees to be covered by the new contract. BRAC sought coverage of an additional 3,000 Conrail members but finally accepted an additional 1,550.

Carter Names Counsel To Federal Labor Body

President Carter has nominated H. Stephan Gordon, chief administrative law judge at the Labor Dept., to a five-year term as general counsel of the new Federal Labor Relations Authority.

Gordon, who is also chairman of the department's Board of Contract Appeals, is 56 years old. He has served as chief administrative law judge since 1971. Before assuming the post, he held legal positions with the National Labor Relations Board. He was NLRB associate general counsel from 1962-71.

An Era of Hope

FIFTEEN MONTHS AGO in Los Angeles at the AFL-CIO convention Israeli and Egyptian trade union leaders raised their clasped hands to the thunderous roar of the delegates and pledged to work for peace in the Middle East.

It was a forerunner of sorts of the laying on of hands at the peace treaty signing ceremony on the White House lawn on Mar. 26. AFL-CIO President George Meany told the delegates to that convention that "our job is to encourage them to the greatest degree possible to bring about peace in this very, very vital area of the world."

Meany and members of the AFL-CIO Executive Council sat on the White House lawn and witnessed the signing of a treaty "to bring to an end the state of war" by President Anwar el-Sadat of Egypt, Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel and American President Jimmy Carter.

In the 15-month interval between the convention and the treaty signing, the AFL-CIO exerted every possible effort to help bring about an agreement. It sent some of its leaders to Egypt to confer with Egyptian trade union leaders and manpower officials. It met frequently with Israeli leaders, giving them unflinching support in the face of terrorist guerrilla attacks and a growing isolation of nations more concerned at times with oil supplies than peace and freedom. The AFL-CIO voiced its criticism of attempts to impose inappropriate American policies on the negotiations.

A month ago, at one of the low points in the negotiations, Meany called once again on the Administration to reaffirm strongly its commitment to the survival, freedom and security of Israel.

THE TREATY is a beginning. It sets down in more specific terms what became a fact when Sadat made his historic flight to Jerusalem—the recognition of Israel as a nation in the Middle East, a country with 30 years of hard experience in the exercise of nationhood.

It promises that there will be no more Israeli-Egyptian casualty lists of dead and wounded and missing and that the limited resources of both nations can be directed toward a better, more secure and peaceful life.

To help achieve this goal the United States has pledged to aid both countries with loans and grants of about $5 billion spread over a number of years. To the cynics and the critics who harp on the cost of peace, the emphasis should be shifted to another figure: the last four Arab-Israeli wars cost the United States $27 billion.

The survival of Israel since its birth in 1948 is a story of heroic proportions and that the nation was able to sit down finally with the Egyptians and negotiate a treaty of peace is a tribute to the men and women who built the small outpost of democracy, including the leaders of the Histadrut, the Israeli labor movement.

At this moment of celebration and the beginning of an era of hope it is appropriate to look forward to a new understanding between the trade union movements of Israel and Egypt that will help secure the peace for future generations.

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'Help!'



The American Way:

Consumer Debt Multiplying Far Faster Than Public Debt

By Gus Tyler

DEBT IS AN AMERICAN way of life. While everybody preaches against it, just about everybody practices it.

I am reminded of this by the report of the Federal Reserve Board that installment indebtedness rose by $3.06 billion in January. At this rate, the amount consumers will owe for installment purchases will rise by 13 percent this year.

Ironically, most of these consumers would be absolutely horrified if they were told that the federal government was piling up debt at this rate. Yet, consumer debt in our time has been multiplying more rapidly than any other kind of indebtedness. And the federal debt is moving up more slowly than any other kind of indebtedness. Consider a few facts from a solemn table entitled "Net Public and Private Debt: 1929-1976" appearing in the appendix to the Economic Report of the President, submitted to Congress in January 1978:

In 1940, the federal debt was $44.8 billion; by 1976, that rose to $515 billion. Uncle Sam increased his indebtedness about 12 times over in those 36 years.

Now let's see what happened to the indebtedness of state and local governments. It rose from about $16 billion in 1940 to $236 billion in 1976, about 15 times over.

So, in the public sector, state and local indebtness has been growing more rapidly than federal indebtedness. But the public sector is really budget-balanced minded as contrasted with the big borrowers in the private sector.

Consider the corporations, many of whose most voluble and vocal spokesmen unabashedly and unceasingly denounce the federal debt. Corporate indebtedness rose from $75 billion in 1940 to about a trillion and a half by 1976 (actually to $1,414 billion). This means that the American corporations increased their indebtedness almost 19 times over.

And now, dear consumer, let us consider our own wastrel ways. From 1940 to 1976, consumer debt rose from $8 billion to $217 billion: a leap of 2,700 percent or 27 times over.

In view of this mounting indebtedness in every sector of the society, why not pass a constitutional amendment that would force everybody to balance the budget—not just Uncle Sam, but also Exxon, and Jane Doe and Richard Roe. If we did, what would happen?

You couldn't buy a house, because just about nobody in this country below the level of super-elite or super-thief can plunk down cash for a home. Between 1940 and 1976, mortgage indebtedness rose 24 times over.

You would also not want to save your money because you could not expect to get interest on the money you put into a savings account. You get interest now because the bank lends out your money to borrowers who pay back with interest so the bank may give you interest.

And the great American business machine would grind to a grating halt because debt, in the form of bonds and loans, are the lubricants that keep the corporate gears rolling.

That's why debt—despite its present political disrepute—is America's necessary, perhaps even desirable, but undeniably universal, way of life.

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Congress Fails Duty In Inflation Battle

We now officially have double-digit inflation in America, and the Administration's program can't stop it.

It is the price tags on the necessities of life for every family—food, energy and interest rates—that continue to lead the parade. These items are basically exempted from the Administration's ineffective price guidelines.

It is obvious that corporate America is not content with the outrageous and gross profits reported for the fourth quarter of last year. It is once again pushing prices up to further pad profits.

Workers' wages have not kept up with prices, which have gone up 9.9 percent in the past year. Obviously a 7 percent wage guideline is indefensible.

The only answer is full and complete controls on the price of everything and the income of everybody. The Congress—if it intends to do its duty—must address that issue without further delay.

—Statement by AFL-CIO President George Meany, Mar. 23, 1979.

Birthday Message:

Phil Randolph Stresses Stake Of Black Workers in Unions

THIS IS A. PHILIP RANDOLPH. I am happy to have this opportunity to address my brothers and sisters as I celebrate another birthday, this one being my 90th.

For most people, birthdays offer an opportunity for careful personal reflection. They are a time for taking stock, a time for evaluating the course of events. Now, as I mark the beginning of my 91st year, I wish to make a few brief comments about the difficult challenges confronting black people and all American workers.

In many important respects, today's challenges bear a striking similarity to the problems we have grappled with for decades. Essentially, they are problems of economics and problems of politics. And, most important, they are problems which cannot be solved in isolation from the overall society.

Consider for a moment the plight of our black youngsters. Throughout the nation, thousands upon thousands of black teenagers and young adults have no opportunity of obtaining decent employment. They are forced to waste their talents, to waste their youthful enthusiasm, indeed, to waste their lives. To make matters worse, some political leaders dismiss this scandal as a necessity, a permanent feature of our economic system.

Consider also the condition of low-wage workers throughout the so-called Sunbelt, and throughout America's great urban centers. Amid affluence and newfound wealth, thousands of workers—black as well as white—receive subsistence wages. And because so few have the protections of a union contract, they have no job security, no fringe benefits, and no rights in the workplace.

And consider the new political atmosphere in America, an atmosphere best characterized by crude conservatism and social defeatism. From every corner of the land, we hear demands for cuts in school budgets, social security payments, health care, and jobs for the unemployed. And we hear inflation blamed on the moderate wages of workers and the dismally low wages of those people forced to accept the minimum wage. Workers and poor people, the true victims of inflation, are everywhere scolded for their so-called excesses.

How do we deal with these problems? Who do we look toward for support and cooperation?

In my view, we have one reliable and steadfast ally—the trade union movement. And I make this statement based on 70 years of experience in the civil rights and labor movements.

Why the trade unions? The answer, I believe, is quite simple: The vast majority of black people are workers, and the trade union movement, even with all its imperfections and failings, is the most effective, and most powerful defender of the interests of all American workers, black as well as white.

At this very moment, for example, organized labor is spearheading the attack against the Administration's so-called austerity budget. It is the trade union movement that has fought to preserve the minimum wage, and to keep the CETA jobs program intact. And it is the trade union movement that has mounted a major effort to organize low-paid and exploited workers throughout the South.

In the area of organizing, I hasten to call your attention to three crucially important campaigns, campaigns which hold special significance for black workers. First, there is the ongoing strike by thousands of workers at the Newport News shipyard in Virginia. These workers, members of the Steelworkers, were forced to strike by a company which refuses to recognize their right to join a union and negotiate for better wages and working conditions. As the company cleverly evades the real issues by filing appeal after appeal with the courts, the workers at Newport News continue to suffer.

Similarly, J. P. Stevens & Co. and the Winn-Dixie supermarket chain continue to block their employees from freely organizing into unions. The injustices at these two companies are well known. Thus, I urge you to support the boycott of Winn-Dixie stores and the boycott of all J. P. Stevens products.

IN ADDITION to taking an active interest in the struggles of black workers, we must also intensify our activity in the political arena. Last November, for instance, black people in Missouri and Philadelphia dramatically demonstrated the power of the united black vote. In Missouri, black voters overwhelmingly opposed an anti-labor question on the ballot; and in Philadelphia, blacks united together in opposing a proposed change in the city charter. Yet despite these two impressive examples, black voters throughout the country seem to be withdrawing from politics.

While I can surely sympathize with those who despair of political involvement, I cannot condone surrender or retreat. To do so would be to grant a political "blank check" to our enemies. By withdrawing from the voting booth, we are, in effect, inviting our enemies to roll back every advance of the last 45 years.

We and our children, we and our grandchildren, cannot afford to abandon the fight. We must continue, indeed we must strengthen our political position by registering and voting in even greater numbers than ever before. Our participation in the upcoming political battles will, to a very large extent, determine the outcome of our long years of dedication and sacrifice. You, brothers and sisters, will make the difference between ultimate victory or bitter defeat. Please, join the good fight.

Spot Checks by Monitors:

Price Hikes Reflect Cracks In Carter's Inflation Controls

EARLY SPOT CHECKS by the AFL-CIO's price monitors show more dramatic price rises now than during the Nixon controls of 1972, John McManus, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, reported on Labor News Conference.

McManus said that the monitoring program was pre-tested in three communities in advance of the formal announcement of the federation's Operation Price Watch in late February.

He said that while a similar AFL-CIO program during the 1972 controls showed the prices of various food items going up "a penny or two over a two- or three-week period," the surveying done so far during the Carter Administration's "voluntary guidelines" shows that "prices now are going up weekly—that perhaps even during the week there's an increase."

The full-scale price monitoring now being geared up will produce extensive solid evidence of the "lack of effectiveness" of the Administration's guidelines, McManus predicted. He said that evidence will be brought to the attention of both the Congress and the Administration to demonstrate the urgent need for across-the-board mandatory controls.

McManus said the community-based price checking program will involve individual workers and other citizens, and help make them "fully aware of how they are being swallowed up by the increasing costs of commodities." He said the core group of monitors will be the 275 full-time AFL-CIO Community Services Activities staff members across the country, with additional individuals coming from the more than 800 AFL-CIO central labor councils, consumer groups, community organizations and non-profit agencies that join the union-sponsored program.

The AFL-CIO intends to share its Operation Price Watch data and work cooperatively wherever possible with the White House's anti-inflation effort headed by Alfred Kahn, McManus said.



By Press Associates, Inc.

THOSE WHO THINK that consumer activism is a fading fad or that public interest law is the newest thing on the block should meet the National Consumers League.

The league is celebrating its 80th birthday in April, and a look at its history might prove inspiring to consumer advocates who feel a bit battered by recent defeats.

The league was founded just before the turn of the century, in what it calls "the era of sweatshops, child labor, the 6½ day workweek and starvation wages."

Ingenuity proved to be a key weapon when Josephine Shaw Lowell founded the first Consumers League in New York City in 1891 to do something about poor working conditions in retail stores. Blacklisting for boycott purposes was illegal, so the league made up a "white list" of stores that met decent minimum standards and urged consumers to patronize only these stores.

Consumers leagues followed in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Illinois. As an NCL history observes, they fought sweatshops and tenement shops, where very young children and other workers were jammed together in unsanitary and hazardous quarters.

Here again, the courts ruled that sweatshops could not be outlawed directly. So the leagues conducted their own factory investigations and devised a "Consumers Label" to identify those factories that had relatively safe and healthful working conditions.

The campaign brought the state leagues together and they formed the National Consumers League in 1899.

Florence Kelley, a battle-tempered veteran of the consumer cause, became the NCL's first general secretary. Kelley had worked at Jane Addams' Hull House in Chicago and, because of her tough investigations of sweatshops in the garment industry, she was named chief inspector of factories in Illinois.

Working at the state level, the NCL fought for laws to set a minimum wage, limit hours of work for women and outlaw child labor. The first such law was passed in Massachusetts in 1912.

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW was another innovation of the league's early years.

After the Supreme Court had voided a 10-hour limit on men working in bakeries in a New York case in 1905, employers looked for other test cases to overturn other limits on hours.

The key case arose in Oregon in 1907 when a laundry owner was fined $10 for working a woman longer than 10 hours. Laundry owners used large numbers of women and, after the state supreme court ruled against the guilty owner, he appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The case took on national import because if the Supreme Court struck down the Oregon law, similar laws in 19 states would also fall. To represent them, Kelley and her colleagues retained Louis Brandeis, later to be named to the Supreme Court.

The league and Brandeis assembled evidence from a dozen nations on the harmful physical, psychological and social effects of long work hours on women. The purpose was to show that Oregon had acted reasonably and was not infringing on the 14th Amendment right of property-owners in protecting the well-being of humans.

The Supreme Court upheld the Oregon law unanimously and the "Brandeis brief" approach was relied on thereafter to defend laws protecting women and young workers. Indeed, the "Brandeis brief" technique was credited with persuading the Supreme Court to strike down the "separate but equal" school system in 1954.

Another prominent league veteran was Eleanor Roosevelt, who joined at the age of 18 in 1902 and remained a staunch supporter until her death in 1962.

Today, the league continues to be sensitive to the needs of those most in need. Its wide-ranging program includes the goals of product and food safety, national health insurance, and effective consumer representation before government agencies. And, still recognizing that the unorganized and the low-paid need a constant ally, the league firmly believes in "equal pay for equal work."



PRICE HIKES even more dramatic than those during the Nixon controls of 1972 have turned up in early spot checks by AFL-CIO monitors working in the federation's Operation Price Watch, John McManus, center, of the federation's Dept. of Community Services reported on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Jerome Cahill, left, of the New York Daily News and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc.



BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE to Clarence Mitchell honored the veteran civil rights lobbyist and raised funds for the NAACP. AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland was a speaker and Benjamin L. Hooks, NAACP executive director, right, was the program chairman.

Bank Reserve Interest Opposed as 'Windfall'

The Federal Reserve System can be strengthened without giving already profitable banks a huge windfall and depriving the government of needed revenue, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter insisted at Senate hearings.

The Senate Banking Committee is considering rival bills to stem a decline in membership of the Federal Reserve System. The decline is attributed to the fact that member banks have to set aside a larger portion of their assets in legal reserves which do not draw interest than do banks that are not in the system.

By increasing or decreasing its reserve requirement, the Fed can contract or expand the nation's money supply in line with the needs of the economy. And the "profit" it makes on the reserve deposits enables the Fed to provide services to member banks and still turn over several billions of dollars to the federal treasury each year.

Schechter expressed the AFL-CIO's strong opposition to a bill by Sen. John Tower (R-Tex.) that would authorize the Fed to pay interest to banks on reserve deposits, seeking to induce them to stay in the system.

Member banks of the Fed have been hugely profitable without receiving interest on reserve deposits, Schechter testified. "There is no reason to provide multi-billion-dollar annual windfalls to lending institutions that would increase the federal deficit and add to inflationary pressures when programs that benefit poor people are being cut back." But that would be the effect of the Tower bill, he said.

With some changes, the AFL-CIO testimony urged the course taken in legislation sponsored by Senate Banking Committee Chairman William Proxmire and a similar bill by House Banking Committee Chairman Henry S. Reuss. Both are Wisconsin Democrats.

The labor-supported measures would require all banking institutions above a certain size to meet the same legal reserve requirement. Such a provision, Schechter noted, "would eliminate the competitive disadvantage which leads member banks to leave the Federal Reserve system."

While federally-chartered national banks must be members of the Fed, membership is optional with state-chartered institutions. The Fed has 4,564 national bank members and about 1,000 state-chartered banks out of some 14,600 commercial banks in the United States.

The Proxmire and Reuss bills would require the larger banks that are not in the Federal Reserve System to comply with the Fed's requirement for non-interest-bearing reserves.

A closely-divided House Banking Committee recently voted 21-20 against its chairman's bill, but Reuss said the legislation is far from dead, and he predicted it would be approved without drastic changes. The committee's 15 Republicans were joined by six Democrats in voting against bringing the bill to the House floor.

U.S. Labor Hits Brazilian Curb On Unionists

AFL-CIO President George Meany and Machinists President William W. Winpisinger registered sharp protests with the Brazilian Ministry of Labor over the forced removal from office of two leading Brazilian trade-union leaders during a strike.

The dispute involved 170,000 metalworkers who went on strike for wage increases large enough to keep pace with Brazil's torrid 44 percent rate of inflation. They have since voted to end the 15-day strike, accepting management's offer on the condition that negotiations continue.

In separate wires to Murilo Macedo, head of the Ministry of Labor, Meany and Winpisinger decried the government's intervention in the collective bargaining process and the removal of Jose Ignacio and Benedicto Marcilio from office.

The AFL-CIO "emphatically protests" the "isolation of union leaders democratically elected by workers," Meany declared.

Winpisinger, noting that he and other IAM leaders have had fraternal relations with the Sao Paulo unions through their common membership in the International Metalworkers' Federation, said that he had "a high regard for their leadership."

"We believe in the legitimacy of the action taken by the Metallurgical Unions to secure their members' economic rights," Winpisinger declared. He called for immediate restoration of free collective bargaining between the unions and the companies involved and the return of Ignacio and Marcilio to their union leadership positions.

To Correct Racial Imbalance:

High Court Asked to Back Affirmative Action Program

(Continued from Page 1)

that is involved in the Kaiser training agreement, the Steelworkers and the AFL-CIO maintained in joint briefs and in an oral argument before the Supreme Court.

At the Louisiana plant where the complaint arose, only five of the 273 craft employees were black before the 1974 agreement even though the lower courts found that the company made a good-faith effort to recruit black skilled workers. But they weren't available in the community, according to uncontested evidence.

The trainee program set up through the national agreement for the first time gave white workers, who made up a majority of the production force, an opportunity to acquire skills and promotion. The training program was vigorous, averaging three years of on-the-job training, supplemented by classroom instruction and correspondence school home study.

To meet the 50-50 ratio, trainee openings were filled alternately by the most senior black and the most senior white among those who applied. There were no other prerequisites for acceptance to the program, and all participants were required to meet the same standards to stay in and graduate.

In the case of the Louisiana plant, the temporary racial quotas for admission were to be continued only until blacks made up 39 percent of the skilled trades.

In both oral argument and in the written briefs, the union position was somewhat different than that of the company and the federal government.

Attorneys for Kaiser and the Justice Dept. took the position that quotas could be adopted to end racial imbalance only as a remedial measure based on an assumption of past discrimination.

But the Steelworkers told the Supreme Court that the union considered the lack of blacks in skilled jobs undesirable even if the cause was historic and "societal" rather than the result of any job-related discrimination.

The union thus "acted to end that situation regardless of its cause."

Its brief said the existence "of in-plant segregation, superimposed upon two centuries of endemic racial discrimination at all levels of society, fosters a perception of present racial injustice which is injurious to employee morale and union solidarity."

The path it took was not necessarily required by law, the union said, but it certainly was not forbidden by law.

While some white members might resent the action, the fact remains that the program actually "created opportunities for both black and white USWA members which neither would have enjoyed otherwise," the union stressed.

Its philosophy, the union told the court, is in line with this eloquent statement by the late Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey when the Senate was debating the Civil Rights Act:

"It profits little to attempt to calculate how much the disparity in employment opportunities for whites or for non-whites is ascribable to outright discrimination in employment, how much to discrimination in education, how much to discrimination in the past.

"The problem is before us and the solution calls for action, not explanations."

In oral argument USWA Attorney Michael H. Gottesman contended that the "discrimination" alleged by the white worker was not what Congress had in mind when it sought to outlaw racial and sex discrimination in employment through the Civil Rights Act.

It was the demeaning prejudice and denial of opportunity to racial minorities that brought about the passage of corrective legislation, he stressed, and not good-faith attempts to broaden job opportunities.

Investment Tax Credit Called Revenue Drain

The 10 percent investment tax credit has been a huge windfall for wealthy corporations, a serious drain on federal revenues and a grossly wasteful mechanism to stimulate the economy, the AFL-CIO testified at House hearings.

The price tag of tax credit rebates to companies that "invest" in new plants, machinery and equipment is $16 billion this fiscal year. By next year, the loss of tax revenue will rise to an estimated $18.5 billion, AFL-CIO Assistant Research Director Arnold Cantor said.

A Ways & Means subcommittee is holding "oversight hearings" on the effect of the investment tax credit, which has been an off-and-on feature of the nation's tax structure since 1962. It was originally part of a temporary economic stimulus program to help the nation out of recession, but has since been made substantially more generous and become a permanent part of the tax code.

The tax credit is supposed to stimulate business investment, enhance productivity and create jobs. But there is "no evidence" that it has helped any of these goals, Cantor testified.

He cited these faults of the investment credit and most other forms of what economists call "tax expenditures":

- "Needed federal funds are wasted through providing benefits to firms for doing what they would do anyway.
- "The larger and more prosperous firms that are least in need of federal aid get the largest share of the benefits.
- "The longer the provisions are on the books the more complex they get, the wider their constituency becomes, and the more potentially disrupting or damaging any attempts at repeal become."

Further, Cantor testified, the impact has had the "perverse effect" of helping employers finance labor-displacing machinery at a time when the economy needs more jobs and consumer purchasing power.

Cantor reminded the subcommittee that public sector investment is also an ingredient of economic growth, that the private sector benefits from "the bridges, roads, sewers, research, manpower training and other investments that are heavily dependent on government financing."

But the billions of dollars lost in federal revenues because of the investment tax credit amount to a "substantial diversion of funds" from public investment, Cantor suggested. He noted also that the cost of the tax credit accounts for almost two-thirds of the Administration's projected budget deficit for the 1980 fiscal year.



UNIQUE GIFT to Actors' Equity from its Canadian counterpart was this stained glass window depicting the first play presented in North America. At Equity's New York headquarters are, from left: Equity Executive Sec. Donald Grody; Canadian artist Ira Ginsburg, who created the window; Equity President Theodore Bikel; Diane D'Aquila, first vice president of Canadian Equity; actor Paxton Whitehead, and Burnard Chadwick, executive secretary of Canadian Equity.

Meany Faults Approach:

Carter Health Plan Branded Inadequate

(Continued from Page 1)

calls for an effective safeguard against the high cost of illness, including catastrophic expenses.

Meany accused the Administration of continuing to pay lip service to a national health plan while abandoning the President's commitment to that goal.

"We are deeply concerned that rather than being a step toward these goals, the Administration's Phase I would be a roadblock to achieving them," he declared.

Similar concerns were expressed by UAW President Douglas A. Fraser, who heads the Committee for National Health Insurance.

"The Administration's proposals fail to adequately address other fundamental ills of that sick health care system, such as inadequate quality controls, inequitable distribution of health care resources and lack of universal coverage," Fraser said.

The Phase I health plan appeared to be patterned after a proposal made by the Nixon Administration eight years ago that would require employers to provide private health insurance for workers and subsidize health care for the poor. In explaining the proposal, Califano said it would not involve any major federal expenditure until 1982 when it would cost from $10 billion to $15 billion a year to operate by expanding Medicare and Medicaid coverage for the aged and the poor. It also would provide coverage for others who have inadequate health insurance.

Meanwhile, in testimony before the Senate Health subcommittee, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman warned that catastrophic health insurance provisions in legislation introduced by Sen. Russell B. Long (D-La.) contain serious flaws.

Seidman said that the Long proposal "would make it too financially attractive to some unscrupulous doctors and hospitals to provide hospital care, surgery and laboratory work that is not needed."

While covering less than 1 percent of expenditures for personal health care services, Seidman said the catastrophic insurance proposal "would accelerate the inflation of health care costs by channelling more dollars into intensive high-cost care, rather than financing prevention and health maintenance to avoid catastrophic illness."

However, Seidman noted that the AFL-CIO supports two provisions in the Long legislation that he said should be enacted with minor changes. One calls for federalizing the Medicaid program and the other would require certification of health insurance policies under federal standards.

In earlier testimony before a House Health subcommittee, Seidman reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's support of the Administration's hospital cost-containment bill as a stop-gap measure until a comprehensive health insurance plan is enacted.

The Administration's proposal would require hospitals to hold cost increases during 1979 to a voluntary goal. This would be 9.7 percent at the current inflation rate. If they fail to meet that limit, mandatory controls would be imposed.

Seidman pointed out that wages of hospital workers have had little impact on soaring hospital costs, noting that their earnings lag behind the wages in manufacturing and all other industries.



TOP OFFICIALS of the new Federal Labor Relations Authority meet with national officers of the Government Employees during the union's staff training program in St. Louis, which focused on charges resulting from the Civil Service Reform Act. The new agency has powers comparable to those of the NLRB in the private sector. From left: AFGE Sec.-Treas. Nicholas J. Nolan, President Kenneth T. Blaylock, Executive Director Henry B. Frazier and Chairman Ron Houghton of the FLRA, and AFGE Executive Vice President Joseph D. Gleason.

Alabama TV Stations Hit On Winn-Dixie Ad Ban

Charging a conflict of interest that "renders the licensees incapable of journalistic discretion," the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. has filed petitions to deny the broadcast licenses of two Alabama television stations, WHNT-TV in Huntsville and WSLA-TV in Selma.

The action was taken on behalf of the Committee for Human Rights for Winn-Dixie Employees in Alabama, which had sought unsuccessfully to air paid advertisements supporting their boycott of Winn-Dixie supermarkets. The stations' records showed that both licensees are linked by stock ownership to Winn-Dixie through its vice chairman, Tine Davis. Davis owns 33.3 percent of WHNT's common stock and 29 percent of WSLA.

The petitions, filed with the Federal Communications Commission, charge the broadcasters with a failure to discharge their obligations to serve the public and a violation of the "fairness doctrine," which requires a balanced presentation of controversial issues. The petition notes that both stations regularly carry ads for Winn-Dixie.

"A potentially dangerous situation arises when a broadcaster's economic self-interest is permitted to dictate news and advertising policies which are oblivious to the needs of the community they are licensed to serve," FBTD Sec.-Treas. Robert Harbrant commented. "The conflict of interest is clear: the stations are airing only one side of the story."

A notorious violator of civil rights and labor laws, Winn-Dixie has been the object of a national consumer boycott endorsed by the AFL-CIO since December 1977. The ads rejected by the two TV stations were part of an effort by the committee to gain a wider recognition for the plight of Winn-Dixie employees seeking to organize and bargain collectively.

Janet Norwood Set For Top BLS Post

Janet Norwood, acting commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, has been nominated commissioner by President Carter.

Norwood joined BLS in 1963 as an economist. She became acting commissioner of the bureau upon the death of Commissioner Julius Shiskin last October.

The 56-year-old Bethesda, Md., woman served BLS as chief of its consumer price division and later as deputy commissioner for data analysis.

She did her undergraduate work at Douglas College and received a master's and Ph.D. degree from Tufts College.

She is married and the mother of two sons.

Flight Crews Get Back Pay For Layoffs

An arbitrator's decision could mean as much as $9.7 million in benefits for 181 Pan American flight engineers furloughed during 1976 and 1977 following a Trans World Airlines-Pan Am route swap.

Paul Chorbajian, president of the Flight Engineers' Pan Am chapter, announced that as a result of a decision by arbitrator Mark L. Kahn the airmen are entitled to receive up to 60 percent of their salary at the time of their layoff for as long as three years to offset lost earnings.

Income earned in alternative employment, however, would offset the amounts that might be awarded under the union's labor protection provisions, Chorbajian said. "If one assumed that all 181 airmen were entitled to maximum benefits, the cost impact of this decision is $9,774,000 against Pan Am," he said.

Kahn, acting under his authority from the Civil Aeronautics Board order which approved the 1974 route swap, concluded in his decision that the agreement to exchange routes caused the engineers' layoffs. The swap was implemented between March 1975 and March 1978.

During the three-year period, Pan Am agreed to suspend operations to Paris and to the Iberian Peninsula as well as to the Azores and Casablanca. In addition, it gave up its polar service from Los Angeles to London.

TWA suspended operations to Frankfurt and gave up portions of its around-the-world operations, principally from Honolulu westward to India. It also gave up its service between Washington, D.C., and London.

The object of the agreement was to reduce U.S.-flag carrier competition at the various points and presumably to increase load factors and profits for both carriers.

In a similar arbitration proceedings between the Air Line Pilots and Trans World Airlines, a decision was reached in August 1978 that some 233 pilots lost jobs at TWA and were entitled to labor protective benefits.

All furloughed TWA pilots have since been recalled to active service, but Pan Am still has 510 affected pilot-flight engineers on furlough.

Louisiana Labor Rallies R-T-W Repeal Coalition

Baton Rouge, La.—The Louisiana AFL-CIO's 24th annual convention served as a rallying point for the coalition of labor, church, civil rights and women's groups that will work to repeal Louisiana's "right-to-work" law.

Msgr. George G. Higgins of the U.S. Catholic Conference, Valerie Harper of the TV show Rhoda and five civil rights leaders were speakers at the convention. The black leaders were Benjamin Hooks of the NAACP, Dorothy Height of the National Council of Negro Women, Ohio State Rep. Les Brown, Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute and AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William E. Pollard.

All stressed the link between right-to-work and other repressive measures that constrain workers of all kinds. The Louisiana law was enacted in July 1976 by the state legislature, which had repealed one such law 20 years before.

The Louisiana governorship and all legislative seats are up for election in October 1979, and the coalition stressed that black, women's and related groups should not support any candidate who would vote to retain the law. The state AFL-CIO hopes to get a repeal vote from the legislature at some future session.

The convention also re-elected President Victor Bussie and Sec.-Treas. Gordon Flory to new one-year terms. Bussie has served consecutive terms since the merger of the AFL and CIO in 1955 and Flory was elected to his first term at the 1978 convention.

The convention, attended by 2,500 delegates and guests from 600 affiliated local unions in the state, also heard Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, outline the threat to unions from the labor-management "consultants" whose union-busting seminars are growing across the country.

Harper, holder of four union cards and a leader in the effort to win ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, compared ERA opponents with right-to-work advocates. In Louisiana, that means primarily the Louisiana Association for Business & Industry (LABI), the group formed by the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce and Louisiana Manufacturing Association to conduct the intensive and expensive 10-month campaign for enactment of the 1976 right-to-work law.

Treasury Dept. To Offer New Savings Bonds

The Treasury Dept. will introduce two new series of U.S. Savings Bonds next January to replace the current E and H bonds.

The new EE bonds, which will be phased in on payroll deduction bond plans between next Jan. 2 and June 30, will double in value from the time of purchase to maturity—a period of 11 years and nine months.

The purchase price of the EE bonds will be one-half of the face value. That is, the $50 bond will sell for $25. Other denominations will be for $75, $100, $200, $500, $1,000, $5,000 and $10,000.

The EE bonds will also have an interest rate of 6 percent after five years or more.

The new HH bonds will provide interest payments of 6 percent from the day of issue, rather than the graduated scale on current series H bonds.

The HH bonds will mature in 10 years and will be sold in multiples of $500 in denominations ranging up to $10,000.

Van Helden to Head Labor Dept. Agency

The Labor Dept. has announced formation of a new Office of Construction Industry Services as part of the Labor-Management Services Administration.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall said the move reflects the size and importance of a construction industry that produces 10 percent of the nation's gross national product.

Ronald van Helden has been named director and Hugh Conway assistant director. Van Helden, who has been with the Labor Dept. for the past six years, is a former staff member of the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs.

The new office will advise on construction industry problems, report on trends, and assist the Construction Industry Coordinating Committee.

Agenda Set:

Conference to Press Price Watch Effort

(Continued from Page 1)

Howard M. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), as well as Meany.

The conference is sponsored by the federation's Dept. of Community Services, which developed the price watch program last month after it became clear that prices are continuing to soar despite President Carter's guidelines seeking to hold prices to annual increases of 5.5 percent.

"Recent reports of soaring business profits and huge increases in wholesale and retail price indexes make it essential to pinpoint exactly where the inflationary pressures lie," Meany stressed.

He said that the federation network of nearly 800 state and local central councils, along with thousands of volunteers, "will do the job that COWPS can't begin to do."

In an effort to help curb the inflationary pressures, Price Watch volunteers have been alerted to closely monitor the rising costs of basic necessities—food, clothing, health care, utilities, shelter and fuel.

When the Price Watch operations were launched by Community Services Director Leo Perlis in February, Meany noted that President Carter had accepted the federation's offer to assist the 130-member COWPS staff in monitoring prices.

While wage settlements were being watched closely and widely publicized, Meany pointed out, price increases were all but ignored because of the lack of government machinery and manpower.

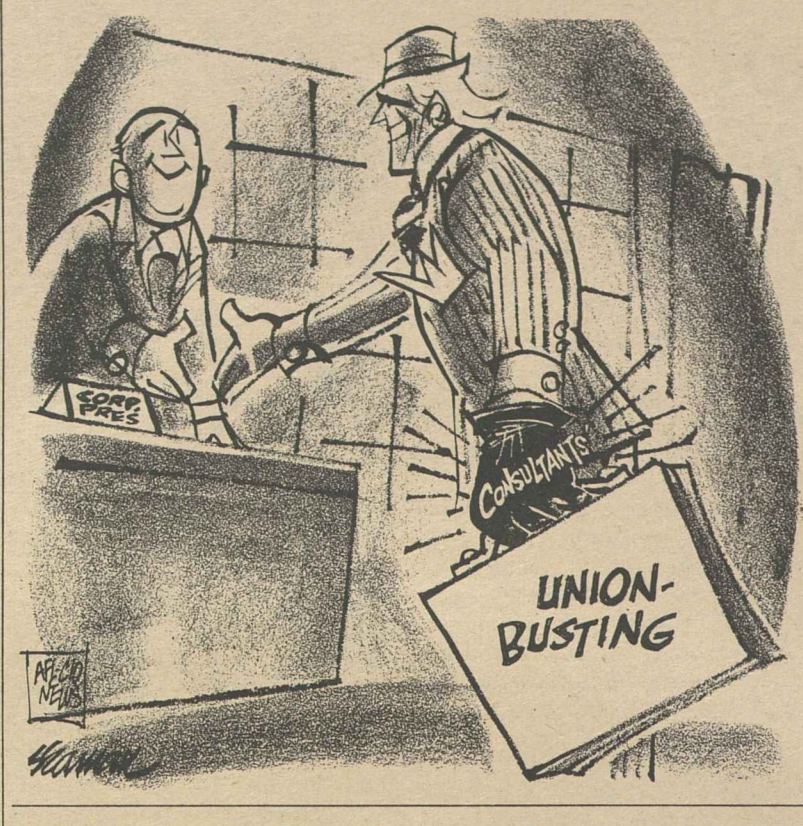
Price Watch volunteers across the country have been supplied with a series of monitoring forms to check on prices on an item-by-item basis.

They are being asked to monitor prices of food, gasoline and oil on a biweekly basis and the costs of clothing, drugs, rents, utilities and medical costs—physicians' and dentists' fee and hospital room rates—on a monthly basis.

In addition to the main speakers at the Apr. 9 conference, a series of panel discussions will be held. The panelists will include President Thomas M. Bradley of the Baltimore AFL-CIO; Dr. Dorothy Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women; Roger D. Hickey, executive director of Consumers Opposed to Inflation in the Necessities; William R. Hutton, executive director of the National Council of Senior Citizens; Kathleen O'Reilly, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America; Esther Peterson, special assistant to President Carter for consumer affairs; George J. Robinson, community service director of the Machinists, and Gus Tyler, assistant president of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

Meany and AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall will serve as co-chairmen of the conference.

The Velvet Glove



Taiwan Labor Assured Of Continuing Support

Taipei—The AFL-CIO assured the Taiwanese labor movement of its continuing ties with its members despite President Carter's recognition of the People's Republic of China at Taiwan's expense last December.

Federation Vice President J. C. Turner, addressing the Chinese Federation of Labor meeting here, declared that "the bonds of brotherhood between free workers are stronger than diplomacy can ever be."

Turner, who is president of the Operating Engineers, assured delegates to the three-day meeting: "Governments can play the game of recognition or de-recognition, and can lower themselves to the level of ignoring the name of a country. But in the international free trade union movement, there is no room and no legitimacy for political expediency and opportunism."

Turner said that he thought President Carter and those around him could learn and profit from some basic trade union collective bargaining techniques since, he said, little was gained by American recognition of Red China and unilaterally abrogating the United States treaty with Taiwan.

"The more we examine the agreement, the more we are convinced that the negotiations were a one-way street," Turner said, citing AFL-CIO President George Meany's remarks at the time that diplomatic recognition of the PRC was announced.

Meany said then that President Carter had "dealt away America's commitment and support for the independence and freedom of the Chinese of Taiwan, and he has received nothing in return—not even a pledge of non-aggression."

Turner stressed that the AFL-CIO was not opposed to the establishment of full diplomatic relations between the United States and the PRC "as long as that action is in the interests and to the benefit of the people and the government of the United States and will not harm our relations with loyal allies." But, he said, the terms negotiated by the Administration are tantamount to total acquiescence in the demands of the PRC.

Comparing the two nations, Turner observed that the Taiwanese have a trade-union movement that puts to shame the party-government apparatus that exists in Red China. The Chinese Federation of Labor stands as a "beacon of light to your less fortunate brethren on the mainland," he told the delegates.

As the Taiwanese labor movement regains and expands upon its trade union rights, he said, its leaders and members should know that the AFL-CIO's friendship toward it "cannot be diluted by political appeasement or economic expediency."

Labor Dept. Wins Ruling On Pay Laws

(Continued from Page 1)

dictional claim could be applied to health and safety standards, civil rights requirements and environmental decisions.

Thompson was joined by Senate Human Resources Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and key Democratic and Republican members of both panels in backing the Labor Dept. authority over interpretation of the laws.

In response to the strong protests, Carter asked Bell to render an opinion, and both the Labor Dept. and the procurement agency submitted briefs arguing their positions.

A law concerned with efficiency in procurement procedures obviously wasn't meant to repeal labor standards, the Labor Dept. contended.

Williams and Thompson also sent Bell a joint brief giving their understanding of congressional intent on both the labor standard laws and the creation of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy.

The legislative history of the law establishing the procurement agency and the basic labor standards statutes provide "strong evidence" that Congress did not intend to give the OFPP authority to overrule the Secretary of Labor's interpretations, Bell agreed.

The procurement agency, he said, had authority to set policy "in the interest of uniformity" of government contract procedures, "but it was not given substantive authority over the achievement of socio-economic objectives."

Thus "quite separate responsibility" remains with the Secretary of Labor, Bell said.

Bell's opinion was contained in a letter to President Carter.

Thompson and Williams issued statements welcoming Bell's ruling, both in terms of affirming the intent of Congress and in resisting an action that could have impaired the right of workers to fair wages and working conditions.

Congress Asked to Tighten Law For Full Disclosure of Lobbying

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to tighten the lobbying disclosure law—for unions as well as employer groups and the many other organizations that seek to influence legislation.

Labor considers lobbying a useful facet of the legislative process and a constitutional right, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young testified. But legitimate lobbying activity "need not fear full disclosure," he stressed.

A House Judiciary subcommittee is making a new effort to move a lobbying reform bill through Congress. The House last year passed a labor-supported bill strengthening a loophole-ridden 1946 law, but it died in the Senate.

Young said the bill the House passed last year would assure the public's right-to-know without making reporting requirements so intimidatingly cumbersome that they would discourage smaller groups from communicating with Congress or testifying on legislation.

"Lobbying is clearly an aspect of the constitutional right to 'petition the government for redress of grievances,'" he said. Equally clear, Young added, is the right of the public and Congress "to be informed about the activities of organizations that hire or employ people to influence the legislative process." But at the same time, "over-regulation may be even more ineffective than non-disclosure since it would drown useful information in a sea of unnecessary and meaningless detail."

The bills being considered by the House panel, based on last year's legislation, would in large part achieve the needed balance, Young testified.

They would not require reporting of individual or group testimony which is on the public record, dissemination of an organization's views through the media, or communications to a "home-state senator" or "home-district congressman."

A lobbying campaign would have to be "more than local and must involve substantial expenditure of funds," Young stressed, before there would be an obligation to report.

When the "triggering" requirement has been met, the organization would have to disclose all expenditures over $35 for the benefit of any senator or representative and expenditures exceeding $500 for any reception or comparable event for the benefit or an officeholder.

Other features of the bill the House passed last year which Young strongly urged include reporting of activities soliciting others to lobby and income from affiliated organizations used for lobbying.

"We believe it makes sense to require each organization that engages in lobbying to identify the major issues on which it lobbied," he said, and "to provide the names of employees and chief executive officers who engaged in the lobbying."

As for the AFL-CIO, Young said, the federation "has consistently and without reluctance complied with all of the requirements of the present lobbying disclosure law.

"We are proud of our lobbying activity on behalf of the interests and welfare of working people and of our role as the people's lobby in many legislative campaigns.

"We have recognized the present law as weak and ineffective, and we have worked along with many other public interest groups to change that law and make it better. The time to change the present ineffective law is long overdue."

The leading employer federations took a different stance, however.

Representatives of both the National Association of Manufacturers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce said the proposed legislation would be too costly and especially opposed provisions requiring reporting of "grass-roots lobbying" initiated by a national organization.

Utah Governor Vetoes Repeal Of Wage Law

Salt Lake City—Utah's "Little Davis-Bacon Act" weathered repeated attempts to abolish the 40-year-old prevailing wage law throughout the 60-day session of the state legislature.

A timely veto by Gov. Scott Matheson (D) and aggressive lobbying efforts of union representatives turned back the repeal campaign of Republican conservatives, the Utah AFL-CIO reported.

Both the Republican-controlled House and Senate passed the repeal measure, but it was then vetoed by Matheson. The governor said "it makes absolutely no sense to further exacerbate the erosion of working people's earnings in a well-intentioned but misguided effort to cut costs."

Although the House subsequently overrode the veto, the measure failed to come before the Senate as GOP support for the repeal waned. Additional efforts by conservative Republicans to gut the prevailing wage law failed in the closing days of the session.

State AFL-CIO President Eddie P. Mayne said the prevailing wage law was preserved by both the governor's "courageous" veto action and the ability of the labor representatives to communicate with the "more reasonable and responsible" GOP members.

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Surge in Wholesale Index Heats Up Price Pressures

Unions Spur Support for Safety Law

A new round of political attacks on the federal job safety law must be defused on Capitol Hill to protect the right of workers to earn a living without being killed, crippled or poisoned, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland declared.

Addressing 250 delegates to the Industrial Union Dept.'s OSHA lobbying conference, Kirkland warned that the "Stop OSHA" movement is revving up a new drive to gut the law and disable the safety agency.

The IUD called the union representatives from across the country to Washington for its campaign in Congress to counter the attacks on OSHA.

"You are the first line of defense in the fight to prevent OSHA from being weakened and watered down," Kirkland told the delegates who fanned out on Capitol Hill to meet with their congressmen and senators.

IUD President Jacob Clayman spelled out the immediate task facing the grassroots lobbyists as he cited 35 bills that have already been introduced in the current Congress, any of which, he said, "could destroy OSHA."

Kirkland commended the support of President Carter for job safety and health programs, but pointed out that all quarters of the Administration don't have the enthusiasm for OSHA held by Labor Sec. Ray Marshall and Assistant Sec. Eula Bingham.

He assailed particularly those who would weaken job safety and health programs under the banner of fighting inflation.

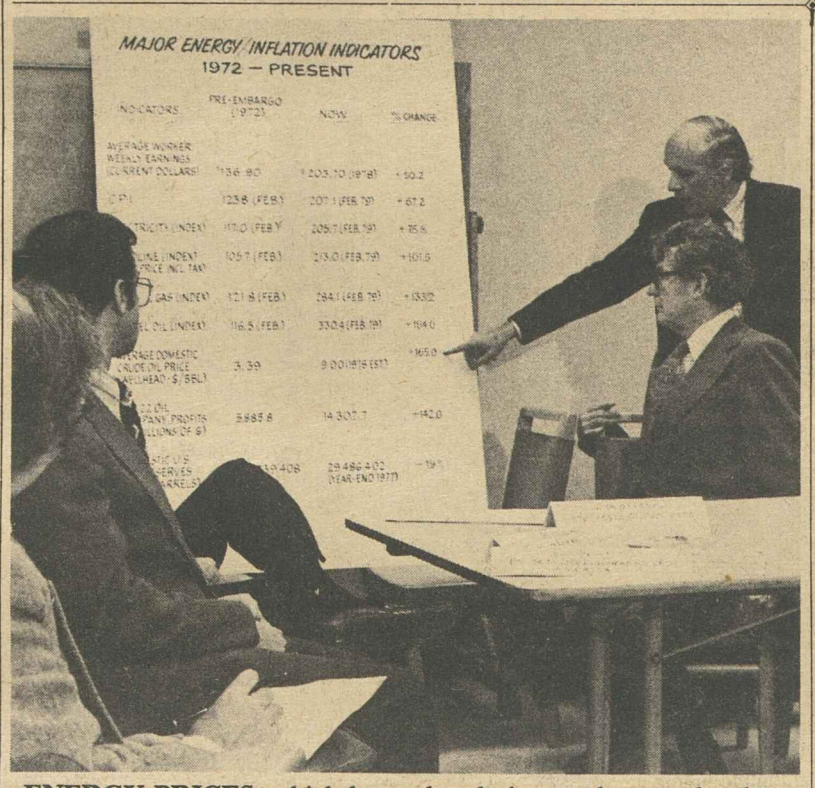
"When workers' health and lives are at stake, these 'experts' denounce proposed OSHA standards as 'inflationary' if they involve expenditures by business," Kirkland observed.

"The cynics in government and in business scream endlessly about the dollar costs of complying with OSHA standards. But they never complete the equation. They never notice how much the worker and his family pay in lost earning power, how much the public pays in added health care costs and workers' compensation."

Kirkland also pointed out that compliance with effective OSHA standards benefits employers as well through increased production, reduced absenteeism, workforce stability, lower costs for workers' compensation and insurance, and fewer lawsuits.

He noted that it is too late to prevent occupational diseases among workers who have long been ex-

(Continued on Page 3)



ENERGY PRICES, which have already imposed severe burdens on consumers, will rise to "unconscionable" levels if President Carter carries through proposals to decontrol domestic crude oil prices, a coalition of labor, consumer, farm, public power, and senior citizen groups warned. Lee White, president of the coalition, the Consumer Energy Council of America, points to a chart showing that the rise in energy prices over the past seven years has outpaced increases in other consumer prices. Next to him is Frank Collins, an Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers consultant.

1-Percent Increase Led by Food, Fuel

By James M. Shevis

Wholesale prices, running at their highest level in more than four years, have "built up pressures which will push up retail prices for the next few months," Treas. Sec. W. Michael Blumenthal warned as the government announced yet another big round of increases in such prices.

"More bad price news is possible in the months to come," Blumenthal told a House Appropriations subcommittee just as the Bureau of Labor Statistics readied a report showing that wholesale prices last month rose by 1 percent, or 12.7 percent if compounded over a 12-month period.

The March increase in producer prices of finished goods was identical to February's increase, and only slightly below the 1.3 percent jump recorded in January.

For the first three months of the year, wholesale prices for finished goods, which are eventually reflected in the prices that consumers pay, increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 14.1 percent, the sharpest inflationary surge for any quarter since the October - December quarter of 1974, BLS said.

Once again, higher food prices paced the March rise in wholesale prices. Beef and veal prices were up 4.3 percent over the month and were 23.8 percent higher than last December. Prices for eggs rose even faster—16.6 percent from February to March. Over the three months ending in March, egg prices were up 15.8 percent.

The government's wholesale price report—officially called the producer price index—measures prices of goods at three levels before they are sold to consumers and industrial users. At all three levels—finished, intermediate, and crude—prices for the month were up 1 percent.

(Continued on Page 6)

Pay Council Extended For 1 Year

The Senate joined the House in granting a cautious one-year extension of the Council on Wage & Price Stability—half the two-year time span that had been sought by the Carter Administration.

As did the House, the Senate continued unchanged the language of the present law that none of its provisions "should be construed to confer mandatory wage and price control authority upon the council."

But the Senate injected into the bill a variant of what appears to be a continuing series of attempts to impose spending ceilings on future Congresses.

As sent to the Senate floor by the Banking Committee, the bill included a provision authored by Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) that would amend a different law—the Humphrey-Hawkins Employment Act. The amendment set target dates for limiting future federal outlays to a specified portion of the nation's gross national product (GNP), which is the total value of goods and services produced during the year.

(Continued on Page 8)

By Consumer Coalition:

Oil Decontrol Called Inflationary Disaster

The decontrol of crude oil prices would be "disastrously inflationary" and lead to a "massive public outcry," leaders of a consumer coalition warned.

"By jacking up the price of domestic crude oil to the OPEC-rigged level, decontrol will worsen the economic disease known as inflation that is eating away at the paychecks and savings of all Americans," President Lee C. White of the Consumer Energy Council of America declared at a Washington news conference.

"There are alternative solutions to America's energy problems that would be far more effective than decontrol and would avoid its costs and inequities."

Joining White in urging the President to consider other options were representatives of major consumer, union, urban, public power, and senior citizen organizations.

They included Jacob Clayman, AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.; Robert Mullins, National Farmers Union; Richard Greenwood, Machinists; Frank Collins, Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers; William Hutton, National Council of Senior Citizens; Alex Radin, American Public Power Association; James Flug, Energy Action; Howard Paster, UAW; Mike Podhorzer, Consumer Federation of America, and John Powderly, Steelworkers.

The AFL-CIO, one of over 50 organizations that make up the coalition, contributes to its support.

In a letter to President Carter, Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride warned that decontrolling domestic oil would further weaken

(Continued on Page 3)

Carter Backs Curbs On 'Lie Detector' Use

President Carter has outlined for Congress a wide-ranging proposal to strengthen protections against the invasion of privacy, including legislation restricting the use of "lie detector" tests on workers by employers.

The bulk of Carter's legislative proposals are based on 1977 recommendations of the congressionally mandated Privacy Protection Study Commission.

In his message to Congress, Carter expressed concern that today's computerized information systems, while they are essential to the economy, can be misused to violate personal privacy.

He said the Administration would soon submit legislation providing safeguards against abuses in the use of information derived from consumer credit operations and banking records, as well as instituting privacy standards for insurance company records.

Other provisions of the Fair Financial Information Practices Act, would give consumers the right

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Strong Standards Asked On Job Injury Benefits

Union witnesses called for strengthening a Senate bill to establish federal standards for state workers' compensation laws and termed it essential that Congress mandate coverage of disabilities stemming from occupational diseases.

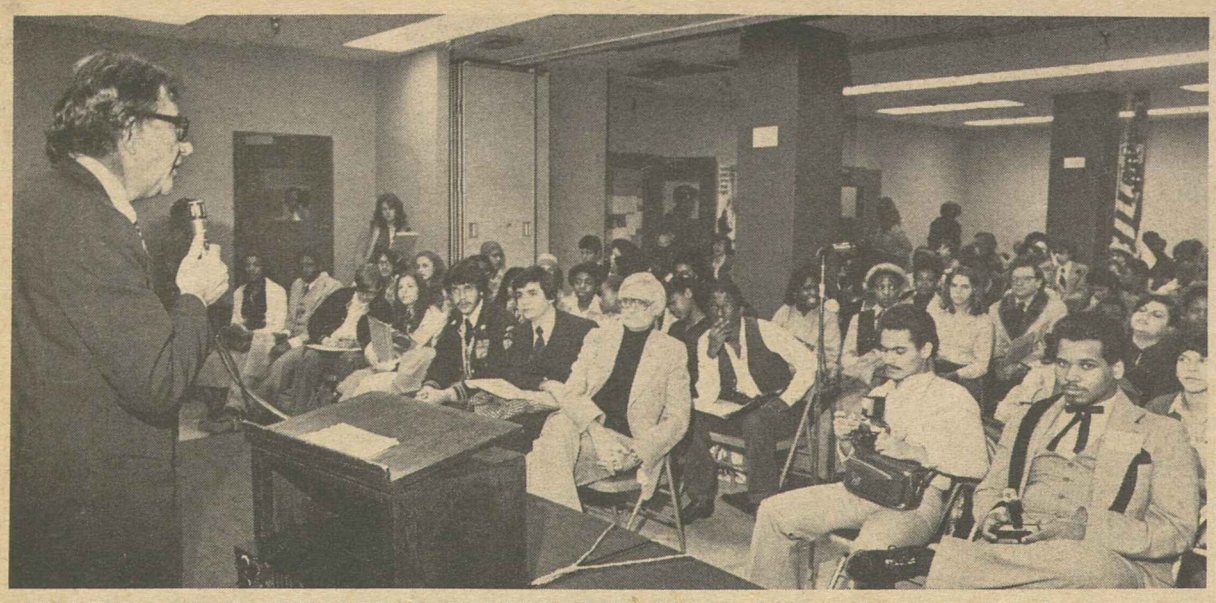
The Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee is considering a watered-down version of the federal standards bill that had been introduced in previous years by Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.).

That earlier Williams-Javits bill was based on the labor-endorsed recommendations of a National Commission on State Workmen's Compensation Laws. The AFL-CIO Executive Council earlier this year expressed strong disappointment that the new version was significantly weaker.

Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride told the Senate committee that some of the provisions left out of the new bill are "crucial." The bill "must be amended substantially before we can support it," he testified.

Industrial Union Dept. President Jacob Clayman joined in that view. He expressed labor's "strong and unhappy reaction" to the proposal to make standards for coverage of occupational

(Continued on Page 8)



ENCOURAGING GREATER INVOLVEMENT of high school students in political activities is President Albert Shanker of the Teachers at a Frontlash conference in New York. Nearly 500 students from 52 high schools participated in the session that focused on procedures to set up local Frontlash chapters and to improve voter registration campaigns.

NLRB Changes Policy to Require Full Back Pay for Fired Strikers

The longstanding requirement that illegally discharged strikers must request reinstatement to trigger an employer's back pay liability was struck down by a 3 to 2 decision of the National Labor Relations Board.

The majority decision, which arose from a case involving a Portland, Me., employer, overturned a 30-year-old precedent. Like any other discriminatorily discharged worker, a discharged striker is entitled to back pay from the date of his illegal discharge to the date he is offered reinstatement, the board ruled.

"A discharged striker is a discharged employee, and entitled to be treated as such, for there is nothing peculiar to a strike which justifies dissimilar treatment," the majority declared. "The nature of the employer's unlawful conduct is not changed by the fact that the employee happens to be a striker at the time of discharge."

The majority, consisting of Chairman John H. Fanning and Members Howard Jenkins, Jr., and John C. Truesdale, explained that the well-established policy of not requiring a nonstriking unlawfully discharged employee to make an unconditional offer to return to work is based on the rationale that the board will not require a person to perform a futile act.

"To require a discharged striker to request reinstatement would be no less futile than it would be for a discharged employee," the majority observed. "Thus, no logical reason presents itself for treating the two categories of employees differently.

"In both cases, the employer has acted in violation of the (National Labor Relations) Act in terminating the employee, and in both cases the burden rightfully rests on the employer to remedy the situation."

The board ordered the employer, Abilities & Goodwill, Inc., to offer immediate reinstatement to 21 unlawfully discharged strikers, and to reimburse them for lost wages for the period beginning from the date of their discharge. The case against the company was brought by Abilities & Goodwill Association of Professional Employees.

Dissenting from the majority decision, Members John A. Penello and Betty S. Murphy argued that back pay awards are generally inappropriate for periods during which employees voluntarily withhold their labor. While agreeing with their colleagues, the majority contended that the problem in resolving the issue was that the discharge of the strikers created an ambiguous situation.

"When discharged strikers withhold their services after the date of the unlawful discharge, one cannot really be certain whether their continuing refusal to work is voluntary—i.e., a result of the strike—or whether the reason for not making application for reinstatement is that the employer, by discharging the employees, has unmistakenly impressed on them the futility of making such an application," the majority said.

"This uncertainty could, of course, be resolved if the employees immediately apply for reinstatement and, one might say, as our dissenting colleague does, that a showing of such an application is not an unduly burdensome condition for establishing entitlement to back pay," the majority noted.

"However, because the uncertainty is caused by the employer's unlawful conduct, we will not indulge in the presumption that the discharge itself played no part in keeping the employees out of work. Rather, it seems to us more equitable to resolve the ambiguity against the wrongdoer and presume, absent indications to the contrary, that the discharged strikers would have made the necessary application were it not for the fact that the discharge itself seemingly made such application a futility."

Retail Chain Convicted In TV 'Dumping' Case

The conviction of an American firm of customs fraud stemming from the dumping of imported Japanese television sets is long overdue, President Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. said.

Alexander's Inc., a New York-based department store chain, pleaded guilty in federal district court in Manhattan to a criminal charge that it had falsified invoices on imported TV sets in 1974 from the General Corp. of Japan. Alexander's was assessed a maximum fine of $5,000 for the customs law violation.

Clayman, who is co-chairman of a union-industry coalition to preserve the American TV production industry (COMPACT), said that the conviction substantiates what COMPACT has alleged for years.

"This kind of unfair and illegal competition is ruining U.S. industry and throwing American workers out of jobs," Clayman declared.

Federal prosecutors said that Alexander's deceived customs officials about dumping practices by importing TV sets with false invoices to conceal secret rebates it was receiving from the Japanese firm.

Alexander's still faces possible civil penalties for its part in the dumping violations. Customs officials said they would seek more than $200,000 in dumping duties and civil penalties of possibly more than $1 million from Alexander's for 13 shipments of TV sets imported from Japan.

The case against Alexander's grew out of a nationwide investigation by federal grand juries resulting from efforts of the Customs Service and the Treasury Dept. to calculate and collect penalties on Japanese TV sets dumped in the U.S. market since 1971.

Dumping is the practice of selling imported products at prices lower than those in the country of origin. While dumping is not illegal under U.S. law, the government imposes duties to prevent unfair competition with U.S.-made products. The evasion of dumping duties is a crime.

According to government prosecutors, Alexander's falsified invoices showed company payments of $72 per set. But because of its secret rebate, the company actually paid only $47 per set.

COMPACT has repeatedly charged that unfair foreign competition and dumping have caused serious disruption of the U.S. TV production industry, resulting in the loss of thousands of American jobs.

United Ground Crews:

Wage Lag Triggers IAM Airline Strike

Negotiators for the Machinists and United Air Lines met with federal mediators in Washington, D.C., to try to resolve a strike against the nation's largest airline to replenish inflation-drained wages.

The dispute over a new agreement led some 18,600 mechanics and other ground crew workers represented by the IAM to strike the carrier on Mar. 30. The walkout occurred after the workers rejected a tentative contract for the second time.

The National Mediation Board, which mediates labor disputes in the railroad and airline industries, invited the two sides to meet in an attempt to reach a settlement.

The talks were scheduled to begin on Apr. 3 but were delayed a day because the United shutdown made it difficult for some negotiators to get to Washington. Lou Schroeder, president and general chairman of IAM District Council 141 in Burlingame, Calif., heads the union negotiating committee.

Following the second rejection of a tentative settlement in the dispute, the union issued a statement that after six months of bargaining the company had not offered, among other things, an economic package that could help its members keep pace with soaring prices.

"For three years, since their last contract went into effect, United employees have seen their real wages go down," the IAM said in calling the strike. It noted that the workers were angry because Carter Administration programs seem to be putting them further into "economic quicksand" by contributing to price hikes in all areas of the economy.

"For example," the statement said, Carter deregulation schemes have shoved heating oil prices out of sight, and threaten to boost gasoline prices up to $1 a gallon." Meanwhile, it said, United reported profits last year of $300 million, a 237 percent increase over 1977.

The union said the strike was 100 percent effective. United serves 110 cities, carrying about 130,000 passengers a day. The grounding of all daily flights led the airline to lay off a total of 13,300 pilots, attendants and other crew members and to announce cancellation of all operations at least through Easter weekend.

United is the first major airline to take a strike since the industry's mutual aid pact was substantially weakened, effective on Jan. 1 of this year.

Labor Backs Legislation on Refugee Aid

The United States should remain a haven for refugees from totalitarianism, the AFL-CIO urged in a statement to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The committee is considering what the AFL-CIO termed "long overdue" legislation that would authorize admittance of up to 50,000 political refugees a year and set up procedures to assist in resettlement expenses for up to two years. The level of assistance is approximately what is currently being provided under various emergency actions to help Asian refugees.

Experience has shown that unemployment would be only marginally and temporarily increased by the number of refugees likely to be admitted, the AFL-CIO said.

The statement included the resolution recently adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council urging the United States "to press other governments to join in a coordinated effort" to provide a haven for the world's refugees.

Guinan Retiring as Head Of Transport Workers

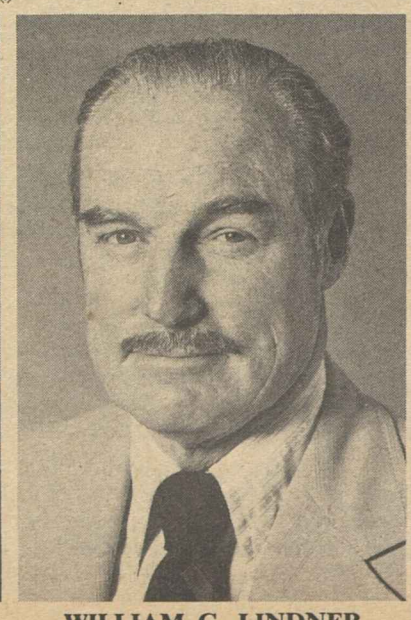
New York—Matthew Guinan will retire as president of the Transport Workers May 1 and under provisions of the TWU constitution he will be succeeded by Executive Vice President William G. Lindner.

Guinan, 68, has headed the TWU since 1966 and has served on the AFL-CIO Executive Council since 1969. He also is a vice president of the Industrial Union Dept. and first vice president of the New York City AFL-CIO.

Lindner, who is 58, has been a TWU member since 1946 and executive vice president for the past year. He will fill out the remaining two and one-half years of Guinan's four-year term.



MATTHEW GUINAN



WILLIAM G. LINDNER

Lindner was president of TWU Local 512 in Chicago from 1946 to 1951 when he was appointed assistant director of the union's Air Transport Division. He was elected a member of the TWU's executive board in 1948 and in 1973 was appointed director of the Air Transport Division. Lindner also has headed the union's education and safety department.

Guinan joined the TWU in 1934 after going to work on New York's Third Avenue Railway. In 1943, Guinan became an organizer for the TWU. He was elected a vice president of Local 100 in New York in 1945 and became the local president in 1949.

He was elected a vice president of the international in 1948 and four years later became the union's first executive vice president. Guinan assumed the additional duties of secretary-treasurer in 1956. He succeeded the late Michael J. Quill as president of the TWU in 1966.

First Line of Defense:

IUD Rally Spurs Support for OSHA

(Continued from Page 1)

posed to hazardous chemicals, radiation, excessive dust levels and cancer-causing agents.

"That is why we in the labor movement must do everything we can to overcome the cost-accounting mentality and see that OSHA remains free to develop as a preventive agent as well as an enforcer of standards for a new generation of workers," Kirkland stressed.

He said that because the President's budget proposal is unrealistically low for OSHA to meet its staffing needs, the AFL-CIO is asking Congress to appropriate funds for an additional 1,150 jobs in the safety agency. These positions would include more than 900 compliance officers and industrial hygienists.

Clayman told the conference that some 500,000 workers are disabled or killed by occupational disease every year, but only 30,000 of them receive workers' compensation benefits under state laws. He also said that there are nearly 3,000 amputations on the job every month.

The record improves where OSHA has the resources to do the job, Clayman said, pointing out that the overall rate for injuries declined 15 percent in manufacturing from 1972 to 1977.

However, job-related fatalities in firms employing 19 or fewer workers increased 88 percent from 1973 to 1977, he noted. One reason for the increase in worker deaths, Clayman suggested, is that "all this clamor" over the impact of OSHA on small business "has made OSHA shy" about conducting thorough inspections of these firms.

Dr. William Nicholson of the Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, said that because of the increase in occupational hazards the focus should be on labor's campaign to expand the role of OSHA rather than fighting for its survival.

Dr. Bingham, head of OSHA, refuted claims that worker safety and health programs are a cause of inflation. Quoting findings of a study by Chase Econometrics, Bingham said that the cost of all government environmental regulation—including worker safety and health programs—will add no more than one-fifth of a percentage point to the rate of inflation through 1983.

Rep. David R. Obey (D-Wis.) urged the labor movement to work closely with environmentalists in the struggle to preserve and improve health and safety programs. If the labor-environmentalist coalition is not effective, Obey said, the fight against the destruction of OSHA could be lost.

Other major speakers at the two-day conference included President A. F. Grospiron, chairman of the AFL-CIO Standing Committee on Safety & Occupational Health; President Lloyd McBride of the Steelworkers, President David J. Fitzmaurice of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, USWA Legislative Director John J. Sheehan and Sheldon Samuels, IUD job safety director.



RENEWED ATTEMPTS to gut federal job safety programs are in full swing on Capitol Hill, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland warned 250 delegates to an Industrial Union Dept. OSHA lobbying conference. Seated are President John J. McNamara, right, of the Firemen & Oilers, and Director George H. R. Taylor of the federation's Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health.

Air Line Pilots Call for Lifting Of Age Ceiling

The Air Line Pilots joined in a drive to overturn the Federal Aviation Administration's rule calling for mandatory retirement of commercial airline pilots at age 60.

Gary Green, director of the union's legal department, told a hearing of the House Select Committee on Aging that experience is the single most important factor in safe flying and that the FAA's "age 60 rule" is obsolete and irrelevant.

In a statement submitted on behalf of ALPA President John J. O'Donnell, Green said that the federal regulation has excluded almost 2,000 pilots from their chosen profession since 1960.

O'Donnell's statement noted, however, that abolishing the rule presents a "difficult, complex, and provocative" challenge because of recent decisions and other developments.

Because of federal court rulings finding age to be a bona fide occupational qualification for pilots under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, invalidation of the FAA regulation "might not itself permit 60-year-old pilots to continue in commercial aviation," the ALPA statement observed.

The union expressed its appreciation, however, for the panel's willingness to investigate the problem of forced retirement in the airline industry.

"Compulsory retirement not only limits the individual's capacity for earnings, but it can constitute personal deprivation for those who resent enforced idleness," ALPA pointed out.

10-Union Brief Backs USWA In Weber Case

A group of 10 unions and union-related organizations filed a joint brief with the Supreme Court supporting the affirmative action program negotiated by the Steelworkers with the Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp.

Joining in the Weber case brief were the State, County & Municipal Employees; Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers (IUE); Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers; Woodworkers; Farmworkers; UAW; National Education Association; Mine Workers; Coalition of Black Unionists and Coalition of Labor Union Women.

The "friend of the court" brief used different legal arguments than the joint brief filed by the Steelworkers and the AFL-CIO but reached the same conclusion supporting the program to train workers for skilled jobs.

Oil Decontrol Assailed As Inflationary Disaster

(Continued from Page 1)

the nation's will to counter OPEC cartel pricing policies.

Anticipating that the President will yield to oil industry pressure and accept proposals for decontrol, White said that "people in this country should know that President Carter is about to make a major blunder—not only a political blunder but an economic blunder. Decontrol would force American consumers to pay upwards of $15 billion a year more for virtually the same amount of oil now produced.

"In addition to this, the price of other energy sources would rise to meet the price of oil, further increasing the cost of decontrol. A move to decontrol can only be seen as a supine acceptance of the control of OPEC (the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) and the major integrated oil companies over our destiny."

White is a former chairman of the Federal Power Commission under President Johnson. The Consumer Energy Council, whose views on decontrol of oil prices were supported at the AFL-CIO Executive Council's February meeting, seeks to get across the consumer's viewpoint on energy policy before Congress, the Administration, the courts, and in other public forums.

At the news conference, the coalition displayed a chartboard of major energy-inflation factors showing that prices for energy over the past seven years outstripped even the high rate of inflation during that period.

Derived from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the figures showed that while the government's consumer price index rose 67.2 percent from February 1972 through February 1979 the price of electricity over the same time span went up 75.8 percent, gasoline rose 101.5 percent, natural gas increased 133.3 percent, and heating oil jumped 185 percent. In striking contrast, workers' wages from 1972 to 1978 rose only 50 percent.

"These figures prove that rising energy prices have already imposed severe burdens on consumers," White declared. "Allowing prices to rise still higher through decontrol is unconscionable."

Clayman, noting that gas pump prices were creeping up even before OPEC's newest price hikes were scheduled to take effect, said that "everybody is simply rushing to get in on the windfall."

"To paraphrase a Churchillian expression," he said, "never have so many been asked to contribute to the opulence of so few."

Controls from a 1975 law have kept the average price of U.S. oil about $5 below the world market price of about $14.50 a barrel. Decontrol would allow domestic oil prices to rise to OPEC levels, with the petroleum companies pocketing the difference.

If decontrol occurs, James Flug of Energy Action warned, the public will manifest its discontent—"especially when they see the first-quarter profits figures of the oil companies."

The coalition has written President Carter expressing its fear that higher decontrolled prices would be "ruinous" and asking to meet with him to discuss "options which we consider to be more effective and more equitable than decontrol."

One major recommendation of the coalition is to limit oil imports to a quota that would gradually decrease. The President could do this by Executive Order, White said. The coalition further suggested that all imports be made through an independent government agency.

"A federal fuels corporation should be established to exploit vigorously federally owned oil, gas, and coal deposits, and to provide a yardstick against which to measure the performance of the energy industry," White added.

GOP Gains Seat In House Elections

Republicans picked up a net gain of one House seat with two victories in elections that also saw Chicago elect its first woman mayor. The GOP gain left House Democrats with a 276-159 majority.

The new representatives will be Republicans William Royer of California and Tom Petri of Wisconsin. Royer defeated COPE-endorsed Democrat Joe Holsinger for the seat formerly held by Rep. Leo Ryan, who was killed in Guyana. Petri held for the GOP the Wisconsin seat vacated by the death of Rep. William Steiger.

In Chicago, Democrat Jane Byrne was elected mayor with more than 671,000 votes, or 82.1 percent.

IBEW Members Work To Ease Radiation Risk

Middletown, Pa.—Trade union members employed at the stricken Three Mile Island nuclear power plant have been using their skills to minimize radiation exposure in the general area, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers reports.

IBEW President Charles Pillard has assigned two additional representatives to the area to work with local union members and officials of Metropolitan Edison which operates the plant.

IBEW Local 563 represents the 300 workers in the bargaining unit at Three Mile Island working at the two nuclear reactor units.

The IBEW said that utility spokesmen confirmed that three technical overexposures to radiation occurred during emergency operations to contain the accident at the reactor, but said there should be no increased health risk to the exposed individuals from this exposure. A technical overexposure is one which exceeds the quarterly limit of 3 rem. A worker can receive on the average an annual exposure of 5 rem over his entire working life without undue health effects, the union said.

Local IBEW officials reported that members at the utility were working long hours under trying conditions. Many of them live close to the Three Mile Island station. They and their families remained in the area as the work of containing the accident continued.

The union said the problem at the plant indicated that the emergency core cooling system works and that extremely conservative measures are being followed to assure public safety.

Pillard observed that the worsening domestic energy situation makes it imperative that electrical energy supplies be under domestic control and that only two technologies are presently available to generate the vital electrical energy required for national use

"Coal is an extremely dirty fuel with many known health hazards associated with its use. Nuclear fuel has hazards associated with it. There is no such thing as a risk-free society," he said.

Carter Backs Curbs On 'Lie Detector' Use

(Continued from Page 1)

to view and copy credit and investigative reports about them.

An accompanying measure would establish privacy protections for medical records and assure individuals access to their own medical records. It also would make it illegal to collect medical information under false pretenses.

In the area of worker safeguards Carter urged that Congress enact a bill reintroduced this year by Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) that would prohibit employers from requiring workers to submit to polygraph tests.

The bill would limit the use of the so-called lie detectors to law enforcement agencies. Violations of the proposed law could result in a one-year prison term, a $1,000 fine and civil penalties up to $10,000. A similar measure prohibiting employers use of polygraphs has been introduced in the House.

Sixteen states currently have laws restricting the use of the polygraph. Even so, employers have been making wider use of various psychological examinations and voice stress analyzers.

Although supporting the restriction on the use of "lie detectors" by employers, Carter said he agreed with the privacy commission's recommendations against federal legislation dealing with employment records. He urged that employers develop voluntary standards on keeping their workers' records private.

In another area, Carter urged passage of legislation that would overturn a Supreme Court decision upholding the authority of police to make unannounced searches of newspaper offices.

The OSHA Equation

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND WORKERS die each year from occupational illnesses. Eight thousand die in preventable industrial accidents. More than 2.5 million are injured or incapacitated by such accidents.

Health costs and compensation costs go up every year because we have been treating illness after it appears and accidents after they happen. The huge dimensions of this problem become clear when you consider that 50 million American workers have been exposed to toxic substances of one kind or another in the past; 22 million are being exposed to them today.

The cynics in government and in business scream endlessly about the dollar costs of complying with OSHA standards. But they never complete the equation.

They never notice how much the worker and his family pay in lost earning power, how much the public pays in added health care costs and worker compensation. They never compute the benefits and savings to be achieved by protecting workers.

They don't count added production, reduced absenteeism, workforce stability, lower compensation claims and insurance claims and fewer lawsuits.

These represent real benefits, real savings that far outweigh the cost of compliance with OSHA standards.

—From an address by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to the IUD conference on OSHA.

Energy and Risk

THERE IS NO WAY, unfortunately, to generate electricity without risk. Good engineering and wise regulation can reduce that risk, but never to zero.

Hydroelectric plants are generally the safest of all the possibilities, but even dams have been known to burst. Solar technology is available for heating bath water. But generating power from sunshine, on a commercial scale, is decades in the future.

Nearly one half of the nation's electricity comes from coal-fired generators, and the process of burning coal inevitably puts highly toxic gases into the air that we breathe. A coal furnace represents a substantially greater threat to public health than a uranium reactor of the same size.

It would be sadly ironic if the only effect of the accident at Three Mile Island were to shift American utilities away from uranium and more heavily than ever onto coal.

Since there are no risk-free solutions, the most sensible course is to continue to rely on a variety of different sources of power, including nuclear—and to keep developing them slowly and cautiously. But if the development of nuclear power is to proceed slowly and cautiously, two things must happen.

One is that the need for power must be limited, since the faster Americans increase their demand for additional electricity, the harder it will be to remain prudent.

The other thing that must happen if nuclear power is to be developed at all is that the public alarm verging on hysteria concerning the dangers be taken account of and honestly answered. That is why the explanations of the Three Mile Island accident will have to be exceedingly thorough, persuasive and public.

—The Washington Post.

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This Year's Fashion



Illegal Aliens Exploited:

Garment Union Ferreting Out New Generation of Sweatshops

By Gus Tyler

THE LAW SAYS that they are to be paid at least $2.90 an hour but they are lucky to get $2.

The law says that they should get compensation if injured on the job, but their employers do not contribute to the compensation fund.

The law says that if they work more than 40 hours a week they shall get overtime pay, but they work 60 and 70 hours a week with no extra pay.

The law outlaws homework, but they carry their chores home at the end of the day to return them early next morning.

The law says that children shall not be employed if they are not of legal age. But pre-teenagers are put to work in dirty, dank, diseased firetraps.

These sick and sickening circumstances—a mocking echo of the sad sweatshops of yesterday—prevail widely in thousands of factories in our country today, in tiny towns and in such sophisticated cities as New York and San Francisco.

A recent study by a special task force of the California Division of Labor Enforcement reveals that the sweatshop is back and that the ancient ailment has grown to pandemic proportions.

Of 3,000 establishments that were investigated, 90 percent were in violation of the labor code.

Of 999 companies investigated, almost all (92 percent) were in violation of the federal minimum wage law. One-third of those investigated were not contributing to the compensation fund and two-thirds were employing under-age kids.

These sorry statistics are repeated outside the apparel industry in broken-down beaneries, Hollywood hostelries, and in myriad mini-factories.

The prime victims of this spreading disease are the ubiquitous illegal aliens in this country, presently estimated at between 7 and 10 million. Most are Hispanic, but there are many Chinese, French Canadians, Portuguese, Greeks.

They are grabbed up by rapacious employers who offer as little as possible and demand as much as possible, knowing full well that there will be little resistance.

The "undocumented workers" are terrorized into silence by the threat of deportation. For several years, the Ladies' Garment Workers Union which won worldwide fame earlier in this century for its crusade against the sweatshops, has been warring against the recrudescence of industrial peonage in our time. But the union has found that it must use new tactics with the present generation of immigrants.

In the early 1900s, the immigrants were here legally and could not be bullied by the deportation device. Indeed, that generation of newcomers initiated and built the union. But the current immigrants are heavily "illegal" and fearful even to whisper the word "union," let alone join one and strike.

The Garment Workers Union has, therefore, decided to set forth on its second crusade against the sweatshop by working for new legislation and, more importantly, by seeing to it that the law—present and future—is enforced.

Right now, enforcement is either non-existent or poor. Money is not allowed for inspectors or prosecutors. When the union points to a violator, DAs explain that they lack staff to bring the perpetrator to justice.

To get action, the union is thinking of setting up roving committees to ferret out the culprits and of engaging "private DAs" to prosecute violators. The union intends to be tough with elected officials who are insensitive to the mounting menace.

These are but a few of the weapons that the union is amassing to renew a war it had won some 50 years ago.

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Oil Price Decontrol Would Be 'Ruinous'

We are writing to convey to you our grave concern about the very serious consequences that decontrolling crude oil will have, no matter whether decontrol is impemented at once or gradually.

Inflation is running at double-digit rates, imposing severe hardships on workers who are being asked to hold their wage increases to 7 percent. Current high prices for gasoline and home heating oil have already placed a substantial burden on poor families.

Even without decontrol, energy prices will continue to rise sharply. . . . We fear that higher decontrolled prices would be ruinous.

—Letter to President Carter from the Consumer Energy Council of America.

Corporate Concentration:

Big Oil Tightens Stranglehold On Energy Pricing Policies

The following is excerpted from an address by Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride to a meeting of the Citizen-Labor Energy Coalition.

WE ARE ALL PAINFULLY AWARE of the noncompetitive nature of the international energy market. The OPEC cartel and its blatant administered pricing policies have taught each of us the fundamentals of the differences between a free, competitive market and an oligopolistic stranglehold.

We are all also vaguely aware of the mammoth size of the major domestic oil companies. But most of us are not aware of the incredible extent to which these domestic giants go out of their way to avoid competition.

The high degree of their vertical concentration is one dimension of the problem. Each of the major producers not only pumps the oil out of the ground, but also refines it, transports it, and retails it. Hence, there is no opening for competitive forces at the various steps in the production/distribution chain, and, left uncontrolled, no downward pressure on prices.

But vertical integration is only part of the story. The energy market is also becoming disturbingly concentrated horizontally as well. The same companies own competing forms of energy. This is not surprising in the area of natural gas and oil, where the two are normally found together in the ground. And indeed, eight of the top natural gas producers are also top oil producers: Exxon, Texaco, Standard of Indiana, Standard of California, Mobil, Gulf, Shell and Arco.

The linkage is not so natural, however, with other energy forms in which the oil companies have major interests—coal, uranium, geothermal and solar. This conglomerization of oil giants across the energy spectrum is heading toward a situation in which we will have no way out of being totally at their mercy for our supplies of every kind of energy.

Not only does this mean that there is no price competition among the different energy forms, but it also means that the oil companies will be the ones shaping our energy policies, not consumers and not public policy makers. We can make all the noise we want, but unless this trend toward concentration is arrested, all the real decisions are going to be made by the corporate giants who own all the conceivable options. And you can guess how much their decisions will reflect the social needs that this coalition is concerned about.

The vertical and horizontal concentration, at least, is relatively easy to identify and thus, hopefully, relatively easy to control. What is perhaps more frightening is the phenomenon of interlocking directorships. This practice and its effects are harder to spot, more subtle, but quite possibly more profound in long-range impact. It is a phenomenon that is being discovered throughout the corporate fiber of our economy, but, some think, is particularly prevalent in the energy sector.

It is a practice in which the same entity, usually a financial institution, is represented on the boards of directors of competing firms. For instance, Chase Manhattan has executive members on the boards of Exxon, Marathon, Shell and Standard of Indiana. Or, as another example, Chemical Bank is represented on the boards of Exxon, Marathon, Mobil, Shell and Texaco.

The anti-competitive implications of these types of interlocks are bad enough in a normal commercial setting. But add the dimensions of horizontal and vertical concentration, and one gets the feeling that we are bogged down in a quagmire of competitive lethargy that may take years to unravel, let alone redirect so that energy policies can reflect social needs.

The concentration, the boardroom ties, the sum of anti-competitive procedures and characteristics of the energy industry lend themselves to a mindset within the industry which represents a veritable conspiracy against the public good.

As one writer put it, "within the empire of oil, the cardinal principle in the search for increased profits and security is control over price. Vigilance against competition and abundance can never never be slackened."

It is our task to superimpose the dimension of public good over this private world order we find in the energy industry.

Steelworkers Cite Gains:

Industrial Pollution Cleanup Provides Economic Dividends

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS adopted by Congress over the last several years have been generally beneficial, without the adverse economic impact on the steel and smelting industries that critics had feared, Legislative Director John J. Sheehan of the Steelworkers declared.

Sheehan said that more jobs have been created than lost as a result of pollution abatement requirements. He said that a new industry has grown out of the drive to curb air and water pollution, both in the manufacture, installation and operation of abatement equipment, and sewage and other treatment facilities.

The anti-pollution emphasis should now shift from enactment of new protective legislation to implementation of the laws and regulations that are already on the books, Sheehan declared. He said that the drive for "tougher enforcement is really a response from our own union membership, the people who work in the plants and live in the communities. They know that the corporation can meet its obligations" and remain competitive, he stressed.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Sheehan said that industry warnings of plant shutdowns, if they were forced to clean up, haven't been borne out. "We don't know of any single facility that has had to shut down because of environmental cleanup," he asserted. He said that such warnings were "economic blackmail" from which workers should be protected.

The real basis for threatening a shutdown is obsolescence of a particular facility, not that the company is being required to clean up the operation, Sheehan said. He added that when a company refuses to comply with the laws that is "an early warning sign that it plans to discontinue production" because the plant or facility is outmoded.

"The only answer to market erosion, " he said, "is a modernized facility," which means "a high degree of productivity" and the abatement equipment that will make the plant a "safe and healthful workplace."

Reporters questioning Sheehan on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Gregory Pease of the Bureau of National Affairs, and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. Labor News Conference is broadcast over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Full Measure of Quality!



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

HEALTH CARE COSTS, led by the soaring price of hospitalization, have been out of control for more than a decade. Some 40 percent of the estimated $206 billion the American people will pay for health care in 1979—$60 billion more than the total spent just 10 years ago—will go to cover the cost of hospital stays.

The time has come, almost everyone agrees, to do something about it. A partial solution proposed by President Carter is the Hospital Cost Containment Act, legislation which, while not a frontal assault on the overall health care cost crisis, would at least attack a major contributor to that crisis.

Health care costs, especially those stemming from hospitalization, have heavily contributed to today's inflation. If prices of the four major consumer expenditures—health care, food, fuel and housing—had risen at the same lower rate as other goods and services over the past four years, the average increase in the consumer price index from 1975 to 1978 would have been 5.8 percent annually, rather than 7.2 percent.

The hospital industry acknowledges that something is wrong, and has launched a "voluntary effort" to head off government-imposed mandatory controls. The American Hospital Association says legislation isn't necessary because the industry can take care of the problem itself and claims it voluntarily achieved a 2.8 percent drop in hospital cost increases from 1977 to 1978, from 15.6 percent down to 12.8 percent.

But the Carter Administration says a purely voluntary effort just won't work. Joseph Califano, Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare, questions the industry's cost-cutting claims. He says that much of the credit for whatever "voluntary" reductions actually have been achieved must go to the success of mandatory cost reduction plans enacted by several of the states. He also argues that "the very prospect" of mandatory federal controls debated by the last Congress has spurred the industry into whatever action has been taken.

Besides, says Califano, the industry's voluntary "goals" bear no relationship to the underlying factors affecting hospital costs. And "voluntary effort" or not, Califano notes, hospital inflation continues to rise at a higher rate than any other sector of the economy.

CARTER'S HOSPITAL COST Containment Act is similar to a measure put before Congress last year—a bill that was approved in the Senate but died in a House committee by one vote following heavy lobbying by the AHA and the American Medical Association. The 1979 plan, which the Administration thinks will pass this time around, would establish an annual goal—9.7 percent initially—for the rate of hospital cost increases. That figure would reflect actual increases in the price of goods and services hospitals use, changes in patient population, and improvements in hospital services.

In the event the hospital industry does not, as a whole, meet the national goal, mandatory reimbursement limits on individual hospitals would go into effect next Jan. 1.

President Carter says the plan would save the average American family of four $138 a year—and the federal government a total of $53 billion—by 1984. The plan, Carter says, is "one of the most critical anti-inflation measures" Congress will consider this year.

Labor unions, consumer groups and others concerned with soaring inflation generally, and health care costs in particular, see Carter's proposal as a positive step forward. But many are concerned that approval of the plan would take the heat off congressional support of a comprehensive national health insurance plan which would bring quality health care to all Americans.

Still, however limited and however far it may be from a genuine national health insurance program, the hospital cost containment bill must be viewed as a necessary and positive step.

For the nation, the inflationary push of hospital costs demands that government act soon to control some of the most wasteful and extravagant practices of the health industry.



MORE POSITIVE economic benefits have flowed from environmental protections than the negative impact critics had warned would result, Steelworkers Legislative Director John J. Sheehan, center, said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Gregory Pease, left, of the Bureau of National Affairs and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired nationwide on Mutual radio.

Latest Surge In Prices Led By Food, Fuel

(Continued from Page 1)

Finished goods prices in March were 10.4 percent higher than a year earlier. Finished consumer foods were up 12.8 percent while consumer goods other than food were up 10.2 percent, and industrial equipment rose 8.6 percent.

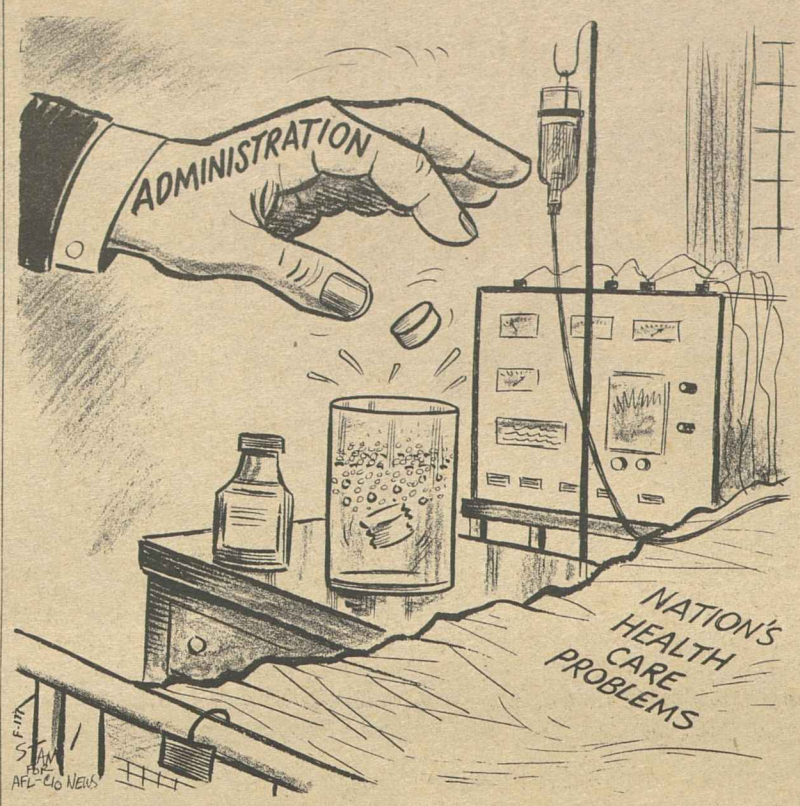
About the only bright spot in the BLS report was the rise of only two-tenths of 1 percent in prices of crude foodstuffs, down sharply from the 3.8 percent increase the month before.

Energy prices rose substantially in March. Gasoline prices increased 2.9 percent, an annual rate of 34.8 percent; kerosene went up 4.5 percent, or 54 percent on an annual basis, and heating oil jumped 5.3 percent, or 63.6 percent annually. Decontrol of domestic oil prices, which President Carter was expected to announce, will raise gasoline and oil prices even higher in the months ahead.

The 1.2 percent rise in finished consumer foods last month marked the sixth time in the last seven months that such goods showed an increase of more than 1 percent. Besides meat and eggs, there were higher increases for milled rice, confectionery end products, whole black pepper, fresh fruits, and miscellaneous processed foods. On the other hand, prices were lower for vegetable oil end products, roasted coffee, and processed poultry.

Consumer non-durables other than food increased 1.4 percent in March.

Fizzle



Rail Clerks Authorize Strike on Rock Island

Members of the Railway & Airline Clerks, frustrated over management's refusal to deal fairly with them in contract negotiations, authorized a strike against the Rock Island Railroad.

"It's a simple matter of equity," BRAC President Fred J. Kroll said. "We are asking for retroactive pay covering the period from Jan. 1, 1978, to date. . . . Several unions that reached agreement with the Rock Island early in 1978 received retroactive pay.

"BRAC is one of the largest unions representing employees of the Rock Island," Kroll said. "We have been patient and we have been fair. Now, the railroad wants our workers to give up approximately $1,200 each in retroactive pay."

BRAC contracts cover over 1,800 Rock Island employees. Negotiations on a new agreement have gone on for about a year, with assistance from the National Mediation Board, the federal agency that mediates labor disputes in the railroad and airline industries.

The strike authorization vote does not free the union to strike the carrier at this time. It does, however, set in motion the complicated procedure under the Railway Labor Act that could eventually pave the way for a strike.

The Rock Island, a major carrier operating between Chicago and Texas and throughout the Midwest and Southwest, withdrew from bargaining on a national contract after accepting health and welfare provisions. As a result, the union and the company are negotiating simultaneously on pay and other provisions contained in the national pact and on a contract covering local issues.

While pay retroactivity is the key issue, other unresolved items include holiday pay and a proposal by the railroad to abolish jobs that have to do with the safe operation of trains, Kroll reported.

The railroad has refused to consider arbitration, or any reasonable proposal that would provide BRAC members with the retroactive wages they seek, although other employees of the line have been the beneficiaries of such pay increases, Kroll pointed out.

"This refusal to bargain in good faith on retroactive pay adjustments and other matters has left BRAC members no choice," he concluded.

Senate Vote to Block Rigid Limit for Budget

By a slim 46-44 vote, the Senate tabled and thus killed a proposal by Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) that would have required future federal budgets to be balanced, regardless of the state of the economy, unless three-fifths of both the House and Senate voted otherwise. In effect, it would have allowed a minority to set a ceiling on government programs.

Votes to table the Dole amendment were in accord with labor's position.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 46

Baucus (Mont.)	Hart (Colo.)	Nelson (Wis.)
Bayh (Ind.)	Inouye (Hawaii)	Nunn (Ga.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Jackson (Wash.)	Pell (R.I.)
Bradley (N.J.)	Johnston (La.)	Pryor (Ark.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Randolph (W. Va.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Leahy (Vt.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Byrd, R. (W. Va.)	Levin (Mo.)	Riegle (Mich.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Long (La.)	Sarbanes (Md.)
Chiles (Fla.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Sasser (Tenn.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Matsunaga (Hawaii)	Stennis (Miss.)
Durkin (N.H.)	McGovern (S.D.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Exon (Neb.)	Melcher (Mont.)	Stewart (Ala.)
Ford (Ky.)	Metzenbaum (Ohio)	Talmadge (Ga.)
Glenn (Ohio)	Morgan (N.C.)	Tsongas (Mass.)
Gravel (Alaska)	Moynihan (N.Y.)	Williams (N.J.)
	Muskie (Me.)	

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 9

Boren (Okla.)	DeConcini (Ariz.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Byrd, H. (Va.)	Heflin (Ala.)	Stone (Fla.)
Church (Ida.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Zorinsky (Neb.)

Republicans 35

Armstrong (Colo.)	Goldwater (Ariz.)	Packwood (Ore.)
Baker (Tenn.)	Hatch (Utah)	Roth (Del.)
Bellmon (Okla.)	Hatfield (Ore.)	Schmitt (N.M.)
Boschwitz (Minn.)	Hayakawa (Calif.)	Schweiker (Pa.)
Chafee (R.I.)	Helms (N.C.)	Simpson (Wyo.)
Cochran (Miss.)	Humphrey (N.H.)	Stafford (Vt.)
Cohen (Me.)	Javits (N.Y.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Danforth (Mo.)	Jepsen (Iowa)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Dole (Kan.)	Lugar (Ind.)	Tower (Tex.)
Domenici (N.M.)	Mathias (Md.)	Wallop (Wyo.)
Durenberger (Minn.)	McClure (Ida.)	Warner (Va.)
Garn (Utah)		Young (N.D.)

Absent: Biden (D-Del.), Culver (D-Iowa), Eagleton (D-Mo.), Heinz (R-Pa.), Huddleston (D-Ky.), Kassebaum (R-Kan.), Laxalt (R-Nev.), Percy (R-Ill.), Pressler (R-S.D.), Weicker (R-Conn.).

John Carney Heads USWA Education Dept.

Pittsburgh — John Carney has been appointed education director of the Steelworkers to succeed George Butsika, who retired after 20 years service with the USWA.

Carney, a former AFL-CIO community services representative in New York, joined the USWA education department in 1967. He became assistant director of the department last year.

Anti-Recession Measure:

Standby Aid Asked For Public Works

The AFL-CIO and its building trades affiliates urged Congress to set up a standby accelerated public works program that would be triggered by recession levels of unemployment.

Such a program generated hundreds of thousands of jobs to help pull the nation out of the last recession, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. F. Howard McGuigan testified. It would have been an even more effective economic stimulus if it had been started earlier, he said.

McGuigan was joined by legislative directors of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., the Laborers and the Operating Engineers at a House Public Works subcommittee hearing on a bill to extend for three years the Local Public Works & Economic Development Act.

The legislation, which otherwise will expire this year, has provided federal funds for projects to help localities with high unemployment overcome obstacles to economic growth. Federal grants, supplemented by local and state funds, have been used for job-generating projects as diverse as revitalizing central city business districts, building industrial parks and constructing vocational schools.

The Administration is supporting the bill to continue the program authorization at present levels and McGuigan urged Congress to follow through with full funding. In the past, he said, "these programs have been consistently and substantially underfunded."

McGuigan asked Congress to authorize $4 billion for a separate standby program, with half the funds available if the unemployment rate averages 6 percent over a three-month period and the remainder to be made available if the jobless rate reaches 6.5 percent.

"Such rates of joblessness have occurred only in recessions, and during the slow and lagging recovery from the last deep recession," he noted.

Dan Mundy, testifying for the Building & Construction Trades Dept., said the anti-recession local public works program which requires that approved projects be started within 90 days has proved its ability to put people to work doing jobs that need to be done quickly enough to help the economy when it most needs it.

Jack Curran of the Laborers and John Brown of the Operating Engineers stressed the extreme vulnerability of the construction industry to economic downturns.

"A mild recession for the economy as a whole," Curran testified, holds the threat of "another deep depression for the construction industry."

McGuigan noted that the first attempts to establish an accelerated public works program were vetoed by former President Ford and the program didn't get under way until a third presidential veto was overridden "almost three years from the 'official' start of the recession," he said.

The last of the funds will be used up this year and McGuigan said the return on the $6 billion program has been badly-needed construction and repairs that otherwise would not have been done plus an estimated 110,000 direct on-site jobs, 66,000 jobs in firms providing building materials and supplies and an estimated 249,000 other jobs as the ripple effect of the paychecks spread through the economy.

Labor Studies Center Lists April Schedule

Four training institutes for full-time union officers and staff members are being offered during April by the George Meany Center for Labor Studies at Silver Spring, Md. The schedule:

Women Workers—Subjects include becoming more effective in the union, contract language important to women, laws affecting women and leadership skills, including public speaking. From 4 p.m., Sunday, Apr. 1 to Friday, Apr. 6.

Advanced Arbitration—A review of current issues and the latest trends in arbitration decisions. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 1, to Friday, Apr. 6.

Civil Rights—An institute on effective union action in civil rights given in cooperation with the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 8, to Friday, Apr. 12.

Public Communications—A workshop for public employee union representatives presented in cooperation with the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. Topics will include the use of television and radio to advance union programs and increasing news coverage in both the newspaper and electronic media. From 4 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 22 to Friday, Apr. 7.

AFL-CIO unions and departments will also use the campus during April for their own training programs. Community Services, Apr. 16-18; Government Employees, Apr. 16-18; Legal Services, Apr. 19-21; Railway Employees, Apr. 22-27; Allied Industrial Workers, Apr. 29-May 4; and Professional Air Traffic Controllers, Apr. 1-6; Apr. 8-13; Apr. 22-27, and Apr. 29-May 4.

The American Institute for Free Labor Development will bring 40 trade union leaders from Central and South American countries to the campus on Apr. 16 for five weeks of training in the techniques of organization.

Further information on these and other labor studies programs may be obtained from Fred K. Hoehler, executive director, George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Telephone 301/431-6400.

For 4 Million Workers:

Wage Catch-Up Goal Of 1979 Bargaining

Collective bargaining in 1979 is a story of catch-up, and it is a big year, an article in the American Federationist points out.

Some 4 million workers are covered by contracts that expire or have wage reopener provisions during 1979, and for most this year's negotiations will seek to narrow the gap between declining buying power and the current red-hot inflation rate, the article in the AFL-CIO's monthly magazine observes.

Brad Witt, a research assistant in the federation's Dept. of Research, notes in the article that the number of workers affected by this year's major contract bargaining is the most in three years, while the inflation rate of 9 percent in calendar year 1978 was the second highest in the past 31 years.

Furthermore, the early months of 1979 have provided no letup in the runaway inflation. In January and February, the cost of living crossed over into the double-digit annual range. As of December 1978, workers found their average purchasing power had deteriorated 3.4 percent as a result of last year's 9 percent inflation rate.

Cost-of-living allowances provide some measure of protection against soaring prices. Thus, improvement in those clauses will continue to be one of the main features of collective bargaining this year, Witt observes. Nearly 60 percent of all workers receive some cost-of-living protection, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Already concluded bargaining provided new contracts for some 43,000 workers in the petroleum industry, members of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers Union. The unaffiliated Teamsters are now engaged in negotiations with the trucking industry covering half a million workers, negotiations that have just been interrupted by a strike and lockout.

Also up for renewal this sping are contracts between the Rubber Workers and the Big Four companies of the rubber industry, pacts covering some 177,000 members of the Ladies' Garment Workers in the Northeast, and agreements between 14 unions and General Electric and Westinghouse covering 137,000 workers.

Later in the year, contract renewals will be negotiated in the meatpacking, farm equipment, automobile, airline, food, communications, shipbuilding, mining, construction, and longshoring industries.

If 1978 bargaining is any indication, union negotiators will continue to seek better fringe benefits while trying to bring wages into line with price levels, the article observes. One area that received particular emphasis last year was improved pensions for future retirees.

"In an attempt to limit the number of years a union member must work in order to receive a pension, more unions are negotiating '30 years and out' clauses," Witt says. Such provisions allow workers to retire after 30 years of service regardless of age.

A continuing trend in last year's bargaining was toward reduction of working time through a shorter workweek, longer vacations and more holidays. These gains not only offer the union member more leisure time, but also tend to lower the unemployment rate by spreading the work load.

Provisions for funeral leave were also liberalized by a number of agreements negotiated in 1978, Witt's survey shows.

Income, working conditions, and job protection provisions were other areas of 1978 collective bargaining advances, the author notes.

Educational and training benefits for union members were established under many 1978 contracts. And prepaid legal services were features of other agreements, such as a Retail Clerks' contract in New Jersey where the plan is financed by an employer contribution of $5 per month per employee.



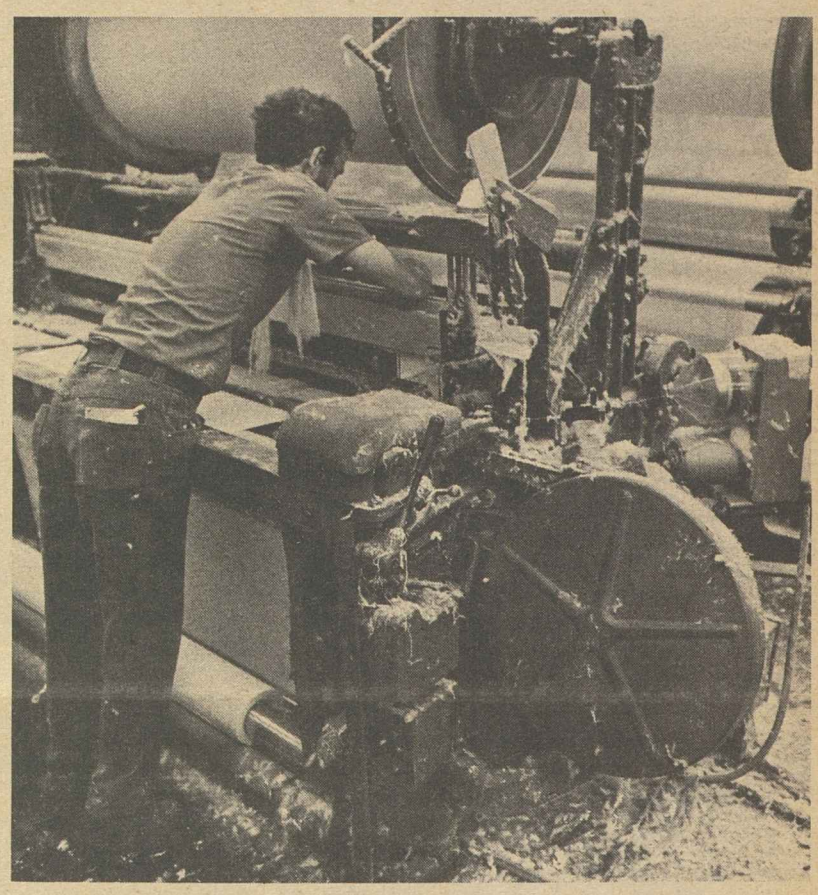


PHOTO DOCUMENTARY on southern textile workers is on exhibition at Gallery 1199 in the New York headquarters of the Hospital & Health Care Division of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union. The photographs by Earl Dotter, formerly on the staff of the Mine Workers Journal, are part of 1199's Bread and Roses cultural project and will be exhibited through Apr. 27. The pictures also appear in a newly published book by Mimi Conway, titled Rise Gonna Rise: A Portrait of Southern Textile Workers. The book describes the struggle of the workers to improve their wages and job security and to correct safety and health hazards through unionization and community support groups. It also focuses on the thousands of textile mill workers suffering from brown lung disease resulting from inhaling excessive levels of cotton dust.

Unions Win Supreme Court Tests On Jobless Aid, City Printing Rule

Printing done for New York City will continue to carry the union label and Pennsylvania employers who initiate a labor dispute will still be taxed for unemployment compensation payments to their workers.

These decisions by lower courts, upholding the union position, became final as the Supreme Court turned down employer petitions for review.

The New York City case involved a challenge to the 45-year-old union-label policy that was adopted during the administration of Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia. It limits bidding on municipal printing contracts to firms employing union labor and specifies that forms printed for city use must carry the union label.

Two non-union printing firms challenged the constitutionality of the requirement and won an initial verdict in federal district court. But the U.S. 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals, whose decision is now final, reversed the ruling and upheld the city policy.

The appellate court noted that the city's policy was adopted "in the depths of the depression" out of a desire to protect the conditions of printing trades workers. The court found it "entirely rational" that the city's officials would have concluded that the public interest would be served by giving preference to union shops.

Both federal and state labor laws, the court noted, proclaim the desirability of collective bargaining in the public interest. And the volume of city printing work, the appellate court noted, is not so large a portion of the total printing done in the New York area that it could have "even an indirect coercive effect" on the right of workers not to join a union.

As to whether the depression-adopted city policy is still necessary, the appellate judges said that is a legislative decision and not for the courts to judge.

The Allied Printing Trades Council of Greater New York took part in the case, joining in the city's defense of the union-label policy.

In the Pennsylvania case, the dispute was over the state's unemployment compensation law and the interpretation of the law by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

The U.S. Supreme Court recently upheld the validity of a New York state law allowing unemployment benefits to be paid to strikers after a dispute has continued for eight weeks. The court's decision made clear that Congress deliberately chose to give states considerable leeway in shaping their unemployment insurance laws.

Pennsylvania's law does not qualify strikers for benefits under most circumstances. But it allows unemployment payments, without any extra waiting period, to workers idled by a labor dispute resulting from an employer lockout.

In the case that reached the courts, the Sun Oil Co. challenged the assessment of $1.9 million in unemployment insurance payroll taxes to compensate the state's fund for unemployment benefits paid to some 1,700 employees of the firm's Marcus Hook refinery during a three-month dispute.

The employees, members of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, walked out when the company refused to extend a collective bargaining agreement while negotiations continued for a new contract and unilaterally imposed the changes it had been unable to obtain in bargaining.

A state review board and then the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that the company's provocative actions amounted to a lockout and rejected Sun Oil's constitutional challenge.

The U.S. Supreme Court's refusal of review closed the case.

More Funds Supported For Key Job Programs

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to reject cuts in public service jobs and to appropriate more money than the Administration has budgeted for other "people-oriented" Labor Dept. programs.

Job programs should be maintained "at least" at present levels, the federation urged a Senate Appropriations subcommittee.

The AFL-CIO statement sought restoration of a $1.5 billion budget slash for Title VI of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA). That's the countercyclical program where the number of temporary, federally-funded public service jobs fluctuates with the condition of the economy. It increases when unemployment is high and drops when the jobless rate improves.

By the Administration's own unemployment forecast, the AFL-CIO noted, Title VI should be funded for 440,000 job slots next year. But the budget allows for only 200,000 such jobs.

The AFL-CIO also pressed for restoration of $200 million slashed from the summer youth jobs program. Such a reduction "would seriously affect opportunities for minority teenagers who have the highest unemployment rates," the federation's statement stressed.

Since the budget was proposed, the AFL-CIO statement noted, the Labor Dept. has indicated that it will "reprogram" some $45 million in funds for national programs, including skill training, outreach and on-the-job programs of unions and other concerned organizations.

The federation suggested that $50 million be earmarked for these programs.

On job safety and health, the AFL-CIO asked an additional $44 million for the Occupational Safety & Health Administration. The federation cited "an urgent need" for more OSHA enforcement staff, "especially because a number of states are about to drop their state enforcement programs" because they can't comply with the requirement that state programs be "as effective" as OSHA's enforcement.

Gilman Udell Joins Fire Fighters' Staff

The Fire Fighters announced the appointment of Gilman A. Udell to the union's legislative staff. Udell, who recently retired as superintendent of the House of Representatives Document Room, will be on the staff of IAFF Legislative Director Harold Schaitberger.

No New Powers:

Wage-Price Council Extended One Year

(Continued from Page 1)

Outlays in this year's budget are estimated at about 22 percent of the GNP. The Senate-added provision would direct the President to bring the percentage down to no more than 21 percent of GNP by the 1981 fiscal year and to a maximum of 20 percent of GNP by Fiscal 1983.

But Proxmire on the Senate floor substantially modified his original proposal so as to specify that the GNP ratio was not intended to interfere with the primary goal of reducing unemployment and allowing the President to come in with a higher percentage of outlays if necessary to be consistent with other national needs.

It was uncertain whether the House would go along with the Senate language or seek a conference to resolve differences between the House and Senate versions.

Both bills would allow the Council on Wage & Price Stability to expand its staff. It is currently operating largely with employees who were "borrowed" from other government agencies.

On another item of legislation, the House accepted intact some ambiguous Senate language dealing with future budget commitments.

The Senate, after rejecting a Republican attempt to mandate future Congresses to a balanced budget unless three-fifths of the House or Senate agree to a deficit, had adopted a compromise that requires both the President and congressional committees to draw up balanced budget "options" that would show how programs would be funded if spending could not exceed federal revenues.

The House, which earlier had beaten a much more rigid budget restriction by only two votes, accepted the Senate provision without a conference.

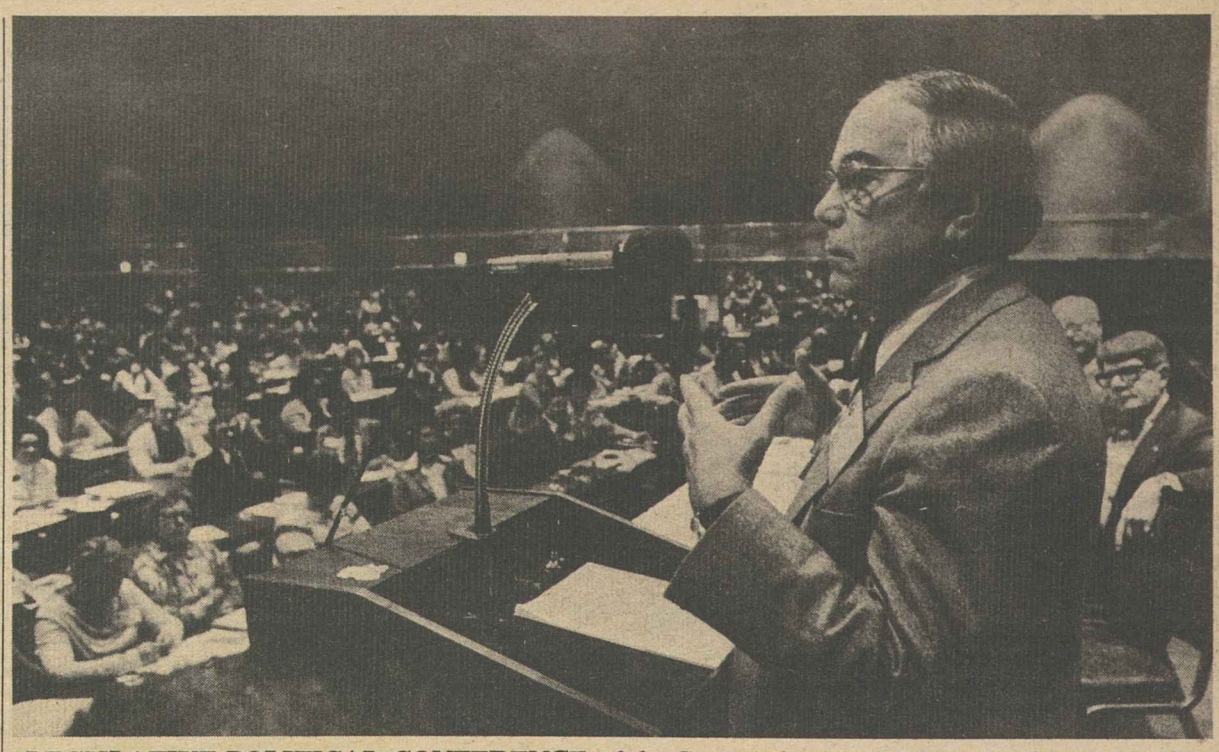
The budget rider was attached to a "must bill' temporarily raising the national debt limit, and House leaders warned that further delay would prevent the government from paying its bills and sending out this month's social security checks. The urgency argument helped muster a 216-160 majority on a procedural vote that prevented the Republicans from offering a more restrictive balanced budget amendment.

Meanwhile, the House Budget Committee may have killed off a major ingredient of President Carter's anti-inflation program in the process of marking up the first budget resolution—a statement of anticipated outlays and revenues that will serve as a guide to congressional decisions.

The committee voted 14-11 to delete from the spending side of the budget estimate any allowance for the "real wage insurance" that the Administration had proposed in the form of tax credits for larger employee groups whose pay and benefits did not rise above the 7 percent guideline. It was intended to cushion them against a rise in living costs of more than 7 percent but not above 10 percent.

The proposal had been criticized as cumbersome to enforce and inequitable to many workers who would be left out, and the House Ways & Means Committee had postponed action on it.

Budget Committee Chairman Robert N. Giaimo (D-Conn.), who wanted to keep the $2.5 billion tax credit in the budget resolution, said the adverse vote "kills all chances" for its enactment this year.



LEGISLATIVE-POLITICAL CONFERENCE of the Communications Workers is opened by CWA President Glenn E. Watts. The weeklong program brough some 600 union members from throughout the nation to Washington for briefings and meetings with their congressional delegations.

Unions Ask Stronger Standards In Workers' Compensation Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

disease optional instead of mandatory.

He said the IUD "is wholeheartedly in agreement" with AFL-CIO testimony that will be presented later in the hearings.

Javits, although a co-sponsor of the new Williams bill, has proposed an amendment to make occupational disease standards mandatory.

McBride, Clayman and UAW Legislative Director Howard Paster, who also testified during the first days of hearings, all termed adoption of the Javits amendment essential, but noted that the bill had other deficiencies as well.

The proposed legislation would set payments for job-related total disability at two-thirds of lost wages, up to a maximum of 150 percent of the statewide average wage. The ceiling should be set at double the statewide average, union witnesses urged.

The extra costs to employers would be "minuscule," Clayman said. But to the workers who would gain by having the benefit ceiling at 200 percent of the state average, it would mean less of a drop in living standards.

McBride welcomed provisions in the bill to bar states from imposing any time or dollar maximum on cash benefits for death or total disability or on medical care for any disability.

But one major deficiency of the new bill, he said, is the lack of an annual adjustment requirement to maintain the value of the benefit payments. The earlier bill required adjustments based on the percentage increase in the average wage in the state. The new version merely requires a study on the subject.

Clayman told the committee of the many disabled workers he has seen trying to get by on benefits of less than $50 a week. "They are the truly forlorn and forgotten in our society," he said. Victims of job accidents, Clayman reminded the panel, "receive no payments for pain and suffering" but only for dollar-and-cents economic loss.

All the witnesses hammered away at the importance of federal standards to assure benefits for disability and death caused by occupational disease.

Nearly half a million workers are affected by occupational illness yearly, including 100,000 whose deaths are attributed to job-related illness, McBride testified. But only 30,000 receive any worker compensation, he said.

Because employers don't have to pay the cost in workers' compensation insurance, he suggested, they are under less pressure to eliminate workplace health hazards.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall's testimony avoided direct comment on the legislation, but noted that seven years after the report by the national commission, "major deficiencies persist" in state compensation laws.

More than 10 million workers are still not covered under state laws, he noted, "mostly low-wage workers — household employees, farm workers and employees of small firms."

A 1975-76 study showed, he said, that 25 percent of persons receiving disability benefits and 40 percent of survivors of workers who died received less than two-thirds of "pre-disability wages" because of benefit ceilings and other state restrictions.

"In 11 states, the benefit maximums for total disability are lower than the poverty-income level for an urban family of four," Marshall testified.

At the request of Williams and Javits, Marshall agreed to have the Labor Dept. staff work with the Senate committee on a task force to look further into workers' compensation issues. The task force would complete its work in 30-45 days, the committee indicated.

Trade associations of insurance firms that write workers' compensation insurance for employers testified in opposition to federal standards legislation. One insurance company witness claimed federal standards would discourage states from improving their programs beyond the federal requirements.

Canadian Labor Opens Massive Election Drive

Ottawa—The Canadian Labor Congress, in conjunction with its affiliated unions and the minority New Democratic Party, has launched a massive campaign to bring before voters the key issues in the federal elections next month.

"Canadian Labor Calling" will be the biggest and most extensive personalized voter education campaign ever devised in the country, CLC President Dennis McDermott said.

"We hope to reach a majority of our 2.3 million members directly in their homes to talk about the real issues that directly affect them and their families," he said.

"The spiraling prices they must face every day with an ever-diminishing pay check, the increasing threat of being laid off, the nightmare of searching for a job when the odds against are 20 to 1. . . . These problems are part of a worker's daily routine. They affect his security, and you can be sure they know whom to point the finger at."

Late last month, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau ended a year's speculation over the date of the next elections by setting May 22 as the day. Trudeau actually had until July 31—five years after the last federal election—to hold the balloting.

Trudeau's Liberal Party, which introduced wage controls to the Canadian economy, has been severely criticized by the CLC. In announcing labor's campaign in support of the New Democratic Party, McDermott reminded workers that the other opposition party, the Progressive-Conservative Party, is an even poorer alternative than the Liberals.

"The Tories invented wage controls. The Liberals merely implemented them," McDermott said. "It's evident that neither the Liberals nor the conservatives has the workers' interests at heart."

McDermott called on Canadian workers to elect New Democratic candidates, pointing out that the NDP is the only party committed to full employment.

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Housing Aid Cutbacks Seen Harming Economy

Federal housing assistance should be expanded rather than curtailed in order to overcome shortages and lessen the risk of an economic collapse, the AFL-CIO urged.

Administration proposals for cutbacks in future commitments to housing would worsen both inflation and unemployment, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter testified. He warned a House subcommittee that the ripple effect would spread through all segments of the economy.

The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that the Administration's request for new spending authority for housing is nearly $7.2 billion below the current services level—the amount that would be needed to continue existing programs.

For rental assistance and direct public housing—the basic housing assistance programs for the poor — the Administration wants Congress to cut the current budget authority for 360,000 subsidized units to 300,000.

Instead of a cutback, Schechter urged, the authorization should be raised to 400,000 units.

His testimony on the Housing & Community Development bill also proposed:

- Continuation of the $245 million authorization level for rehabilitation loans to improve housing in older urban neighborhoods. The Administration bill would drop the funding ceiling to $130 million and Schechter said the reduced authorization would meet only a "minute" part of the nation's need.
- More direct public housing as a long-term investment that will assure a supply of low-income rental housing for the future.
- Support for an Administration proposal to increase the Urban Development Action Grant program, which funds economic development projects to expand jobs in economically depressed areas.

Schechter said the rental vacancy rate is now the lowest in the 24 years that such data has been compiled, and is aggravated by a continuing trend to conversion to high-priced condominiums. That in turn has pushed more families into the home-buying market, but soaring prices and interest rates have pushed up costs far greater than the rise in family incomes.

While a temporary housing pick-up may be expected after the severe winter weather, there are clear signs that a housing construction downturn has started, he said.

"As the year moves along," Schechter warned, "measurable unemployment will develop in residential construction and supplier industries" and younger families especially will be burdened with meeting the heavy costs of repaying high-interest consumer and mortgage loans, thus further cutting down on purchasing power.

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Labor's Price Monitoring To Spotlight Living Costs

Congress Drift Spurs Labor Alert

By David L. Perlman

The AFL-CIO has mobilized its state federations and city central bodies to help stem a conservative drift in Congress that threatens labor's legislative program and endangers "hard-won gains of the past."

Legislative Director Kenneth Young asked union delegations to call on their senators and congressmen during the Easter recess of Congress to demonstrate that the AFL-CIO speaks for a home-state constituency whose views must be taken into account.

The legislative alert focused on six key issues: the federal budget, foreign trade, labor standards, election financing, export restrictions and hospital cost containment.

"Congress is convinced that the American people are in a conservative mood," Young warned. House and Senate members "are hearing daily from business representatives and other conservatives" and "the silence of working people is taken as agreement."

Without a strong grassroots lobbying effort, he stressed, "the 96th Congress will surely ignore the needs of working people."

There are some of the points made in the legislative issues alert:

Federal Budget — The budget resolution that the Senate will consider during the week of April 23 and the House will take up the following week "is of critical importance since it sets the spending levels for all federal programs." The House Budget Committee has proposed spending ceilings "below the President's inadequate proposals" and the Senate committee has recommended "even deeper cuts."

In the House, the AFL-CIO is urging support for a human needs package amendment restoring funds for a number of needed programs including job creation, health, education, urban aid, rural housing and standby public works. The total "outlays" affecting the budget will be under $1 billion.

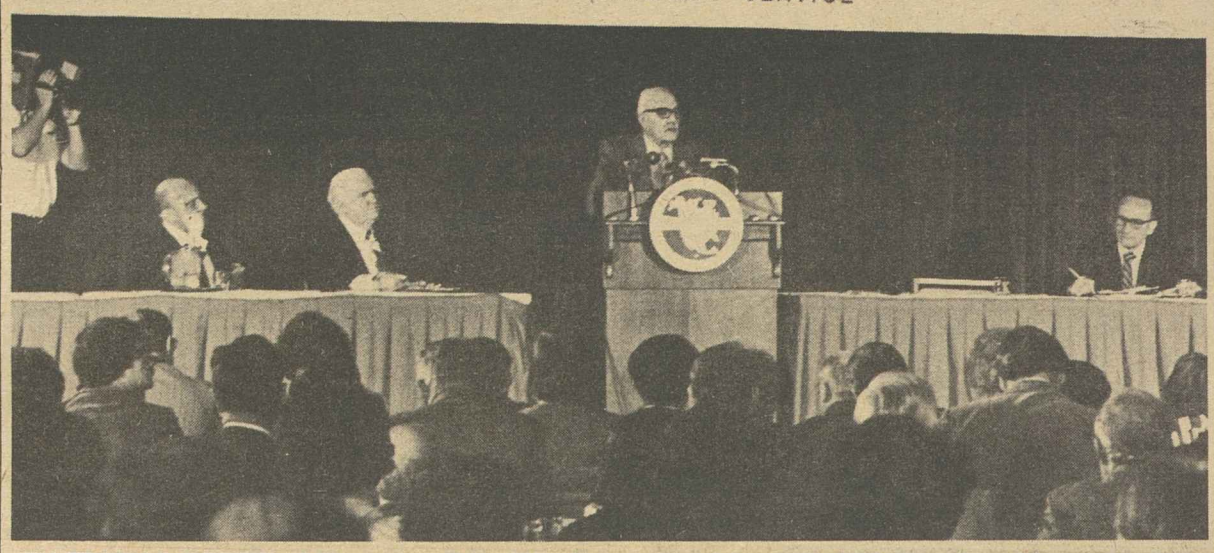
In the Senate, the goal will be increased funds for the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act and other social programs. "Unless more funds are provided for these programs, local governments will either have to reduce services or raise taxes," the Dept. of Legislation noted.

Foreign Trade: Multilateral trade negotiations agreements reached at Geneva will be submitted to Congress in May in the form of "codes" that will require implementing legislation, and the AFL-CIO wants Congress to give

(Continued from Page 2)

BRING PRICES DOWN !!!

AN AFL-CIO COMMUNITY SERVICE



NATIONAL SCOPE of Operation Price Watch is outlined by AFL-CIO President Meany for 250 union representatives at a conference sponsored by the federation's Dept. of Community Services. On the dais from left are Community Services Director Leo Perlis, AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall and Chairman Alfred E. Kahn of the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability.

To Provide Hard Facts, Meany Says

By John R. Oravec

Lacking a comprehensive and mandatory program to control inflation, thousands of union volunteers across the country are prepared to monitor living costs and throw the spotlight on runaway prices, AFL-CIO President George Meany said in opening the federation's National Conference on Prices.

Meany told the 250 conference delegates that volunteer monitors have the major task of keeping tabs on prices because the Administration's "anti-inflation fighters" simply don't have the tools to do an effective job.

In outlining the scope of the federation's Operation Price Watch, Meany said the monitors will be checking prices weekly at hundreds of thousands of retail outlets to provide the Administration and the media with "the hard, unpleasant facts about price increases."

He reminded Alfred E. Kahn, the chairman of the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability, who was a major speaker at the conference, that the federation has repeatedly told the Administration its "voluntary" wage-price guidelines are not only unfair, but unworkable.

"Frankly, we believe that mandatory, across-the-board controls on the price of everything and the income of everybody—in this period of time—would be more equitable and more enforceable," Meany stressed. "In fact, we believe that Operation Price Watch will prove that point."

A clear indication of the failure of the Administration's effort to hold down prices is reflected in a pilot price-watch program instituted

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Union Presses Case:

Brown Lung Victims Ask Benefits Plan

Victims of brown lung disease—the breath-destroying byssinosis that is the occupational illness of the cotton mills—backed up a call by the Clothing & Textile Workers for legislation to compensate already disabled workers and to compel employers to pay future disability claims.

Sol Stetin, the union's senior executive vice president, charged textile employers with a "conspiracy of silence" about the hazards of cotton dust in the mills. He urged a House Labor Standards subcommittee to shape a compensation program for cotton mill workers modeled after the black lung benefits enacted for coal miners.

Testimony from 22 byssinosis victims, brought to the hearings by the Carolina Brown Lung Association, gave witness to the lack of protection afforded by existing workers' compensation programs.

Take the case of Eva Bradshaw of Erwin, N.C., who worked in the mills from age 14 until her health gave out and she was forced into early retirement at age 55.

For the last 10 years she was on the job, she suffered a dry, hacking cough that operations failed to cure. But not until six years after failing health had forced her premature retirement did she learn that her disability was byssinosis.

She told the subcommittee that she filed for workers' compensation in 1976 but "they are still fighting my case." Meanwhile, "I have to live on $231 a month social security disability payments."

A witness for the Brown Lung Association, Candace Carraway, testified that while non-textile employers in North Carolina contest an average of 2 percent of workers' compensation claims filed against them, "almost every brown lung claim is contested."

Stetin charged that state workers' compensation laws amount

(Continued on Page 3)

Jobless Rate Remains at 5.7 Percent

By James M. Shevis

Unemployment was at a seasonally adjusted 5.7 percent of the work force in March for the second month in a row, but uncertainties over inflation and energy continue to cloud the picture.

Rudy Oswald, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research, observed that the continuing stability of the unemployment rate shows that the jobs market "is in a holding pattern." Economic growth is strong enough to add jobs each month but not sufficiently robust to accommodate all Americans seeking work, he said.

(Continued on Page 8)

House Unit Supports Cut in Disability Pay

The House Ways & Means Committee voted to reduce future social security disability benefits and only narrowly rejected even more drastic cutbacks.

Its bill would not affect persons already drawing disability payments. But starting next January, almost all workers who become totally disabled because of illness or injury would receive lower benefits than present law allows.

The cutback would be most severe for younger workers with dependents, and the AFL-CIO charged that it would penalize "the most defenseless and the neediest."

The Ways & Means Committee earlier had put off action on Administration proposals for reductions in other social security benefits. But it adopted, and in some respects worsened, the proposed curtailment of disability benefits for workers incapacitated by illness or injury before they reach retirement age.

Critics of the disability insurance program had charged that payments were overly generous in relation to lost wages and provided a "disincentive" for a disabled worker to try to re-enter the workforce.

The committee bill does have

(Continued on Page 2)

Oil Decontrol Scored As Road to Recession

President Carter's plan to phase out price controls on domestically produced crude oil will worsen inflation and increase the possibility of recession, the AFL-CIO warned.

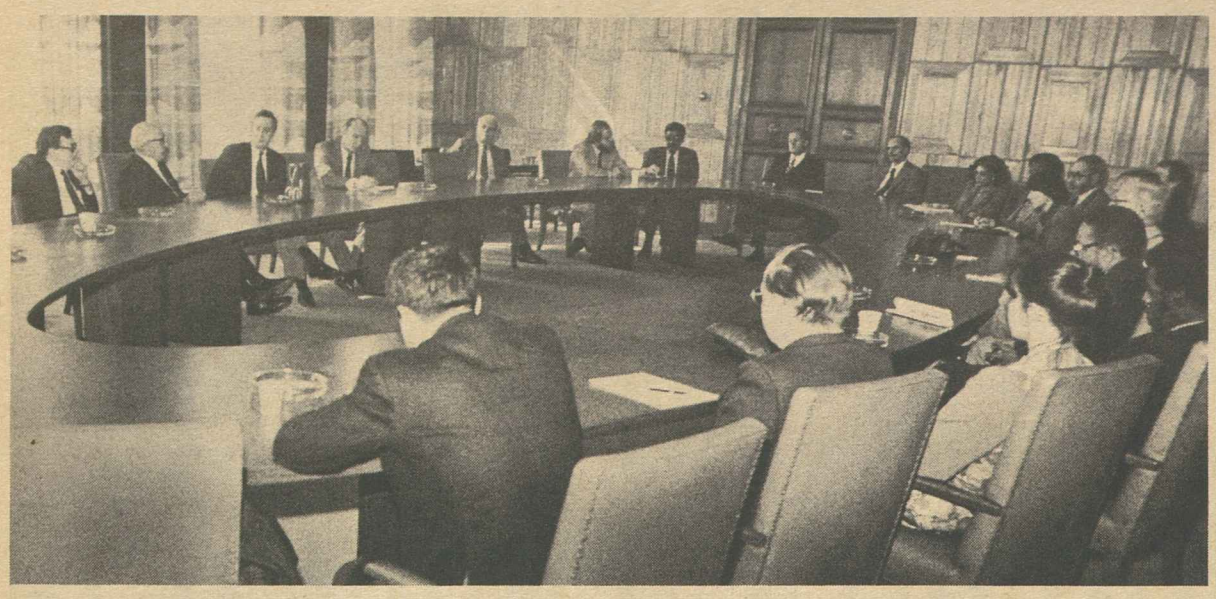
"It cannot be justified on economic, social or equity grounds," Federation President George Meany declared.

Under the Carter plan, controls on domestically produced oil will be lifted gradually until all are removed by Sept. 30, 1981. Oil from wells that come into production after June 1 will automatically sell at world levels, currently about $16 a barrel. Under current controls, the price of domestically produced oil is limited to an average of $9.50 a barrel.

In addition, the President announced an energy conservation program aimed at reducing oil consumption in the United States by 864,000 to 1.5 million barrels a day.

Receipts from Carter's proposed windfall profits tax on oil companies would be used to establish an Energy Security Fund to aid the poor, finance mass

(Continued on Page 6)



POLICY PROGRAMS of the African-American Labor Center to assist the development of trade union groups in Africa are reviewed at AALC's annual meeting in Washington. The meeting was held in conjunction with an AALC headquarters and field staff conference. AFL-CIO President George Meany is chairman of the AALC board and Patrick J. O'Farrell, third from left, is executive director.

Social Security Disability Benefits Cut Back by House Committee Vote

(Continued from Page 1)

two positive labor-endorsed provisions to remove "disincentives" to a worker's attempt to surmount his handicap and hold down a job.

One improvement allows a longer trial period, during which he can go back on the disability rolls if his rehabilitation effort fails. The other allows immediate reinstatement of Medicare if he can't continue work. Under present law, such a worker would have to begin a new two-year waiting period before again qualifying for Medicare.

But the budget "savings" in the committee bill, projected to reach $1 billion by fiscal 1984, stem from a lower ceiling on family benefits and a change in the formula for calculating benefits.

Now, when a worker is disabled, his basic benefit is calculated as if he were 65 and retiring under regular social security. The formula allows the dropping of the five years of lowest earnings in calculating average income.

The Ways & Means Committee would eliminate the dropout option entirely for workers disabled before the age of 27 and reduce the number of years that could be dropped for workers aged 27 to 47. The effect would be to lower the amount of the primary benefit.

Combined with the ceiling on family benefits, the average family disability payment under the committee bill is estimated at $7,730 for a person who made $12,000 a year before disability, as contrasted with an average $9,070 under present law.

Two amendments that would have imposed even deeper cuts were defeated in committee on close votes, but will be proposed again on the House floor when the bill is called up soon after the Easter recess.

One proposal, by Rep. Richard A. Gephardt (D-Mo.), would have set the limit on total family benefits at 30 percent more than the disabled worker's individual benefit, compared with the already tight ceiling of 50 percent over the basic benefit in the committee bill. That was beaten, 16-14. In both the amendment and the committee bill, the ceiling could not exceed 80 percent of pre-disability wages.

The other, potentially even more damaging amendment, was offered by Rep. Cecil Heftel (D-Hawaii) and would have disqualified a number of disabled workers by tightening already-stringent eligibility standards.

Present law requires disability so severe that the individual not only can't perform his usual work but also would be unable to do any other work that would be compatible with his age, education and work experience.

The Heftel amendment, rejected 13-12, would have eliminated all reference to suitability of work for persons below the age of 55.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation listed these committee members as having voted "right" by opposing the amendment: Democrats Al Ullman (Ore.), Charles B. Rangel (N.Y.), Fortney Stark (Calif.), Joseph L. Fisher (Va.), Harold E. Ford (Tenn.), Ken Holland (S.C.), William Brodhead (Mich.), Raymond F. Lederer (Pa.), Wyche Fowler, Jr. (Ga.), James M. Shannon (Mass.), J. J. Pickle (Tex.), and Republicans John J. Duncan (Tex.) and W. Henson Moore (La.).

Voting "wrong" by AFL-CIO standards, in addition to Heftel, were Democrats Sam Gibbons (Fla.), James C. Corman (Calif.), William Cotter (Conn.), James R. Jones (Okla.), Andrew Jacobs, Jr. (Ind.), Ed Jenkins (Ga.), Richard A. Gephardt (Mo.), Frank Guarini (N.J.) and Republicans Barber B. Conable, Jr. (N.Y.), Bill Frenzel (Minn.) and Willis D. Gradison, Jr. (Ohio).

Conservative Drift:

Six Issues Trigger Legislative Alert

(Continued from Page 1)

careful scrutiny to the impact on the U.S. economy.

As an example, a code on government procurement requires the United States to give up the current "Buy America" bidding advantage of 6 to 12 percent over foreign bidders on U.S. contracts. In return, American firms are promised an opportunity to bid on government procurement in other countries. The advantages should be carefully weighed against the possible job losses if foreign bidders win federal, state and local government contracts on purchases ranging "from computers to overalls," the AFL-CIO stressed.

Labor Standards: Some members of Congress are echoing the anti-union employer argument that the way to fight inflation is to nullify the Davis-Bacon Act, which requires prevailing wages on federally-financed construction, and to weaken the minimum wage law.

Union delegations will urge members of Congress to oppose any weakening of Davis-Bacon protection and to reject efforts to defer next year's scheduled rise in the minimum wage to $3.10 an hour or to impose a youth subminimum wage rate.

Election Financing: The cost of running for Congress has nearly doubled in four years, making candidates more dependent than ever on the millions of dollars raised by corporation political funds and right-wing fundraisers. This dependency threatens "the integrity of our electoral system."

The AFL-CIO is supporting House and Senate bills that would provide public funds for congressional elections through the same income tax checkoff system used to finance presidential elections.

Export Controls: "Indiscriminate export of raw materials has caused domestic shortages to develop" that have contributed to inflation and seriously hurt the U.S. economy, the Legislative Dept. cautioned.

It urged support for a proposed amendment to the Export Administration Act that would establish a trigger mechanism to reduce exports when the domestic price of the goods involved is subject to strong inflationary pressures.

In a related area, the union delegations were asked to emphasize the AFL-CIO's support for a bill that would extend and strengthen current prohibitions on the export of Alaskan oil. The labor-supported bill would prohibit export of Alaskan oil unless it results in lower oil prices for American consumers and require approval of both the House and Senate for any such exports.

Hospital Costs—The legislative analysis cites sharply rising hospital costs as "a leading cause of inflation" and notes that 40 percent of the nation's $182 billion health care bill is paid from public funds.

House and Senate members will be asked to support the Carter Administration hospital cost containment bill, which includes a wage passthrough so that low-paid hospital workers aren't unfairly penalized.

Equity Officials Join Arts Panel

New York—Two officials of Actors' Equity have been named to advisory panels of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Appointed by the endowment's chairman, Livingston Biddle, were Donald Grody and Barbara Colton, the union's executive secretary and first vice president, respectively.

Grody will serve on two of the endowment's theater program panels, advising on matters of policy as well as grants for large theaters. Colton, who chairs the union's Theater for Young Audiences Committee, will be a member of the theater program's youth theater grants panel.

The National Endowment for the Arts allocates federal funds for a broad range of cultural activities.

Added Funding Sought For Conrail Payments

Railroad unions told Congress that additional appropriations amounting to $71.5 million are needed to maintain the solvency of the fund to finance labor protection payments to Conrail employees over the next five months.

Legislative Director Jim Snyder of the United Transportation Union, testifying in behalf of the Railway Labor Executives' Association, told a Senate appropriations subcommittee that the $250 million authorized in 1973 for payment of the employee protective arrangement would not be sufficient to cover the full cost.

Snyder said that the $56.5 million remaining from the authorization "is required immediately" plus an additional $15 million appropriation to enable the fund to meet its obligations through the end of the current fiscal year that ends on Sept. 30.

Snyder also said that the fund would need another $80 million to cover payments during the 1980 fiscal year, $55 million more for the 1981 fiscal year, and another $50 million in the 1982 fiscal year.

Snyder reviewed the compromises made when Conrail was created, following the collapse of the Penn Central and other Northeast railroads in 1972.

Rail labor organizations at that time waived certain contractual rights—including some governing the transfer of employees—which they held with the respective bankrupt carriers that would make up Conrail, he explained.

In exchange for such concessions, a protective arrangement was worked out that included provisions for monthly displacement allowances, separation allowances, moving expense benefits and fringe benefit protections. The $250 million authorization was expected to be sufficient to cover all the labor protective provisions.

At present, Conrail's employment force numbers about 94,000, Snyder testified. Of that number, some 80-85,000 are covered by the protective provisions. About 14 percent—or some 12,000 people—receive displacement allowances.

A significant reason for the reduced state of the fund "was the variations in operational plans which resulted in more employees accepting displacement allowances and fewer accepting separation allowances than was expected," Snyder said. He also cited the "exceedingly sharp increase in the inflation rate since 1973, which no one could have foreseen."

John Connolly Dies at 89, Leader in GAIU Merger

John Connolly, one of the architects of the Graphic Arts union and a former president of the Bookbinders, died recently in his hometown of Norwood, Mass., at the age of 89.

Connolly was elected president of the Bookbinders in 1962, and the long multi-union strike against Kingsport Press in Tennessee made him an early convert to the goal of a single printing trades union.

To those who cited the many obstacles, Connally would insist that "men of goodwill can solve differences."

After the Lithographers and Photoengravers merged in 1964, Connolly won authority from his union's convention to enter into merger talks. On Labor Day of 1972, the amalgamation process was completed and Connolly became executive vice president of the new Graphic Arts International Union. He served in that capacity until his retirement in 1976.

Connolly never lost touch with his union, and the beneficiary of his life insurance policy is the GAIU's scholarship fund for children of members. GAIU President Kenneth Brown led a delegation to the funeral mass in a Norwood church, the city where he joined the Bookbinders in 1913 and began his trade union career as president of his local.

Carter Appoints McBride To Nuclear Probe Panel

Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride has been appointed by President Carter to a commission that will investigate the nuclear reactor accident at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania and the steps taken to deal with it.

Carter asked the panel to evaluate the role of the electric company that operates the plant, the emergency preparations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and other public bodies, and the NRC's licensing and inspection procedures.

He directed the commission also to study how the public's "right to information" was met during the emergency and to consider further steps that could be taken in any future emergencies to assure that the public receives "accurate, comprehensible and timely information."

Carter appointed Dartmouth College President John G. Kemeny to head the commission, which is expected to complete its investigation within six months. Others among the 11 presidential appointees ranged from prominent scientists to a Middletown, Pa., housewife and mother of six.

Collective Bargaining Showcase:

America's Skills Displayed At Union-Industries Show

Denver—More than 200,000 visitors to the 34th annual Union-Industries Show saw a dazzling exhibition of the skills of America's union members and products of the firms that employ them.

It was Denver's turn this year to be host to the six-day program put together by the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept., and the opening day festivities were joined by prominent public figures as well as local, state and national trade union leaders.

To AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, the keynote speaker, the Denver exhibition was "a showcase of all that is best in the American economic and industrial system" and convincing evidence of the benefits of free enterprise and collective bargaining.

Kirkland contrasted the demonstration of union-management cooperation with the "union-free enviroment" that the National Association of Manufacturers and other anti-union labor groups have set as a goal.

"An assault on unions is and can only be an assault on democracy," he said.

The theme of progress through collective bargaining was sounded also by Under Sec. of Labor Robert Brown, who brought greetings from President Carter.

Denver Mayor William H. McNichols, Jr., Colorado Lt. Gov. Nancy Nick, Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) were among those who helped open the show. But the honor of cutting the symbolic ribbon went to Katherine Rogers of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. staff who has just completed 50 years service to labor. She was tapped for the honor by Earl D. McDavid, the department's secretary-treasurer.

And when the speeches and ceremonies were over, tens of thousands of families from Denver and its environs filed into the huge Currigan Exhibition Hall for a program that traditionally has something for everybody, and entertains as it enlightens.

Highlights of every Union-Industries Show are the participatory exhibits, and for 1979 the AFL-CIO and its Dept. of Community Services set up a popular health screening test area. The exhibit featured free blood pressure, glaucoma, diabetes and other health testing while emphasizing the need for a comprehensive national health care plan for the country.

For the adventurous, the show offered dozens of places to try a new skill. The booth sponsored by the Screen Actors Guild and AFTRA was set up so that visitors could do a radio or television commercial or act in a mini-drama and later hear and see themselves in action.

Union bricklayers urged visitors to "think brick" and offered them a chance to try their hands at bricklaying. Carpenters' members and apprentices actually built their exhibit as a "work in progress" while they answered questions about their trade.

Among others, the building trades unions use the show as a way of introducing their skills to the public and at the same time making apprenticeship and training information widely available. Exhibits such as those of the Laborers, Iron Workers, the Operating Engineers, and the Plumber & Pipe Fitters combined the showmanship of live demonstrations with a public education effort.

The exhibit of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers featured not only the construction skills of its members but also products and services produced by IBEW members in manufacturing plants.

The Retail Clerks sponsored an antique-filled general store and an informative display of shoes made by members of the union's footwear division.

The Theatrical Stage Employees' exhibit covered the broad range of the union's involvement in the entertainment industry, from production to projection.

Exhibits, such as those of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers and National Weather Service Employees, both affiliated with the Marine Engineers, gave a unique insight into their professions and their union. "The Magic of Chemistry," a live magical demonstration sponsored by the Chemical Workers, featured the combination of educational and entertainment that makes the show popular among youngsters.

A feature of the Postal Workers and Letter Carriers exhibit was the sale of U.S. commemorative stamps—printed, of course, under totally union conditions. The craftsmanship of the printing trades was also demonstrated at the Graphic Arts Union exhibit where working printing presses turned out four-color posters of the Denver Nuggets basketball team as souvenirs.

Live demonstrations also were presented with much showmanship by the cake decorators of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers and craftsmen of the Sheet Metal Workers, Flint Glass Workers, and the Glass Bottle Blowers. Meanwhile, Musicians provided continuous evidence that "live music is better" and the Meat Cutters treated consumers to meat-buying tips and an array of give-away of fine cuts. In all, more than $100,000 worth of products were distributed free to showgoers by unions and industries participating in the show.

Color, variety and even fashion were the hallmarks of such show exhibits as those produced by the United Textile Workers, the Seafarers, the Paperworkers, the Ladies' Garment Workers and the Clothing & Textile Workers. The superior quality of union-made products was also the focal point of exhibits from such unions as the Brick & Clay Workers, Furniture Workers, Stove & Furnace Workers, Upholsterers and Aluminum Workers.

Union services were widely represented in the show by the Amalgamated Transit Union, Service Employees, Office & Professional Employees, and Firemen & Oilers, among others. Show visitors also could watch Communications Workers demonstrate the varied skills required in operating and maintaining the telephone system.

The 1979 show gave the Railway Signalmen an opportunity to introduce their new union Label, which will serve as the seal of their trade, and be applied to switching equipment the union's members produce.



RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY opens the 34th annual Union-Industries Show for a six-day stand in Denver. From left are President Norman N. Pledger of the Colorado AFL-CIO, Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.), President Joseph D. Keenan of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept., Katherine Rogers of the department's staff, Federation Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Under Sec. of Labor Robert J. Brown. Rogers has been with the department since 1938 and recently marked 50 years of service with the labor movement.



COMPENSATION PLAN for victims of brown lung disease is urged by Sol Stetin, senior executive vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, at House hearings. With him, left, is George Perkel, the union's safety and health director. In the audience are cotton mill workers disabled by the cotton dust they breathed year after year.

Victims of Brown Lung Urge Disability Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

to "an obstacle course for disabled workers." Yet, he testified, studies have found that some 150,000 of the 800,000 workers exposed to cotton dust suffer from some degree of brown lung disease and "35,000 victims are totally and permanently disabled."

Byssinosis, he said, "is characterized by a cough, a tightness pressing on the chest and a constant struggle to breathe." But doctors in textile communities have generally diagnosed the condition as "bronchitis, emphysema or asthma," sometimes "for fear of offending the predominant textile corporations."

But as workers in recent years have become aware that brown lung is an occupational disease, they have been frustrated by the burden of proof necessary to win a contested worker's compensation claim, Stetin said.

As Congress did with the coal dust "black lung" disease, he urged, it should establish a right to benefits based on a presumption that exposure to cotton dust for a specified period of employment constitutes proof that a disabling lung disease is due to such employment.

The union's occupational safety and health director, George Perkel, suggested that five years of cotton mill work should be suitable evidence of exposure.

The program urged by the Clothing & Textile Workers would include a federal compensation fund that would be used largely for disability compensation based on past employment. But the payment obligation would be quickly shifted to textile employers, and Stetin said this feature would give companies a financial incentive to minimize worker exposure to cotton dust.

"There is no question that the industry can clean up its operations so as to prevent byssinosis," Stetin testified. But "it needs the financial incentive to invest in the modern machinery and ventilation equipment required to do the job."

Stetin noted the long delay by the federal Occupational Safety & Health Administration, initially because of deliberate foot-dragging by the Nixon Administration and more recently by a court order obtained by the textile industry blocking enforcement of stricter OSHA standards.

The subcommittee also heard a strong call for a brown lung compensation program from Rep. Butler Derrick (R-S.C.), whose congressional district has the highest concentration of textile plants.

Derrick testified that in his state only two of 92 compensation claims for brown lung disease filed in a 29-month period were granted, "and they are under appeal."

He charged that "the industry and the state have procrastinating for too long, and while we wait for corrective action affected workers are dependent on ogygen tanks for their very lives."

Subcommittee Chairman Edward P. Beard (D-R.I.) said employer representatives had refused invitations to testify on the issue.

Beard said both the American Textile Manufacturers Institute and the National Council Cotton had been invited and he "deeply regretted" that they declined to appear.

R. M. Crocker, News Guild Leader, Dies

Robert M. Crocker, secretary-treasurer of the Newspaper Guild since 1969, died of cancer Apr. 7 at his home in Silver Spring, Md. He was 61.

Crocker, a long-time correspondent with the Association Press, also served three terms as president of the Wire Service Guild—from 1963 to 1965 and from 1967 to 1968.

He began his career as a newspaper reporter in Lewiston, Me., in 1939 after graduating from Bates College. He joined the Worcester, Mass., Evening Gazette in 1941 and became the first president of the Guild's Worcester local.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy, two children and three grandchildren. The family suggests that expression of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Guild's Irving Leuchter Memorial Scholarship Fund or the Bates College Alumni Fund. A memorial service will be held Apr. 15 at the National Baptist Memorial Church in Washington.

When You Buy a Home . . .
Look for the


Rationing by Price

THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION will worsen inflation and will increase the possibility of recession. It cannot be justified on economic, social or equity grounds.

The price of domestic oil will steadily escalate to the world level by October 1981 and, by the Administration's calculations, will generate additional revenues of $15 to $18 billion for the oil industry. Less than half the windfall profits would be recovered through a special tax—if the Congress acts. Even if Congress adopts the tax, the oil industry will still be the major beneficiary, although they will grumble and complain about not getting all the increased revenues.

The AFL-CIO will examine the tax proposals with care and will support those we believe in the public interest. But even with a windfall tax, we believe the decision is bad.

The President's plan will accelerate already rapid energy price increases. In the period from February 1972 through February 1979, the consumer price index rose 67.2 percent. But during that same period, heating oil was up 184 percent; natural gas 133 percent; gasoline prices, 102 percent. In the last three months alone, heating oil went up at an annual rate of 18.8 percent and gasoline 25 percent while the CPI rose at a 12.2 percent rate.

Despite the enormous cost to the American consumer, decontrol will have only a slight impact on conservation and production. It is an attempt to ration by price. The AFL-CIO cannot accept this as either equitable or effective. Conservation will not be achieved by higher prices but by mandatory, legislated measures.

The argument that higher prices are needed to spur exploration is demonstrably not true. With controlled prices, exploratory drilling increased an average of about 8 percent a year since 1973. The number of wells explored in 1978 was the highest since 1964. Obviously, the incentives have been more than adequate.

If this nation is to meet the challenge posed by the OPEC cartel, it must take over oil imports from private industry and handle them at a governmental level. The government should have the sole authority to deal with OPEC and other oil producing countries, determine the level of imports, negotiate the price and allocate the oil.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany.

A Time To Speak Out

THE 96TH CONGRESS is convinced that the American people are in a conservative mood. Members of both the Senate and House tell us union members must be happy with present economic conditions and the President's domestic programs, because they are not complaining to elected officials.

Since these same members are hearing, daily, from business representatives and other conservatives, the silence of working people is taken as agreement. Unless labor is heard at the "grassroots," we are in serious danger of losing many of the hard-won gains of the past.

—AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young.

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GEORGE MEANY, *President*

LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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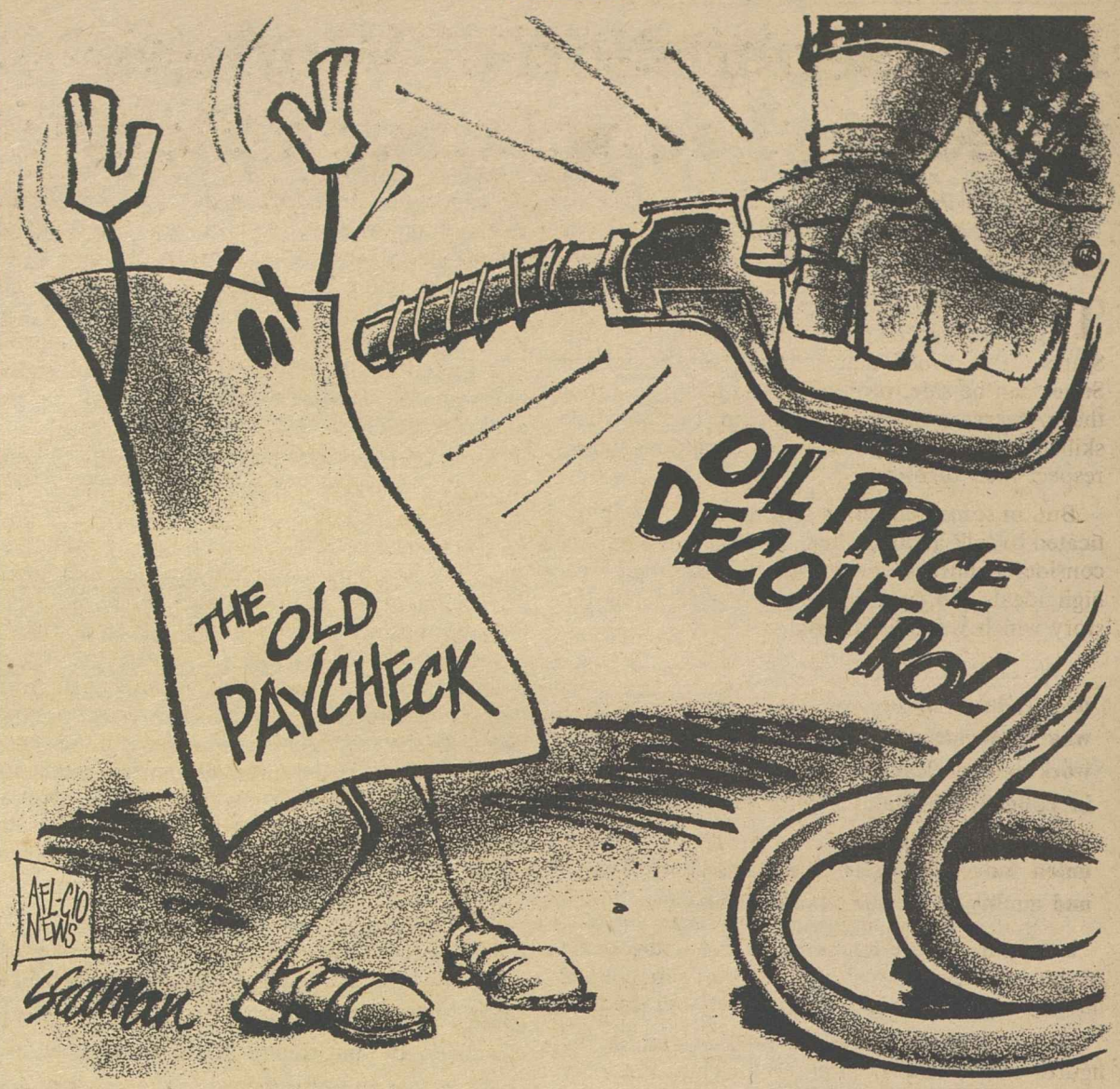
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'Reach!'



No Wonder They're Angry:

Low-Income Families Bearing Heavier Share of Tax Burden

By Gus Tyler

PEOPLE IN THE LOWER income levels are more strongly opposed to taxes than people in higher income levels. This finding, supported by many polls, is a total reversal of the commonly held logic that the poor folk, who benefit from government goodies, should favor taxes while the rich folk, whose incomes are vulnerable, should oppose taxes.

A Roper poll, for instance, found that 70 percent of those with incomes below $15,000 favor lower property taxes in the spirit of California's Proposition 13, while only 65 percent of those with incomes above $25,000 favor such a cut.

How does one explain this apparent illogic?

The answer lies hidden in a generally unpublicized fact; namely that taxes for lower-income people have been rising more rapidly than for those in the upper-income brackets.

Just consider these facts:

In 1953, families earning around the average income paid 11.8 percent in taxes; 24 years later, in 1977, these "average" families were paying 22.5 percent. In other words, the rate at which the average family pays has doubled in the last generation.

Taxes, however, have not been so harsh with families earning four times the average income. In 1953, they were paying 20.2 percent of their income; in 1977, that rate rose to 31.4 percent —which is only a 50 percent increase.

In the last generation, then, while "average" taxes multiplied by two, the rate for the wealthy went up at half that speed.

As a result, notes Everett Carll Ladd, Jr., in Fortune Magazine, "the costs of government were brought home forcefully to a broad range of the populace."

But, if all the average family learned is that government is costly, it learned only a small part of the lesson.

What it should have concluded is that the average family is overtaxed because wealthy families are undertaxed.

The average taxpayer should not be angry with government, but with those who are not paying their share to government. The cure is not to have a government that will do less but to enact a law that would make the rich pay more.

Actually, the disparity between the "average" family and those earning "four times" the average is greater than noted. People who live on unearned income—investments rather than work—report only half their take, and then they escape much payment even on that half by hiding in tax shelters. Those who earn wages or salaries report 90 percent of what they make, and they have virtually no escape through loopholes.

As a consequence, many wealthy families are actually paying at a lower rate now than a quarter century ago.

Hence, it should be no surprise that the great tax revolt is rooted in the anger of the "average" family, the wage and salaried folk, the working people. They should be angry because they are paying double—for themselves and to buy the big boys a "free lunch."

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An Obstacle Course For The Disabled

Cotton mill workers have a special problem . . . a disease acquired on the job. The technical name is byssinosis. The popular term is brown lung. It is characterized by a cough, a tightness pressing on the chest and a constant struggle to breathe.

The textile industry has engaed in a conspiracy to hide the facts from its employees. The worker had been accustomed to coughing in the dusty atmosphere of his job. When he felt too ill to work, his doctor generally diagnosed his condition as bronchitis, emphysema or asthma.

Only a few of those disabled by this disease have availed themselves of the opportunity to file workers' compensation claims. The tragic experience of these people is a damning indictment of the state system of workers' compensation.

The procedures for determining eligibility and litigating disputes can best be described as an obstacle course for disabled workers.

—From testimony by Sol Stetin for the Clothing & Textile Workers before the House Subcommittee on Labor Standards.

Power of Social Justice:

Next Generation of Workers Needs to Learn Labor's Story

The following is excerpted from an address by Under Sec. of Labor Robert J. Brown at the opening of the Union-Industries Show in Denver.

THE UNION LABEL is a demonstration of the power of social justice within the United States. It is proof that industry in the United States can be safe, profitable, and fair. It is proof that America's men and women can produce skilled and valuable work under conditions which respect their dignity.

But, in some quarters it is considered unsophisticated to talk about justice. In some quarters it is considered unsophisticated to be concerned with high ideals. So, we are tempted not to tell the story which we know is true.

We fail to remind ourselves and those around us why labor unions exist in the United States, what it means to the dignity and security of working Americans to have the right to engage in collective bargaining with their employers, and how the existence of a democratic labor union movement raises the standard of living and quality of life for all Americans.

Labor unions are not separate and antagonistic to the American way of life. Rather, labor unions have become an essential part of democracy.

Unions exist to serve their workers and, as the figures show, they do that well. They not only serve to provide higher wages and a better standard of living for their members. Safety committees help prevent occupational accidents and injuries. Many contracts and the individual unions themselves provide opportunities for adult education and training. And workers know that their working conditions are just, because they are protected by grievance procedures.

But, there are advantages which go beyond the individual union representing the individual worker. We are here in Currigan Hall because we know that 19.4 million union members and their families represent a powerful consumer force in our society. We can see, in the exhibits here today, the pride of craftsmanship that goes into being a union member. Today, we can see the work of union glass blowers, taste the work of union bakers, and hear the work of union musicians. The union label means fair wages and fair working conditions. The union label is more than an advertisement and it is more than a song. It is a symbol of the effect which the union movement in the United States has on all of our nation's people.

BUT UNIONS DO NOT EXIST only to serve their own workers. Organized labor has helped improve wages and working conditions for non-union members. We wouldn't have a minimum wage law today if it weren't for the labor union movement in the United States. And, the AFL-CIO has put its considerable resources into being a "people's lobby" so that all working Americans —union and non-union alike—can benefit from its presence and its concern. There is an occupational safety and health law in the United States because of the federation. Organized labor has also strongly supported job training and employment opportunities for the poor and the unemployed. The list of labor's accomplishments, translated into the reality of federal legislation, is long.

We need today a better understanding of what the labor union movement in the United States is about. We need you to tell your story in every city and county in our land. Since we believe that in unity there is strength, then we need to tell the story of how workers became united. We need to tell our children and the young people how far labor has come and what it has done. We need to recall the days before there were unemployment insurance and minimum wage laws, before mines and factories were protected by safety legislation. We need to reach out to the poor and the untrained.

We need to teach the next generation what social justice is about. And we need to remind ourselves. Otherwise, the danger exists that if we do not talk about justice, it will become a word which has lost its meaning.

13-Union Coalition:

Inflation Protection for Wages Top Contract Goal in GE Talks

REALISTIC PROTECTION against the further erosion of wages through steep inflation will be the key economic goal of the 13-union group that starts bargaining next month for a new national contract with General Electric Co.

That report was made on Labor News Conference by John Shambo, chairman of the steering committee of the Coordinated Bargaining Committee that will negotiate new union contracts throughout the electrical manufacturing industry this year. Noting that the GE contract is the first one up, Shambo said that the cost-of-living formula in the current contract is so deficient that it produced only about half as much over the last three years as the formulas used in the steel, rubber and auto industries.

Shambo said that the union coalition's goal will be a cost-of-living provision that has "no corridor and no ceiling," as well as an improved formula with quarterly computation. Shambo is also on the executive board of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and chairman of the IUE's GE conference board.

"We see no reason why the largest electrical manufacturer in the world, and the fourth largest corporation in this country, shouldn't provide the same kind of protection against inflation for their employees that these other industries provide," he said.

Shambo said that cost-of-living protection ought also to be provided for retired workes.

"We feel that the people who have retired should be represented by the union," he said. "The law, of course, makes it voluntary, but other corporations voluntarily negotiate with the unions for their retirees. That will be another request that we'll make."

Other important issues in this year's bargaining will be pensions and insurance coverage, Shambo said. The unions think their members should have earlier retirement with full pensions, he said.

Union security will top the workers' goals in the non-economic areas of the new contract, Shambo reported. Pointing out that "General Electric has been adamant about refusing us a union shop," he said that the union's relationships with the company have undergone marked improvement in recent years and that the climate is now right for such an agreement.

General Electric could now take that last step to the kind of labor-management relationships that exist in most major industries "by granting us union security," he said.

Over the past decade, he said, union membership at GE has steadily shrunk. As of last December, GE's unionized workforce had dropped to 70,000 from about 100,000 eleven years earlier, he said.

"A lot of that reduction of jobs is due to imports of products, but also to export of capital and General Electric operating plants in places like Bogota, Taiwan, Japan, Ireland—all over the world."

Although General Electric's labor relations are much better than they were 10 years ago when there was a 101-day strike, Shambo said he expects the 1979 bargaining will be tough and go "down to the wire." But, he added, "I'm optimistic that we can do it without a strike."

Reporters questioning Shambo were Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired weekly over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Unforgettable Film:

'Norma Rae' Treats Labor Theme Well

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

LET THE CUSTOMER be on his guard when reading advertisements for a new book or a new movie. The people who put such ads together are a canny lot. If they can find three favorable words about their client's product (and they usually can) in a review which is otherwise devastatingly unfavorable, they have no qualms about featuring these three words while completely ignoring the rest of the review. Again, then, caveat emptor—let the customer beware.

No such caveat is called for, however, in the case of "Norma Rae," a new film produced by Twentieth Century Fox. If you happen to see an advertisement in your local paper quoting the nation's leading critics to the effect that this is one of the best films of the year (at least one major critic has described it as "the best" without qualification) you can be assured that, for once, the admen are quoting their sources in context and are telling the truth and nothing but the truth.

"Norma Rae" is the unforgettable story of a young textile worker—twice married and the mother of two children, including one born out of wedlock—who was born and raised in a typically drab mill town in Alabama and, when the film opens in 1978, is drifting aimlessly, wthout knowing or caring who she is or where she is going in the years that lie ahead.

As the story unfolds, she gets caught up in a union organizing campaign and is not about to be intimidated by the clumsy anti-union tactics of her bosses, the apathy of most of her fellow workers, the opposition of her second husband, or the fear of being blackmailed because of some of her earlier indiscretions.

Vincent Canby of the New York Times says that Sally Field's "spectacular performance as Norma Rae may well be one that those of other actresses are measured against this year." Amen.

I must admit that it was the labor angle of the film which first prompted me to go to see it, but, while the labor theme is central to the story and is handled remarkably well, it's Norma Rae, whom another critic has described as "the most realistic heroine portrayed by Hollywood in a good 30 years," who makes the story come alive.

While "Norma Rae" is not a labor documentary nor a union propaganda film, it is, by all odds, the most realistic movie about labor-management relations I have ever seen.

THE ONLY SERIOUS CRITICISM of the way in which the labor theme is handled in "Norma Rae" appeared in an otherwise favorable review by T. Fabre in the NC News Service. Fabre argues —and I am inclined to agree with him—that there is too much emphasis in the film on a few personalities and not enough emphasis on the social context, "including the local political situation, the nature of black-white relationships, and the ownership of the mill." In short, Fabre concludes, the film "makes it all seem far too easy." Be that as it may, "Norma Rae's" treatment of the labor theme is exceptionally well done.

The leaders of the southern textile industry will not like the film, but they will look very foolish if they try to play it down. Rumor has it that the industry passed the word along that no mill should open its doors to the film crews that worked on the movie. If this rumor is well founded, it's one more indication that the industry is living in a dream world, hoping in vain to stop the march of time. The leaders of the industry have succeeded temporarily in doing so, most recently, for example, by helping to block labor law reform in the Congress.

But "Norma Rae" has artistically dmonstrated—almost without trying to do so—that the textile industry can be organized and will be organized as soon as enough people like Norma—men and women with little or no formal education, but with lots of spunk, ingenuity, common sense and earthy humor—finally get a taste of freedom and decide to stand up for their rights and take control of their own lives. While Hollywood may or may not have meant it to do so, "Norma Rae" will predictably help to speed up this process.



UNION SECURITY and a realistic cost-of-living clause are key goals of the 13-union group that starts national contract talks next month with General Electric, said Chairman John Shambo, center, of the Coordinated Bargaining Committee of GE & Westinghouse Unions. Questioning Shambo on Labor News Conference were Frank Swoboda, left, of the Washington Post and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc.

ILPA Reports Membership At New Peak

Denver—Membership in the International Labor Press Association has reached an all-time high, Sec.-Treas. Allen Y. Zack reported to the organization's executive council at a meeting here.

The ILPA council, meeting in conjunction with the AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show, accepted 58 publications into membership, bringing its affiliations to 617. Zack said ILPA member publications have a circulation exceeding 20 million.

Rochelle Hart of the Chicago Teachers Union newsletter was elected to fill a vacant vice presidency.

Reports on postal legislation, another rate increase and changes in mailing regulations were given by Zack and Edwin M. Schmidt, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Reproduction, Mailings & Subscriptions.

ILPA President Gene Klare of the Oregon Labor Press reported that weekly community labor papers are "an endangered species," citing the sharp decline in their numbers. He pointed to escalating postal rates as a major reason and reported that the cost of mailing the Oregon Labor Press has soared more than 1600 percent since 1967, contrasting that to the 201 percent rise in the consumer price index in the same period.

Preben Sorensen, an editor for the Danish Federation of Trade Unions, who was a guest at the council sessions, reported that the labor movement in his country earmarks 25 percent of its budget for publications, which include three daily papers.

Albert K. Herling, who retired this year as editor of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers News, was honored for his service to the ILPA as 1976-77 president and a vice president from 1970-75.



HEALTH HAZARDS in copper smelting are life-and-death issues to Celestino Torres, who works at the ASARCO smelter in Hayden, Ariz. Torres is safety chairman and former president of Steelworkers Local 886. He joined the authors of a multi-volume research study at a news conference culminating a three-year investigation of occupational health and safety in the nation's copper smelting plants.

Danger of Recession Cited in Oil Decontrol

(Continued from Page 1)

transit, and help develop alternate energy sources.

Meany said that labor will carefully examine the tax proposal but warned: "Even with a windfall profits tax, we believe the decision (to decontrol) is bad."

The Carter plan will accelerate already rapid energy price increases, Meany observed. By the Administration's own estimates, decontrolled oil prices will generate additional revenues of $15-$18 billion for the oil industry, he noted.

Even if Congress adopts the proposed windfall profits tax, the industry will still be the major beneficiary, although it will "grumble and complain" about not getting all the higher revenues, Meany said.

"Despite the enormous cost to the American consumer, decontrol will have only a slight impact on conservation and production," he added. "It is an attempt to ration by price."

Meany said that the way to meet the challenge posed by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries cartel is for the government to take over the handling of oil imports from private industry.

The President also proposed other energy actions in his Apr. 5 televised address to the nation, including the phasing-out of free or cut-rate parking for federal workers, ostensibly to discourage excessive automobile use.

President Kenneth T. Blaylock of the Government Employees said that Carter's proposals on employee parking focus attention in the wrong place and would create a genuine hardship on federal employees throughout the country who have few alternatives to private car pooling.

While the aim of Carter's decontrol plan is to discourage fuel consumption and spur domestic oil production, President A. F. Grospiron of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers Union, which represents employees of 100 oil companies in the United States, stressed that the industry's present profitability already is sufficient incentive to encourage the search for new oil reserves.

"Decontrol of crude oil prices will punish those who can least afford it—the working people of the country," Gospiron said. "As with all other necessities, they will have no choice but to pay even higher prices for gasoline, heating fuel, and the numerous products which are derived from petroleum or which are affected by higher and higher energy costs."

President William W. Winpisinger of the Machinists branded the Administration plan "a get-richer scheme that picks the pockets of consumers while it fills the already bloated purses of the oil monopolies."

Shipyard Strike Halted Pending NLRB Ruling

Newport News, Va.—Striking workers at the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. will return to work Apr. 16 after the National Labor Relations Board stated that the strike was an unfair labor practice strike, the Steelworkers announced.

After the NLRB said last Friday that the strike "was caused and has been prolonged by the unfair labor practices" of the company, the negotiating committee and executive board of USWA Local 8888 decided to suspend the 10-week old strike. A general membership meeting of the local was scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Apr. 13, at the Hampton Coliseum.

In a letter to local union members, Local 8888 President Wayne Crosby said that "in the interest of our members and the community, it is time to suspend the strike" while the union's attorneys conclude current proceedings before the NLRB.

"When we finish these legal proceedings we may be forced to resume striking to get a just and decent contract and, if necessary, we are prepared to do just that," Crosby said in a letter asking members to report to work.

Crosby also pointed out that unfair labor practice strikers "have a right to return to their jobs" and emphasized the union was prepared to file NLRB charges against the company if it tries to fire anyone for strike activity.

"The situation at the shipyard is a perfect demonstration of why labor law reform is so urgently needed," asserted USWA District 35 Director Bruce Thrasher in whose district the shipyard is situated.

"The present state of labor law is such that an employer can frustrate and almost endlessly delay and deny the legitimate desires of his employees for a union, which is completely contrary to the spirit and purpose of the law," Thrasher said.

He pointed out that while the National Labor Relations Act was passed in 1935 to encourage collective bargaining and to eliminate friction between workers and their employers, "it has been weakened to the point now where its loopholes can be used to defeat the law's intent."

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals had remanded to the NLRB the question of chain voting, a procedure where blank ballots are taken from a voting booth and marked for someone else to cast. The USWA said that such a voting procedure could not have been possible because the election was watched by NLRB officials and observers from both sides. The USWA also said no evidence of such voting was presented at the hearings that were concluded yesterday.



Study Faults Industry:

Health Hazards Rife In Copper Smelters

New York—Poor working conditions in copper smelters are leaving thousands of workers unnecessarily exposed to serious health hazards—including lung cancer—because of industry negligence, a nonprofit research group has charged.

The findings by the environmental research organization INFORM are contained in a 1,100-page report, At Work In Copper, on a three-year study of the nation's 16 copper smelting plants. The study was conducted in cooperation with the Steelworkers and funded by the Ford Foundation and the Samuel Rubin Foundation.

"The industry has done a terrible job of protecting its workers," said study director Manuel Gomez. "Company programs—ranging from engineering controls to industrial hygiene and medical services — consistently fail to meet the minimal performance criteria accepted by occupational health experts."

In its summary of findings, INFORM warns that more than half of some 5,000 workers who earn their living from the production of copper are bombarded by excessive levels of arsenic, a known carcinogen, and sulfur dioxide gas, which can damage the respiratory system and promote the carcinogenic effects of arsenic.

The study further found that many smelter workers are also exposed to dangerous levels of noise and copper dust and fumes, as well as to lead, cadmium and silica.

Company programs to control these hazards are generally ineffective, the research group said. Even though engineering controls are the key to eliminating the hazards at their source, it noted that only two smelters—ARCO's complex at Anaconda, Mont., and Kennecott's plant at Garfield, Utah—provide as much as 80 percent of the mineral engineering controls that INFORM recommends.

"American copper producers have also failed either to develop new engineering controls or to incorporate the advances of Japanese smelters, such as secondary converter hoods, in their facilities," the report points out.

It adds that the few controls that domestic procedures have in use are often allowed to deteriorate because of shoddy maintenance.

The three-volume report was co-authored by Gomez, Richard Duffy and Vincent Trivelli. Duffy recently joined the Fire Fighters as coordinator of the union's safety and health program.

The authors note that while the USWA has been a leader in negotiating job safety and health guarantees, it has encountered heavy resistance from the copper smelters.

However, USWA locals have played a key role in drawing government attention to the hazardous conditions at the smelters. About one-third of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration's inspections have resulted from complaints by the union or workers, the report said.

"Although workers are often caught between the desire for clean air and company threats to close the smelters rather than comply with air pollution standards, the Steelworker locals have generally advocated strict air pollution regulations," the study said. "The international has consistently stated that there need be no trade-off between jobs and clean air."

Safety conditions in smelters are among the worst in all industry, and the injury-illness rate is even worse than reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, INFORM said.

From 1972 to 1976, a recordable injury or illness was suffered by 27.1 percent of smelter workers, the report said, while BLS was reporting an injury-illness rate of 13.2 per 100 smelter workers. During that period, the all-industry injury-illness rate was 14.2 per 100 workers.

The study found that some progress has been made through OSHA's efforts since the early 1970s and with the promulgation of its arsenic standard last year, which is spurring the copper companies into upgrading their industrial hygiene and medical programs.

It noted, however, that OSHA still lacks a centrally coordinated compliance strategy for the industry as a way of improving the quality of inspections and helping to identify and eliminate health hazards in the workplaces.

OSHA-approved state safety plans are spotty and far less effective than the federal agency's programs for copper smelters, the report observes. It notes, however, that improvements in state plans have been made in recent years as a result of OSHA efforts.

The report also debunks claims by industry and others that "careless workers" cause most smelter accidents.

"Unsafe conditions were either the primary cause, or a significant factor in well over half of the fatalities in the industry between 1970 and 1978" as well as in other serious accidents, the report points out.

Despite the industry's poor showing on health and safety, it is challenging OSHA's arsenic standard in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. The standard currently requires the use of respirators and calls for the installation of engineering controls by the end of 1979 to reduce exposure to inorganic arsenic to 10 micrograms per cubic meter of air.

Barbers Ask Study of Risk From Dryers

A possible consumer hazard—asbestos linings used in some hair dryers—could pose an even greater health risk to barbers and beauticians than to the general public, union officials warned.

President Richard Plumb of the 41,000-member Barbers & Beauticians and Sec.-Treas. Robert F. Harbrant of the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. joined in a call for a government investigation.

In a joint letter, they urged the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health to conduct an immediate "health hazard evaluation" of the risk that workers in barber shops and beauty salons might face "from the tools of their trade."

If a consumer may be endangered by occasional use of an asbestos-lined dryer, they stressed, the potential hazard to barbers and beauticians "is many times greater."

Plumb and Harbrant also called on the Consumer Product Safety Commission to prohibit the sale of hair dryers containing asbestos until studies can determine the degree of hazard.

Meany Cites Runaway Costs:

Labor's Price Watch Focuses On Unworkable Guidelines

(Continued from Page 1)

by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services.

In the five months since the President launched the wage-price guidelines, Meany said, reports by CSA representatives show the program is not working and that inflation is worse for the basic necessities that working families need and use the most.

Among their findings, CSA monitors reported:

- The price of sugar was up 63 percent and milk 28 percent at a Cleveland supermarket.
- Electric utility charges rose 20 percent in Albuquerque, N.M.
- A bottle of Hunt's ketchup rose 43 cents to $1.03 at an A&P store in Atlanta.
- The price of margarine went up 30 percent at an Acme store in Philadelphia.
- And rent for a one-bedroom apartment rose nearly 10 percent in Washington, D.C.

Meany pointed out that those are samplings of the preliminary CSA study, noting that "out of 80 items checked in one report, only two went down and five remained the same. In other words, 73 prices out of 80 increased."

On a broader scope, he noted, the cost of food, shelter, medical care and energy has risen 13.1 percent since October.

"There is something else that consumers understand," he observed. "And that is that the buying power of their paychecks is shrinking.

Since the President announced the anti-inflation effort in October, real earnings have dropped 1.5 percent, Meany said.

He attributed that deterioration to employers, whom he described as the first "volunteers" in the fight against inflation when dealing with workers' wages.

"Of course, employers are only part-time volunteers, eager to hold down wages and forgetful about holding down prices," Meany said.

He also noted a lack of voluntarism in business when it comes to profits, pointing out that corporate income in the last quarter of 1978—when the Administration's anti-inflation program was in full force—rose at a compounded annual rate of 44 percent.

"And much of the increase was concentrated in the very companies that piously pledged to the President of the United States that business would cooperate with the guidelines," Meany stressed.

He went on to advise Kahn that the AFL-CIO price monitors will soon be channelling their reports to the COWPS staff.

"Because of the complexity of the price guidelines, these volunteers will be unable to determine on their own which price increases meet the convoluted guidelines and which are ripoffs," Meany said.

Kahn, in his address to the conference, acknowledged that the Administration's anti-inflation program is weak in the price area.

"The first and most obvious place in which we have to do better is price monitoring," he said, adding that "it is obvious that we have had problems here in the past."

He also conceded that COWPS does have an inadequate staff to sort through thousands of price reports coming in monthly and urged that the AFL-CIO Price Watch monitors submit refined data that can be easily digested and put into use.

"Particularly helpful to us will be the spot checks you have agreed to conduct on specific products we selected for investigation," he said. "These will be an integral part of our determinations of whether particular companies are or are not complying."

Kahn agreed that unions were correct in their early criticism that a 7 percent wage standard would be far easier to enforce than the complex price standard.

He expressed the hope, however, that the monitoring effort by AFL-CIO members at the local level will be "only the beginning of a much broader process of building a national coalition against inflation."

In fielding a question from the floor Kahn suggested that the Administration's "real wage" insurance proposal to insulate workers against high inflation could have fared better in Congress if it had been endorsed by the AFL-CIO.

Meany pointed out in response that the federation had endorsed the concept of real wage insurance, but that it objected to the unfairness of the Administration's proposal which would have left many workers unprotected.

Meany said the failure of the measure suffered more from the lack of any effective effort by the Administration to get it through Congress.

"To me it was just a gimmick that they presented to the public, and I don't think it's as important as Mr. Kahn thinks it is," Meany observed. He added, "I don't think the Administration had any real intention of trying to pass that bill."

In an address prepared for the conference, Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) urged the volunteer price monitors to take their jobs seriously in making the labor movement the leader in the fight against price gouging.

He also accused the White House of contributing to inflationary pressures in its plan to decontrol crude oil prices.

Conference delegates also participated in workshops exploring specific avenues for curbing excessive prices. The workshop panelists included President Thomas M. Bradley of the Baltimore AFL-CIO; Dorothy I. Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women; Roger D. Hickey, executive director of Consumers Opposed to Inflation in the Necessities (COIN); Norman Hill, executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; William R. Hutton, executive director of the National Council of Senior Citizens; Kathleen O'Reilly, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America; Esther Peterson, special assistant to President Carter for Consumer Affairs; George Robinson, community services director of the Machinists, and Gus Tyler, assistant president of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

President Paul Hall of the Seafarers and AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis served as chairmen for the conference sessions.

Boiling Over



AFL-CIO Renews Effort To Tighten Visa Policy

The AFL-CIO said that it will again seek repeal of the two-year-old McGovern Amendment which lifted virtually all restrictions on the issuance of entry visas to Communists into the United States, including representatives of totalitarian labor fronts.

Legislative Director Kenneth Young, appearing before the Commission on Security & Cooperation in Europe, warned that it is "crucial that a clear distinction be made between genuine unions that represent the interests of their workers and labor fronts that serve as instruments of totalitarian states whether they be on the 'left' or the 'right.'

"That distinction is blurred and enfeebled by the issuance of visas to so-called Soviet trade unionists as trade unionists," he asserted.

Young was accompanied by Tom Kahn, assistant to Federation President George Meany, in his appearance before the 15-member commission. The panel, chaired by Rep. Dante B. Fascell (D-Fla.) was created by Congress three years ago to monitor the U.S. government's compliance with the 1975 Helsinki accords, particularly the humanitarian provisions.

The Senate voted last year to repeal the McGovern Amendment but this action was overturned by a conference committee. The AFL-CIO supported the Senate action and, Young said, "we shall again seek a change in the law from this Congress."

Adoption of the amendment failed to achieve its purpose of encouraging the Soviet-bloc signatories to comply with the Helsinki Final Act, Young pointed out.

"Totalitarian labor fronts have absolutely no interest in the human rights of workers," he declared. "Certainly, they have no interest in recruiting these workers to organize independent unions representing worker interests as contrasted with government interests."

Young said that the AFL-CIO was "greatly disturbed" over a 1977 commission report that failed to see communist unionists as government agents in the context of the Helsinki agreement.

"If it is the judgment of this commission that the long-held view of American labor—that so-called Soviet 'trade unionists' are not true representatives of workers—is a state of mind rendered impermissible by the Helsinki Accords, then we stand guilty of violating the accords," he said.

"We believe, however, that the contrary is true, and that the (commission report) subverts the overall thrust of the commission's work, which we have applauded repeatedly in the past. The promotion of human rights compliance—the implicit purpose of this commission—flounders once the distinction between free and unfree institutions is lost," he added.

"Whatever this Congress may decide about the future of the McGovern Amendment," he said, "the AFL-CIO will not betray the workers of the Soviet Union by breaking bread with their oppressors."

Nathan Cites Complex Of Consumer Problems

Accepting the National Consumers League Trumpeter Award, economist Robert Nathan stressed the need to "rededicate ourselves" to finding constructive solutions to complex social and economic problems.

Nathan, who has served as chairman of the NCL board for the past decade, was honored at the league's annual dinner in Washington for his efforts on behalf of workers and consumers. NCL is celebrating its 80th birthday this month.

Esther Peterson, special assistant to President Carter for consumer affairs, presented the award and read a message of congratulations from Carter and Vice President Walter Mondale.

In his acceptance remarks. Nathan noted that "in many ways we're faced with a tendency for people to run away from their problems." He warned against "simplistics"—such as the statement that "all government regulation is no good"—and stressed the need for "positive, constructive . . . innovative efforts" to deal with sensitive problem areas such as inflation and energy.

Leon Keyserling, who heads the Conference on Economic Progress, cited Nathan for his "courage" in testifying in favor of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment bill while "other top-ranking economists in and out of government" ignored or opposed the measure.

Mary Keyserling, who heads NCL's research and education committee, reported that the league is setting up a Robert Nathan fellowship for students of economics, political science or law to spend a year of study with the league in Washington.

Chairman Joseph Duffy of the National Endowment for the Humanities announced at the dinner that the NCL has been given a $16,000 grant to research its 80-year history of work on the minimum wage and other labor standards and consumer issues.

AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. President Jacob Clayman, who served as master of ceremonies, reminded the 400 guests of the importance of the league in the struggle to pass minimum wage laws.

Recalling his own participation in the effort to secure a minimum wage law in Ohio, Clayman stressed that the league was labor's only ally in the fight.

Former Ohio Governor John Gilligan noted the federal minimum wage law—a top priority of the league—won passage by one vote in 1938. Gilligan said the league was "a citizens' movement long before citizens' movements were recognized as such in this country."

Aluminum Pacts Yield 13-Cent COL Boost

Pittsburgh — The cost-of-living provision in the Steelworkers contract with four aluminum companies brought a 13-cent hourly pay raise to 30,000 USWA members on Mar. 5. They are employed by ALCOA, Reynolds Metals, Kaiser Aluminum and Consolidated Aluminum.

Braniff Airline Pact Approved By Attendants

Braniff flight attendants overwhelmingly approved a new contract reached between their union and the carrier.

President Patricia Robertson of the Association of Flight Attendants said that 89 percent of those voting in the mail ballot approved the pact. The contract is retroactive to Aug. 1, 1977, and runs through Dec. 31, 1980.

The contract provides for wage increases of up to 56 percent for some pay brackets, increases in expense money and premium pay, and single room accommodations for flight attendants on overnight flights.

Robertson said the agreement "brings Braniff flight attendants in line with, and in many cases above, the rest of the airline industry, in both wages and working conditions." She noted that the union had been granted an exemption from strict interpretation of the Administration's wage and price guidelines by the Council on Wage & Price Stability.

R. J. Nicholson Dies, Insurance Union Leader

Rockland, Mass. — Robert J. Nicholson, a vice president of the Insurance Workers for the past 18 years, died Apr. 8 of cancer here.

Nicholson, who was 64, had been active in union affairs since the mid-1940s. He served as a vice president of the old Insurance Workers of America in the 1950s and was first elected a vice president of the IWIU in 1961.

Labor Force Grows:

March Jobless Rate Holds at 5.7% Level

(Continued from Page 1)

This was the case last month. Employment continued to expand, increasing by 195,000 to 96,842,000, but the labor force grew equally fast, rising by 190,000 to 102,527,000. The new jobs were not enough to make a dent in unemployment, which remained at about 5.9 million.

Janet L. Norwood, acting commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which released the latest unemployment figures, told the congressional Joint Economic Committee that the labor force growth has been "mindboggling." She speculated that more and more people are being driven into the job market by inflation.

Total employment since March 1978 has risen by 3.5 million, with women accounting for half the gain. Last month's employment-population ratio—the ratio of employment to working-age population 16 years and older—remained at its previous high of 59.4 percent.

Beneath the surface of the jobs situation, there are these factors to consider:

● About 725,000 so-called discouraged workers were unemployed in March. These are Americans who want to work but have given up looking for a job because they believe they cannot find one.

While the discouraged-worker level has declined by 350,000 since mid-1977 to its lowest level since the third quarter of 1974, it is still an important factor in gauging actual joblessness. BLS, however, does not include it in calculating unemployment. Nor does the government's official jobless rate reflect the number of workers employed part-time because they cannot find full-time jobs. There were 3,179,000 such workers in March.

If both groups — discouraged workers and those involuntarily employed part-time—were cranked into the jobless count, "true" unemployment last month was 8 percent, the federation's research department figures.

● Even at 5.7 percent, the March unemployment rate is at a historically high level. The official government rate has been in the 5.7 to 5.9 percent range for the past eight months.

The Carter Administration, meanwhile, appears content to let the rate drift higher as part of its campaign to cool inflation, and has predicted a year-end jobless rate of 6.2 percent.

● While jobless rates for both blacks and whites have improved considerably over the last few years, the ratio of black unemployment to white unemployment has increased dramatically. The current jobless rate for black men is 8.8 percent, or 2.6 times higher than that for white men. The rate for black women, 9.8 percent, is twice that for white women.

The March unemployment report put the jobless rate for black workers at 11.2 percent, slightly below the 11.9 percent rate in February. For whites, the rate edged up from 4.9 to 5 percent.

Black teenage unemployment dropped from 35.5 to 31.5 percent over the month while the rate for white teenagers remained unchanged at 13.6 percent.

Most other labor-force categories were unchanged. Adult men and women had rates of 4 and 5.7 percent, respectively, in March. The jobless rate for full-time workers was 5.1 percent, compared to 5.2 percent in February.

The number of workers on nonfarm payrolls increased by 324,000, or four-tenths of 1 percent, to a seasonally adjusted 88.2 million in March.



RENEWING AN OLD ACQUAINTANCESHIP are Mrs. Libet Werhahn, daughter of the late West German chancellor Konrad Adenauer, and AFL-CIO President George Meany. Mrs. Werhahn was joined in her visit to Washington by her daughter Charlotte, left, and son Stephan. Adenauer had been a frequent host of Meany's in Bonn following World War II.

Government Boosts Poverty Guidelines

Poverty-level guidelines, used by government agencies to determine eligibility for various job and training programs, have been raised to reflect higher consumer prices over the past year.

The new income level below which an urban family of four is considered poor was increased, effective Apr. 1, to $6,700 from $6,200 a year earlier. Higher levels are used for Hawaii, $7,710, and Alaska, $8,380.

For a family of six, in all states except Hawaii and Alaska, the new urban poverty cutoff is an income of $8,900.

Poll Ranks Meany 4th In Assessing Influence

AFL-CIO President George Meany again has been ranked among the five most influential people in the country by U.S. News & World Report magazine.

In a poll of 1,439 American leaders from a variety of occupations and from all parts of the United States, Meany drew the fourth largest number of points.

President Carter was ranked first as he was last year. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) was second, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., (D-Mass.), third, and Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd (D-W.Va.), fifth.

Meany has ranked among the top five influential Americans in every one of the magazine's six annual surveys. In the opinion of one prominent person mentioned by the magazine, Meany "affects the economy, the morale and outlook of workers as well as America's capacity to compete with foreign producers."

In the ranking of the influence of 29 major institutions, however, organized labor fell to eighth place from fifth place last year and third place the year before. Big business came in second behind the White House.

Other institutional leaders include the Senate, third; Supreme Court, fourth; television, fifth; the federal bureaucracy, sixth, and the House of Representatives, seventh. Rounding out the top ten, behind labor, were banks, ninth, and lobby and pressure groups.

In a sub-category of the poll, participants were asked to list the persons they considered to be the most influential in their field. The top five in labor were Meany, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, UAW President Douglas A. Fraser, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., and Labor Sec. Ray Marshall.

Business Support Asked To Curb 'Lie Detectors'

Sec.-Treas. Robert Harbrant of the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. has called on business leaders to join efforts to curb the abuse of the so-called lie-detector in employer-employee relations.

"We are asking responsible business leaders to come forward and join in our support of congressional efforts to check the rapidly growing use of these devices in the workplace," Harbrant said. "Aside from being highly unreliable, the polygraph is a dehumanizing and unconstitutional invasion of privacy that is unworthy of any free society."

"Lie-detectors" or polygraphs are now in use in about one-fifth of the large firms in the country and about half of the retail companies surveyed in a study by Wichita State University researchers John Belt and Peter Holden. The accuracy of polygraph tests has been repeatedly challenged, and studies have found that as many as half the innocent, truthful subjects of the tests are erroneously classified as "deceptive." The real purpose of the testing, Harbrant charged, has been for "the intimidation and psychological manipulation of workers."

"In the majority of states, anyone buying a polygraph machine can go into business immediately. It's estimated that fewer than one percent of operators have had any professional training. And the employee or applicant is completely at the mercy of the examiner to be asked the most personal and embarrassing questions," he said.

Harbrant urged business leaders to speak out on the issue and help lead efforts to curb the use of polygraphs and other so-called lie-detectors in the workplace. "The implications of their ever-growing use are chilling. It is technology put to its worst use," he added.

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Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Senate Defers Final Vote on HEW Splitup

The Senate put off until after the Easter recess a vote on a bill opposed by the AFL-CIO that would break up the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to carve out a separate Dept. of Education.

The American Federation of Teachers has taken a strong stand against breaking up HEW, and AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young wrote senators that a separate Cabinet department "will do nothing to improve the education opportunities for children."

A similar Administration-backed bill passed the Senate in the last Congress by a wide margin but didn't reach a vote in the House. The Senate had been expected to pass the new bill before the recess, but the timetable was set back by an attempt to challenge the Supreme Court decision barring prayers in public schools.

First the Senate adopted, 47-37, an amendment by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-S.C.), to the Dept. of Education bill designed to deny courts jurisdiction over prayer in schools.

Then, as advocates of a separate Dept. of Education became concerned that such an attempt to curtail the judicial branch of government would scuttle the bill, the Senate leadership worked out a way to undo the action.

First, the Senate put aside the education bill to take up an unrelated measure dealing with Supreme Court jurisdiction. It then added the Helms amendment to the Supreme Court bill, and passed the amended bill by voice vote. Its fate in the House is uncertain.

Then the Senate returned to the Dept. of Education bill and voted to strip it of the Helms amendment.

But with other amendments pending, it postponed further action until later this month.

Unions Hit CAB Aid To Foreign Airlines

Two AFL-CIO unions with members employed by the airline industry charged that permitting foreign air carriers to transport American passengers between two points in the United States would have serious consequences for the nation's workers and air transportation system.

The Air Line Pilots and the Transport Workers both charged that the failure of the Civil Aeronautics Board to enforce existing law prohibiting the practice, known as cabotage, amounts to strike-breaking.

ALPA President John J. O'Donnell was highly critical of the CAB's role in allowing foreign carriers to operate United Airlines' Hawaii-to-California routes during the current Machinists strike against the line. At least seven foreign lines are reportedly transporting passengers to the mainland in violation of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, he said.

"We express opposition to this illegal policy in the strongest possible terms," he said. "The labor dispute between United and its mechanics has been subjected to every laborious and time-consuming procedure set forth in the Railway Labor Act.

"Accordingly, the current work stoppage conforms with the spirit and letter of the Railway Labor Act and is lawful in every regard. We believe that the granting of cabotage is contrary to the national interest in providing reasonable support to American companies and their employees in international trade."

Meanwhile, TWUA President Matthew Guinan and Ernest Mitchell, director of TWUA's air transport division, called on President Carter to remedy the CAB's failure to prosecute violators of the cabotage provision of the law.

"By allowing foreign air carriers to compete directly on U.S. domestic routes with our own carriers — giving American jobs to foreign nationals," they said, "the CAB is doing a disservice to our own airline industry, their employees, the traveling public, and American taxpayers."

Guinan and Mitchell said that if Carter did not stop the violations their union might be forced to take "general strike action of our own" until the CAB enforces the law.

Jack Barbash to Head Research Association

Madison, Wis.—Jack Barbash, professor of economics and industrial relations at the University of Wisconsin, has been chosen president-elect of the Industrial Relations Research Association for 1979.

Barbash was director of research for the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. during the mid-1950s.

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Union Near New Pact In Rubber

By James M. Shevis

Akron, Ohio—The Rubber Workers announced tentative contract agreement on basic economic issues with three of the nation's four major tire manufacturers just a day before the expiration of the old contracts.

The announcement, issued by URW President Peter Bommarito shortly before the AFL-CIO News went to press, said that the tentative accords with Uniroyal, Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., and B.F. Goodrich would be presented to the union's 15-member Big Four Advisory Committee meeting in Columbus before details of the settlements were released.

Bommarito said he expected the largest of the four firms, Goodyear, to "go along with the pattern—they always have." He said union negotiators "will work out other details in the agreements to complete the total package and, if necessary, will continue the negotiations on a day-to-day basis."

The union's master contracts with the industry, covering about 55,000 rubber industry workers, were scheduled to expire on Apr. 20 at midnight.

Separate negotiations have been in progress since late February with Uniroyal in New York City, Goodyear in Cincinnati, Firestone in Cleveland, and Goodrich in Columbus.

Wages and other economic issues were crucial items in the current contract talks. Before the settlements were announced, only one company, Goodyear, presented the union with a firm offer, and that was rejected as inadequate.

Of major concern to the union this year is the growing problem of plant closings, which have thrown thousands of rubber workers out of jobs. The URW has proposed increases in workers' severance pay, pensions, insurance, and other benefits as a deterrence to future plant shutdowns.

Last February, the union made an agreement with Firestone not to strike the company on economic issues in return for Firestone's acceptance of terms negotiated with the rest of the industry and withdrawal from a mutual assistance program with the other firms in the event of an industry strike. Under the aid pact, tiremakers that are not struck agree to make payments or furnish tires to companies that are struck.

Unions Document Charge Of Illegal Wage Sanctions

New NLRB Order Hits J.P. Stevens

A National Labor Relations Board administrative law judge has hit the J. P. Stevens & Co. textile giant with a new order to halt unfair labor practices in West Boylston, Ala., and begin bargaining with the Clothing & Textile Workers.

In a strongly worded decision, Judge Robert A. Giannasi found that the company undertook a "widespread and extensive campaign with coercive captive audience speeches, threats of reprisals, promises and grants of benefits and solicitations of grievances to counter the union" during its 1976 organizing drive at Stevens's West Boylston plant.

Giannasi ordered Stevens to stop discouraging union activity, agree to bargain with ACTWU, reinstate nine workers fired for their union activity, and reimburse two others for lost earnings.

ACTWU Senior Executive Vice President Sol Stetin hailed the ruling as "another landmark in the decisions that have served to brand Stevens as the most notorious labor-law violators in the nation's history."

The yarn-producing facility employed about 450 production and maintenance workers when ACTWU began its drive in July 1976. The union filed charges of unfair labor practices against the company in November 1976, and Giannasi deliberated on the case for seven weeks between August 1977 and this month.

The decision was the latest in a series of NLRB actions against the

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GROCERY PRICES in a New York supermarket are checked and recorded by price watch committee members of Ladies' Garment Workers Local 62-32. From left are Alice Veles, Iris Fuazo and Cecile Ackmed, the local's education director.

Volunteer Effort:

Price Watch Teams Spotlight Increases

The mobilization of local Operation Price Watch groups is bringing in the expected findings: consumer prices are rising a lot faster than workers' wages.

Labor's nationwide price monitoring program, coordinated by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, is being handled at the local level by volunteer union members and their families. They are checking on increases in food prices, rents, health care fees, utility rates, fuel costs and other basic necessities.

Parallel programs tied in to the AFL-CIO effort have also been set up by the Machinists and the Ladies' Garment Workers.

Typical of the local level effort is one launched by the Cleveland AFL-CIO with 140 unionists and members of consumer and senior citizens organizations who are keeping tabs on inflation in their rounds of supermarkets, service stations, clothing stores and other retail outlets.

Since the IAM initiated its Inflation Watch program three months ago by publishing a checklist in the monthly Machinist newspaper, the union has received 1,800 responses.

Early returns from IAM members reflect their concern over rising food prices, particularly dairy products and meat.

But some IAM returns note that while food prices have been climbing weekly pennies at a time, health care costs—according to one respondent—shot up at a $5 increment for a doctor's office visit.

The ILGWU monitoring program was kicked off with a staff conference in New York for representatives from all of the union's regions and areas.

In briefing the ILGWU staffers, Assistant President Gus Tyler stressed that local price watch committees should concentrate on standard consumer items. Citing the need for accurate recordkeeping,

(Continued on Page 3)

Court Gets Bargaining Affidavits

By David L. Perlman

The AFL-CIO and affiliated unions have turned over to a federal court a thick file of evidence that the Administration is undermining collective bargaining and shortchanging America's workers by using illegal sanctions to enforce supposedly voluntary wage guidelines.

The bargaining table case histories backed up the AFL-CIO request for a summary judgment in the suit it filed a month ago to stop the Administration from denying federal contracts to firms that give their workers a pay raise above the 7 percent guideline.

Such a contract debarment policy directly violates the law that set up the Council on Wage & Price Stability, the AFL-CIO said in an accompanying legal memorandum. But it nevertheless has proven "powerful and effective" in thwarting collective bargaining.

The next step in the legal procedure is for the government to file a reply to the AFL-CIO presentation. Judge Barrington Parker then would either grant the motion for a summary judgment and decide the case on the basis of the unchallenged facts and the legal briefs or deny the motion and proceed with further hearings.

A string of affidavits from officials of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers (IUE) gave examples of both large and small companies where the threatened loss of government contracts has stymied the collective bargaining process.

IUE President David J. Fitzmaurice testified that top officials of General Electric already have

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Labor Mobilizes Aid For Disaster Victims

By John R. Oravec

Union volunteers are working closely with the American Red Cross in relief and rescue efforts to aid tornado and flood victims in the wake of early spring disasters in parts of the South and Midwest.

In a one-week span, killer tornadoes ripped through northern Texas and southern Oklahoma, and severe flooding forced the evacuation of many families in Mississippi and Alabama. Sections of Missouri and Illinois bordering the Mississippi River were also under water.

A major relief and recovery project involving organized labor is centered in Wichita Falls, Tex., and neighboring communities near the Texas-Oklahoma line.

At least 58 persons were killed by twisters in the area—44 in Wichita Falls, 11 in Vernon and Harrold, Tex., and three in Lawton, Okla. Hundreds were injured in the four communities. A number of persons were also injured by tornadoes in Arkansas.

Rosa Walker, director of community services for the Texas AFL-CIO, reported that at least two union members were among the Wichita Falls fatalities.

Walker said that the homes of an estimated 350 to 400 union families were destroyed in the

(Continued on Page 2)

Probe Asked in Beating Of Shipyard Strikers

Newport News, Va.—The Steelworkers called on the federal government to investigate "blatant violations" of its members' civil and constitutional rights following a day of bloody confrontation and mass arrests here.

In a telegram to Atty. Gen. Griffin Bell, USWA District 35 Director Bruce Thrasher said that state and city police in Newport News "deliberately, brutally, and unlawfully assaulted" members of the union and "drove pickets and uninvolved citizens before them for 20 blocks, clubbing, kicking, and permitting attack dogs" to bite them.

The violence grew out of the union's 11-week-old strike against the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., located in Thrasher's district. Workers at the shipyard voted on Apr. 13 to remain on strike after the union's negotiating committee and executive board of USWA Local 8888 decided to suspend the strike while union attorneys conclude current proceedings

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Steelworkers Ask Probe of Police Attacks

(Continued from Page 1)

before the National Labor Relations Board.

In his wire to Bell, Thrasher accused police also of attacking Local 8888 headquarters, "beating and kicking innocent people." He said the unprovoked police action on Apr. 16 came after weeks of police harassment and arrests and was launched on the pickets as they walked on public property along the periphery of the giant shipyard.

"The police action—a deliberate and carefully planned brutalization of union members and bystanders — requires an immediate and thorough investigation," Thrasher declared. "The company's numerous and continuing violations of employees' rights to have a union and to participate in union activities stand as a shameful chapter in the history of American labor-management relations."

Thrasher said that the company, a Tenneco, Inc. subsidiary, had abused workers' rights long ago affirmed by Congress.

"It is especially grievous when the U.S. government itself is witness to the unlawful treatment of men and women who build ships for the U.S. Navy," he said.

USWA members struck the shipyard on Jan. 31, a year after the Steelworkers won a representation election among the facility's 17,000 employees. Since January, the company has refused to bargain, and has chosen to resist the union by delaying tactics in the courts.

The union has cited the Newport News situation as a perfect example of the need for reform of federal labor law.

Boy Scouts Name Unionist to Board

North Brunswick, N.J.—Victor S. Kamber, assistant to the president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., has been elected to the national executive board of the Boy Scouts of America.

Kamber is an Eagle Scout and a former scoutmaster.



LETTUCE GROWERS are using illegal aliens as strikebreakers and the Immigration & Naturalization Service is turning a blind eye, Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez charged. Chavez is shown addressing a National Press Club luncheon in Washington.

Chavez Hits Strike Role Of Immigration Service

Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez has charged that the Carter Administration "is involved in breaking a strike" by not cracking down on grower use of illegal aliens in California lettuce fields.

Chavez, addressing the National Press Club in Washington, singled out the Immigration & Naturalization Service as "great experts at giving us the runaround."

Chavez said that SunHarvest, the nation's biggest lettuce producer, and other growers have been using large numbers of illegal aliens as strikebreakers with virtual immunity from INS enforcement of immigration laws. About one-fourth of the 4,500 workers on strike were employed at SunHarvest.

Chavez made clear that the strike against 11 growers, following the expiration of three-year contracts in January, is critical for the UFW.

Soon after UFW member Rufino Contreras was shot and killed in a lettuce field near El Centro on Feb. 10, Chavez said, the union became aware that growers were recruiting "large numbers" of illegal aliens from Mexico and the Philippines. He said the growers also hired members of the Ku Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party to serve as armed guards. He said some growers also contracted with a guard agency to help break the strike, and the UFW has made this the basis of a charge before the state's Agricultural Labor Relations Board.

Chavez was especially riled by a Washington Post story that quoted INS Commissioner Leonel Castillo as complaining that the union's complaints on illegals were vague or unproductive. He said Castillo and the INS "are really experts at grossly misstating the facts."

Chavez then read a list of dates on which he said the UFW reported to immigration officials specific information on the numbers of illegal aliens and ranches where they were being used and the motels where they were housed.

At INS headquarters, a spokesman, Verne Jarvis, said "there is no question that the fields in California are full of undocumented aliens." He said he had taped Chavez's speech and would send it immediately to the INS western region to have the specific charges checked out.

He stressed the constraints of limited personnel and court rulings on the INS and noted that the INS cannot enter motel rooms or businesses without search warrants. He said INS has authority to go into a field without a warrant, but is wary of appearing to take sides in labor disputes or "inciting" a riot.

The lettuce strike is developing into a nationwide dispute between the UFW and the growers. To counter the UFW consumer boycott, the growers hired an advertising agency and have run full-page ads in the New York Times and Washington Post. United Brands also is following Chavez's speaking tour and issuing background materials on its side of the dispute.

The UFW said that most lettuce workers earn $3.70 an hour. It said that workers on piece rates earn less than they did in 1970 after inflation is taken into account. The union is seeking a raise in the hourly rate to $5.25 and in piece rates from 57 cents to 68 cents a box.

Contempt Fine Erased In Card Disclosure Case

A federal appeals court removed a $10,000 fine imposed against General Counsel John S. Irving of the National Labor Relations Board for his refusal to disclose union authorization cards that had been subpoenaed for a criminal trial.

The decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit modifies a lower court's ruling but notes that the trial judge did not abuse his discretion in ordering Irving to produce the cards.

In its ruling, the appeals court said that the cards "cannot be kept completely confidential" but should be disclosed only to the attorneys for the defendants, rather than the defendants themselves.

"This compromise will enable the defendants' attorneys to determine whether any of the cards were forged or are relevant to the defense," the appeals court said. "At the same time, the confidentiality of the employees will be adequately protected."

Irving, who agreed to comply with the modified disclosure order, said he felt the court ruling "adequately protects the board's concerns for the employees involved."

The dispute over the cards stemmed from a federal indictment in Brooklyn charging Interstate Dress Carriers and Local 102 of the Ladies' Garment Workers with attempting to discourage Local 20408 of the United Warehouse, Industrial & Affiliated Trades Employees Union from obtaining a representation election.

Defense lawyers for the company subpoenaed the NLRB to turn over all authorization cards or applications for membership in Local 20408 as evidence for the defense. Judge Henry Bramwell, the trial judge, held Irving in contempt of court for refusing to turn over the cards.

Irving maintained that the cards were privileged and that confidentiality was required to ensure a fair, uncoerced secret-ballot election.

When You Buy a Home . . .
Look for the


UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

After Floods, Tornadoes:

Unions Rush Help To Disaster Victims

(Continued from Page 1)

Wichita Falls area and about 200 more homes of union members were severely damaged.

Union volunteers working with the Red Cross in Wichita Falls operations centers have come from as far away as Houston—a distance of 400 miles, Walker said.

They have been assisting the tornado victims in filing applications for relief services, including temporary housing, food stamps, unemployment compensation, social security benefits and disaster loans.

Meeting the needs for temporary housing is a prime concern, Walker said, because heavy rains coming after the tornadoes have made many of the damaged homes uninhabitable.

President Harry Hubbard of the Texas AFL-CIO has urged union members in the state who wish to make contributions to the Red Cross to channel the donations through the Wichita Falls AFL-CIO.

The Oklahoma AFL-CIO has issued an appeal for funds, food and clothing to assist its tornado victims. The money will be sent to the Red Cross and the food and clothing will be delivered to the Lawton area by union volunteers.

Direct relief is also going to affected union members from their locals, labor representatives said. Carpenters Local 977 in Wichita Falls, for example, has made available $200 for each of its 27 members whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged by the tornado.

In Mississippi, State AFL-CIO President Claude Ramsay said that union members were working around the clock to keep public facilities operating as the rampaging Pearl River rose more than 25 feet above flood stage. Thousands of persons were made homeless in the state capital of Jackson as well as in a number of other cities.

An estimated 3,000 persons also had to be evacuated because of flooding in Alabama. Barney Weeks, president of the State AFL-CIO, said the rising floodwaters in Demopolis threatened the homes of many Chemical Workers and Paperworkers.

David Oliver, labor liaison with the Red Cross headquarters representing the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, reported that union volunteers were also assisting flood victims in the Dakotas, Minnesota, Missouri and Illinois.

He said full-time union community services representatives were helping coordinate labor's efforts along with 300 Red Cross staff members involved in nine separate relief operations across the South and Midwest.

Bargaining Rights Upheld for Interns

A federal appeals court in Washington ruled that intern and resident doctors at nonprofit voluntary hospitals may organize and bargain collectively, overturning a 1976 National Labor Relations Board decision excluding hospital housestaff from National Labor Relations Act coverage on the ground they were primarily students rather than employees.

Judge J. Skelly Wright said that the legislative history of the NLRB "provides substantial support for the view that Congress intended that hospital housestaff be covered" by the federal labor law.

The ruling stemmed from a suit against the NLRB by the Physicians National Housestaff Association, an unaffiliated union representing 13,000 hospital personnel.

Macfarlane Retires As Idaho President

Boise, Ida.—President Robert W. Macfarlane of the Idaho State AFL-CIO announced his retirement at the organization's Apr. 7 executive board meeting, citing ill health.

The board subsequently appointed Robert Kinghorn, director of the state department of labor and industrial services for the past two years, to fill out the remaining three months of Macfarlane's term. Macfarlane will serve during that period in an advisory capacity to the new president.

The board also voted to submit a resolution at the State AFL-CIO convention in June to create the position of president-emeritus, naming Macfarlane to the post.

Kinghorn, 45, served 18 years as business agent for Operating Engineers Local 270. He is a former three-term state senator from Pocatello.

In a telegram to Macfarlane expressing appreciation for his years of service to the labor movement, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said that the federation "will miss your outstanding leadership." They added:

"Your record of personal dedication to the welfare of the working people of Idaho and the nation is known far beyond Idaho's borders."

Macfarlane, 69, has served as president of the State AFL-CIO for the past dozen years, having been first elected at the organization's 1967 convention. He previously had served as business agent of Local 449 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

IAM Agrees On Terms of Conrail Pact

Members of the Machinists employed by the Consolidated Rail Corp. approved a new 39-month contract similar to that reached by the Railway & Airline Clerks and other unions.

IAM's agreement with Conrail covers 4,500 members of 49 locals. In the main, the pact contains the terms of the agreement negotiated nationally between the union and other railroads. Besides a 37 percent wage increase, the settlement provides for improvements in work rules, health and welfare benefits, and holidays.

Wage increases are scheduled to show up about May 1 and retroactive increases about June 15.

Other unions which have settled with Conrail include the Railway & Airline Clerks, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Boilermakers & Blacksmiths, Firemen & Oilers, and Sheet Metal Workers.

Shopping Center Case:

NLRB Blocks Ban On Store Picketing

The National Labor Relations Board, sustaining the right of workers to engage in informational picketing on private property at a shopping center, overturned an administrative law judge's finding that employers may demand that pickets leave the premises.

Board Chairman John H. Fanning and Members Howard Jenkins, Jr., and John C. Truesdale ruled that members of Retail Clerks Local 1557 in Knoxville, Tenn., were within their rights while engaged in such picketing, and that the demand that they remove themselves from the shopping center was a "sufficient interference with the exercise of protective activity" under the National Labor Relations Act.

"Those receiving the demand would not know what action might be taken, and we will not require that they subject themselves to the possibility of arrest or some physical act by the one making the demand in order to carry on their protected activity," the board said.

The shopping center in the case was on land leased to the S. S. Kresge Co., which operates a K-Mart store in part of a building on the land. Allied Food Markets operated a store in the remainder of the building, subletting the space from Kresge. Subsequently, Giant Food Markets, Inc., took over the space formerly occupied by Allied, also under a sublease from Kresge.

Giant employed none of Allied's former employees, who had been represented by Local 1557, and Giant's employees had no union representation. The union initiated an informational picketing of Giant, using some former Allied employees, claiming that Giant did not pay area standards wages and benefits and asking shoppers to refrain from buying goods there.

Giant operates stores in eastern Tennessee and is not connected in any way with the Giant Food, Inc., which operates outlets in metropolitan Washington, D.C.

Kresge and Giant representatives demanded that the pickets leave the premises. The pickets remained, however, and resumed their picketing in the same area the next day when the union was served with a temporary restraining order issued by a state court. Subsequently, the union picketed and hand-billed just outside the property line at the entrances and exits to the shopping center.

In its decision, the NLRB held that the union engaged in lawful area standards picketing. In attempting to protect area standards, a union acts not only in its own interests but also in the interests of employees of other firms with whom it has negotiated better standards, the board said.

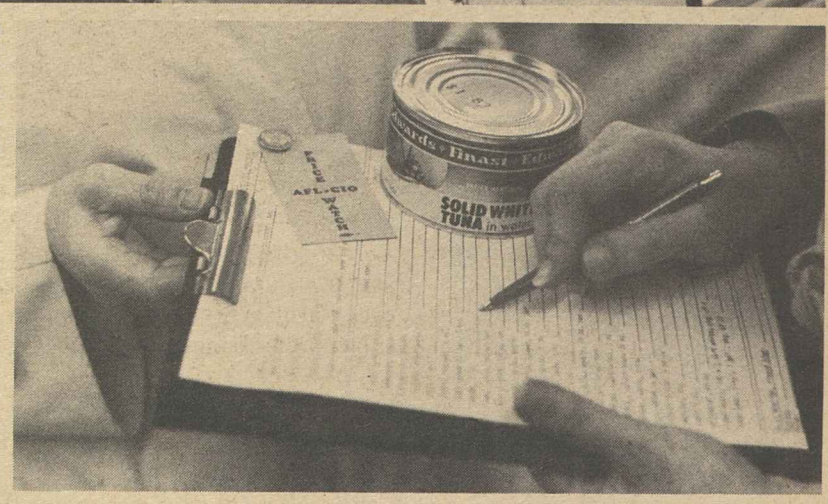
Requiring that any picketing be conducted off the private property, the board added, would "too greatly dilute the union's message for it to be meaningful." Finding no evidence of violence or of interference with traffic into or out of the Kresge and Giant stores, the board concluded that the employers' property rights must yield to the pickets' rights under federal labor law.

HEW Names Kircher To Labor Liaison Post

William L. Kircher, whose union credits include a 10-year span as director of organization for the AFL-CIO, has been named to a labor liaison post with the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. He will set up a program through the Office of Health Maintenance Organizations to work with unions to promote development of new HMOs and expand enrollment in existing prepaid health care plans.

Kircher, who retired from the AFL-CIO staff in 1975, has recently been special assistant to the president of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees. He was on the staff of the UAW before the merger of the AFL and the CIO.





MAKING THEIR ROUNDS of a Cleveland supermarket are AFL-CIO price monitors Susan Dritz and Marge Cramer. They are among the 140 volunteers from unions, consumer groups and senior citizens who are checking on price increases for the Cleveland labor federation. On their clipboard, right, is a can of tuna that has risen in price 85 percent since last October when the Administration's "voluntary" price guidelines went into effect.

Price Watch Groups Report on Increases

(Continued from Page 1)

Tyler said it is essential that the union monitors systematically check and compile information on all consumer goods and services, including food, transportation, housing and other basic needs.

He reminded the conference that the Administration's Council on Wage & Price Stability (COWPS) lacks the machinery to enforce its price guidelines.

A similar point was made to Cleveland price-watchers by Clinton Warne, professor of economics at Cleveland State University and president of the Consumer League of Ohio.

Warne noted that while the government may check on price increases of bigger companies, it compiles no figures on the pricing practices of small businesses.

Herman Kammerman, director of Cleveland's consumer affairs department, deplored the fact that labor has to do the job the government should be doing, and he pledged the full support of the city's consumer agency in the AFL-CIO effort.

Cleveland AFL-CIO President Mel Witt reported that since President Carter's voluntary wage-price guidelines went into effect last October, prices on a select group of consumer items have risen sharply.

In some supermarkets around Cleveland prices climbed 63 percent for sugar, 28 percent for milk and 85 percent for a can of tuna, while electric utility rates rose 20 percent and the price of unleaded gasoline climbed 20 percent.

According to returns of IAM checklists, monthly increases in the price of milk ranged from 6 percent in Wisconsin and 9 percent in South Carolina to 45 percent in Michigan. The price of supermarket hamburger reflected monthly increases ranging from 9 percent in California to 18 percent in Wisconsin, the IAM survey showed.

IAM price-watchers also noted that price monitors should be on the lookout for hidden price increases in supermarkets as food packages are switched to metric weights and measures that contain less food than standard packages.

Information collected by union price-watchers will be compiled, logged and processed by the federation's Dept. of Community Services before it is passed on to COWPS.

Output of Congress Lowest in 40 years

The 96th Congress could set a record for inaction if it continues the snail's pace of its first months.

As of the Easter recess, according to a New York Times compilation, only eight bills had been cleared for the President's signature. That's the lowest tally for a comparable period in 40 years.

The 38 Senate rollcall votes were 62 percent below the pace of the 95th Congress and the 67 House votes were down 42 percent.

Fewer bills were introduced and members of Congress even talked less—filling a mere 6,645 pages of the Congressional Record this year compared to 9,031 in the same period two years ago.

Carter Exempts 75,000 From Federal Pay Lid

More than 75,000 low-paid workers at federal installations have been exempted from the 5.5 percent ceiling currently imposed on government salary increases, and President Carter said he will ask Congress to extend the exemption to an additional 26,000 workers.

Both groups are made up of persons paid less than $4 an hour, which in the private sector is the cutoff point for applying the 7 percent "guideline" limit or pay raises. Until now, federal workers have had the double penalty of a lower pay cap with no exemption for low-wage workers.

The estimated 76,000 due an immediate retroactive pay raise as a result of Carter's ruling are employed at military post exchanges, base restaurants, theaters and a variety of self-supporting recreational facilities usually located at defense installations. Since their pay does not come from government appropriations, they are known as "non-appropriated fund" employees.

Since last October, their annual pay raises have been held to the 5.5 percent cap, even when local wage surveys of similar jobs in the private sector showed they were entitled to higher increases.

Carter said he will seek legislation to exempt from the 5.5 percent ceiling about 26,000 regular government employees in the lowest pay steps who also earn less than $4 an hour.

The American Federation of Government Employees has been pressing for the low-wage exemption and has a court challenge pending to the imposition of the 5.5 percent ceiling on any of the 160,000 workers not paid from government funds.

AFGE President Kenneth T. Blaylock said Carter's change of policy on the low-wage exemption "will be a welcome relief for those workers who have been both the victims of inflation and the foot soldiers in the war against it."

Blaylock expressed hope that Carter "may be becoming aware of the special hardships his inflation program has worked on the entire federal workforce." But he said the AFGE will continue to process its lawsuit on behalf of non-appropriated fund employees earning over $4 an hour and still held to the 5.5 percent pay ceiling.

Arbitration Group Elects Donahue to Board

New York — Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, has been elected to the board of directos of the American Arbitration Association.

The AAA also re-elected Howard Coughlin, president of the Office & Professional Employees, to a new term as board chairman.

Common Problems Link Turkish, U.S. Labor

Ankara, Turkey—The fight against inflation and unemployment in Turkey, as in the United States, is placing new demands on labor to intensify the struggle for a more equitable distribution of wealth, AFL-CIO Vice President John J. O'Donnell told the 11th TURK-IS Congress.

"Workers cannot be made the scapegoats for mistaken policy nor asked to shoulder an unfair burden on the road to economic recovery," O'Donnell said in a speech presented here. TURK-IS is an abbreviation for the Confederation of Turkish Trade Unions.

"Politicians and economists, as well as employers, must come to the realization that workers and their wages are not the cause but the victims of this economic situation," said O'Donnell, who is president of the Air Line Pilots Association.

O'Donnell noted the role that TURK-IS is playing in the search for fair and honest solutions to some of Turkey's problems.

"The Social Contract, which you have helped to establish, reflects the acceptance of the Turkish labor movement as a partner in the decision-making process, governing the nation's economic and social development," he said.

O'Donnell noted the work of the AFL-CIO in assisting democratic and free unions throughout the developing world. He said that the federation was particularly proud of its efforts with TURK-IS in developing consumer cooperatives and health services for members and in aiding migrant workers.

The AFL-CIO viewed the deterioration of American-Turkish relations from 1975 on with the "greatest concern and unease," O'Donnell pointed out. He noted that Turkey serves as a link—between East and West, as well as contrasting cultures and economies.

"We have welcomed the improvement in the relations between our governments and sincerely hope that they will continue to be strengthened in the future," he said. "It is our feeling that the international involvement of TURK-IS and its affiliates has done much to deepen the understanding of Turkey in the international labor movement and in the world at large."

Taxes and Inflation

NATIONAL DEBATE OVER the terms of President Carter's proposed 1980 "austerity" national budget is justifiably focused on attempts to cut programs vital to the well-being of American economic and social life. There is danger, however, that the intensity and urgency of this debate will tend to move attention from a basic injustice of federal economic policy—the fact that American workers and their families now pay considerably more than their fair share of the federal tax burden.

The President's proposals attack the vitality of federal programs that directly affect workers. He would cut back social security benefits on which most workers depend. He would hold down efforts to fulfill the promise of the Occupational Safety & Health Act. He would trim job-producing programs and weaken the federal supports for a whole series of carefully constructed social endeavors.

Yet, there is no recognition in the budget proposals, or in the President's recent pronouncements, of the chilling effect of an increasingly regressive tax structure on the American worker's ability to enjoy a decent standard of living.

Inflation is properly a major concern of the Carter Administration's budget but it is at least questionable that the way to attack inflation is to trim vitally needed programs. Other avenues should be examined, particularly whether the tax structure, as it now exists, serves as a well-structured revenue source.

Taxes, indeed, are as much a part of inflation as food, health care, housing, transportation and other basic necessities. Americans are facing increasingly heavy tax burdens, along with the other strains on family resources. Homeowners are paying sharply higher property taxes, income taxes rise as income grows, state and local taxes increase and social security payments continue to climb.

When rising taxes are added to inflation's other painful costs, the burden becomes almost unbearable. Real wages are falling. A reaction sets in. The call goes out to either cut taxes, or slash the programs the taxes are used for.

Actually, both are happening. Carter Administration policy would trim the budget, lower government spending and curb federal programs. In the states, the attack is being made on taxes, where California's Proposition 13 is a prime example. The consequence again is a cutback in government services.

But to attack government programs and the tax structure that provides government services is to condemn the purpose of government. Government action is critical to economic and social balance through programs geared to specific segments of our society. To apply arbitrary or unreasoned curbs to one or another area is to throw the system out of balance.

Government should be subjected to adjustments and corrections, where necessary. But slashing indiscriminately or one-sidedly at critical programs and tax systems will not resolve the problem of inflation and will only create further burdens on the tax-paying public.

—IUD President Jacob Clayman in Viewpoint.

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Watch It!



Workers Pay the Bill:

Corporate Profiteers Get Fat On Nation's Inflationary Woes

By Gus Tyler

IN THE WAR AGAINST inflation, as in any great war to save the nation, it is not inappropriate to ask everyone to make sacrifices. Some people have done so; some have been forced into doing so; but a fortunate few have been turning our national woe into a windfall—according to figures on corporate profits recently released by the Commerce Dept.

Working people in the United States have been making sacrifices—in most cases quite unwillingly. Their standard of living has been slipping, depressed by higher prices and by higher taxes. Thus, the take-home buying power of workers—the non-supervisory kind who take orders—has fallen by 1.5 percent since last October.

For folks who don't have money to spare, that's a real pinch: over a year, the loss comes to more than 6 percent.

Now let's take a look at corporate profits for the last three months of 1978—October to December. In that closing quarter of last year, profits rose by 9.7 percent above the third quarter of the year. If this gallop continues, then profits will have risen by an incredible 44 percent in one year.

Some economists say it isn't fair to compare a lively fourth quarter with a lazy third quarter. Very well, then: let's compare the final quarter of 1978 with the final quarter of 1977: The increase is still 26.4 percent above last year.

No matter how you slice it, the corporate piece comes out fat.

For the wage and salaried family this upward leap by 9.7 percent in just three months is painful, especially when government guidelines call for a pay ceiling of 7 percent on raises for workers over a whole year.

But the pain is doubly excruciating when the worker has to pay the bill for the four horsemen of the inflationary apocalypse: food, fuel, housing and health.

In a survey conducted by Business Week magazine on how the top companies performed in the last quarter, they found:

Food processors showed a 19 percent increase over the previous year and food retailers showed a 39 percent increase.

Fuel shot up 36 percent. Housing (including real estate) went up 40 percent. Drugs went up 22 percent.

Clearly, profits are one of the most inflationary—if not THE most inflationary—force in our society. Yet nobody talks about profit-push inflation.

Our policies are directed at cost-push inflation, which assumes that the consumer has to pay more because everything (raw materials and labor and etc.) is going up. So the lid is on to hold down wages, causing worker families to live more poorly.

Other policies are directed at demand-pull inflation, which we try to curb by raising interest rates to tighten money, and this—in turn—becomes inflationary. (Bank holding companies showed a jump of 25 percent in last-quarter 1978.)

So, the worker is sacrificed as wage earner and as consumer, while the corporate profiteer goes his merry moneyed way as he sacrifices the rest of the nation.

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How the Guidelines Stifle Bargaining

The IUE and its Local 849 represent approximately 1,000 employees at the Evansville plant of Zenith Electronics Corp.

I attended the contract negotiation session on Apr. 5, 1979. On that day the issue of compliance with President Carter's wage and price guidelines was discussed.

The company, through its corporate labor relations director, James Vito, stated that it had no realistic option but to comply with the 7 percent limitation on wage increases for bargaining unit members . . . because it feared losing government contracts if it exceeded the wage guidelines.

The company further stated that its bargaining position would have been more flexible if the guidelines did not exist.

The company stated that its decision to comply with the guidelines was formulated at the highest policy-making level.

—From affidavit of Thomas F. Birmingham, assistant general counsel for the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

Recollections of the '20s:

Give Business a Free Hand? We Tried That Once Before

The following article by Robert Claiborne appeared on the Op Ed page of the Apr. 7, 1979, New York Times under the title, "You Get No Bread with One Meatball."

IT'S ALL THE FAULT of those nosy bureaucrats and their meddlesome regulations. If it wasn't for them and the union bosses and environmental freaks and news-media manipulators who whoop it up for them, we'd have no probems: no unemployment, no inflation, no energy crisis, no welfare chiselers, no high taxes. If only they would let the American free enterprise system alone to do its thing, all our national difficulties would fold their tents and silently steal away.

This is approximately the message I have been receiving, at steadily increasing volume, from various official and unofficial spokesmen for the business community. Big Government, they say, is Big Brother—but Big Business is Daddy Warbucks, and if we just give him a free hand, everything will be all right.

I'd lay odds that most Americans convinced by this ideological barrage are under 50 years old and ignorant of recent American history. Though it may surprise some younger persons, there is nothing at all new about this magic potion for perpetual prosperity: We tried it once before—and nearly died of it. I know; I was there.

Back in the 1920s, government deferred to business. There was no minimum wage law—textile workers in the South got as little as a dime an hour, and farm workers even less. There was no 40-hour week or time-and-a-half for overtime. No child-labor law either: The Supreme Court had declared them unconstitutional.

There were no welfare chiselers, there was no welfare—or unemployment insurance, or social security. If you couldn't find a job or were too old to work, you lived off your savings, if you had any, or your relatives, if they could afford it, or private charity, if you could get it. There was no Medicare or Medicaid or any other kind of health insurance. If you got sick, you settled for what medical care you could afford, or could persuade your doctor to give you on the cuff. Failing that, you either got well on your own—or didn't.

There was no Securities & Exchange Commission to tell the industrial entrepreneur, and equally industrious bucket-shop operator, what stocks and bonds they could and could not peddle. There was no Environmental Protection Agency to impose burdensome limits on pollution, no Occupational Safety & Health Administration to meddle with working conditions in mines or factories. Taxes on both personal and corporate income were low even in theory.

There was no National Labor Relations Act in those days, few union bosses—and few unions. The major American industries—steel, auto, textiles, oil, chemicals, electrical equipment—were unorganized, and if anyone was fool enough to try organizing them, he could expect the blunt end of a policeman's club or the sharp end of a National Guardsman's bayonet.

As for "the media"—meaning, in those pre-television days, the newspapers—they were, with a bare handful of exceptions, as gung ho for business as was the government. They believed what the economists and other business spokesmen told them: The unfettered initiative and energy of corporate America were leading us to ever-greater levels of national prosperity, liberty, and the possession—not just the pursuit—of happiness. Indeed, barring a few knee-jerk liberals and wild-eyed agitators, just about everybody believed it.

What we actually got was something rather different: the Depression.

Most people, of course, are at least vaguely aware that there was such a thing, but to really grasp what it meant you have to have lived through it, as I did. I was too young, in 1929, to understand the stock-market crash that, in a matter of weeks, wiped out the savings of several million Americans. I was not too young in 1933 to remember when every bank was shut down, lest the whole banking system collapse. Some banks never reopened—and several million more Americans found themselves broke.

I REMEMBER seeing people lined up for blocks just to get a bowl of soup and a chunk of bread. I remember rollerskating through Central Park and seeing a shantytown of packing crates and cardboard cartons—the kind we see today in documentaries about Latin America. Today, we worry—and rightly—about unemployment rates of 5 and 6 percent; in 1933, the figure was close to 20 percent; some people say 30.

For 10, 20, 30 years, American business had been permitted, encouraged, urged to do its thing, with no interference from bureaucrats, unions or anybody else. It did its thing—and we got the business.

Today, business and its allies are urging us to swallow the same wonder drug that almost killed us last time we took it. A doctor who did this would get sued for malpractice; it's a shame the same rules don't apply to those who prescribe economic remedies.

Gentlemen of the "don't-meddle-with-business" school, tell me that the Shah was loved by his people, tell me I can stop worrying and learn to love the bomb—and I might possibly believe you. But don't tell me that American business will make an earthly paradise if we just let it alone. In the immortal words of Huck Finn, "I been there before."

Piecemeal Approach:

Carter's Health Care Proposal Branded Inadequate for Needs

PRESIDENT CARTER'S long-awaited health plan is little more than a false start on the real national health insurance program he pledged three years ago, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman declared.

The Administration's so-called Phase I plan "is stated in such vague terms that we don't know exactly what it would do," and it is very unlikely it "would do anything to assure decent health care for most Americans," Seidman said. Calling it a start toward national health insurance is quite an exaggeration, he added.

"It wouldn't even help the poor, the disadvantaged or the elderly," the very groups that the Administration claims would be the prime beneficiaries, Seidman charged on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Seidman turned aside the contention that Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's Health Care for All Americans Act, which has the support of the labor movement and a wide array of consumer and religious groups, would involve prohibitive costs. He said that the $150 billion figure cited by opponents of the Kennedy bill is far off the mark.

"Actually, the cost to the federal budget is in the neighborhood of one-fifth of that amount—$30 billion or less," and it wouldn't even reach that level until the program was fully implemented, he said. Kennedy and the backers of his bill realize that the universal and comprehensive program spelled out in that measure might have to be implemented in stages, and that each of those stages would cost far less.

But, he stressed, if stage-by-stage implementation does become necessary, the entire schedule should be spelled out in a single bill, rather than a piecemeal approach that would involve a new battle in Congress at every step of the program. He pointed out that Congress often shapes programs that are phased in over a period of time on a timetable spelled out in the original legislation—the "approach that should be taken" with national health insurance.

Reporters questioning Seidman on the public affairs program were Diane Brockett of the Washington Star and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO and aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

SOME SIX MONTHS have passed since President Carter told the nation that his voluntary wage and price controls program, if given time, would slow the rate of inflation.

How much more time may be needed for the program to have a positive impact—if, indeed, it ever will—remains to be seen. What is clear a half-year into the program is that, rather than moderating, inflation is soaring at a record pace.

When Carter announced his program, the rate of inflation had been running at an annual rate of about 8 percent. The rate slowed slightly in November and December, but hefty increases in January and February resulted in a late-March report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics that showed inflation was soaring at a 14.4 percent annual pace.

Workers negotiating new contracts, meanwhile, were being asked —and were agreeing overwhelmingly — to hold future pay and benefit increases in the area of Carter's 7 percent guideline.

"How long," anti-inflation chief Alfred Kahn asked a Chicago business audience in March, "will labor be willing to demonstrate . . . restraint . . . while prices are rising at a rate several points higher than the one at which we are asking labor to settle . . . ?"

A week earlier, Kahn had reacted to a report of a sharp boost in wholesale prices with the comment that labor was adhering to the guidelines, but business apparently was not. Said Kahn: "Success in the anti-inflation program will require more than just labor's adherence to these standards."

Kahn, chairman of the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability, denies the anti-inflation program is failing. But organized labor disputes this claim, pointing to the 14.4 percent annual inflation rate and the decline in worker buying power over the first five months of the Carter guidelines.

THE HARD STATISTICS of rising prices are reported monthly by the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics, but AFL-CIO President George Meany's report to the federation's Operation Price Watch conference in Washington, D.C., put the numbers in more human terms.

The prices of necessities—food, shelter, medical care and energy —have increased at an annual rate of 13.1 percent since October, Meany said. The only answer, he repeated, is to control the price of everything and the pay of everyone.

That's a solution Kahn and the President both reject. Kahn, optimistic about the anti-inflation program's future, said following the consumer price report in March that an additional three or four months experience would show that the guidelines do the job.

That would mean, by Kahn's calculations, it would be June or July before prices started moderating; it would also mean that workers will have gone the better part of a year accepting pay and benefit increases totaling little more than half the rise in prices.

A problem with Kahn's forecast is that the statistics don't back it up. While he said he sees relief coming by July or August, other economic reports indicate otherwise.

A telling sign of future consumer prices is found in the government's Producer Price Index. In March, that index showed wholesale prices for finished consumer goods rising at an annual rate of 14.1 percent and, all else being equal, workers can expect to be paying for those increases at the retail level in the months ahead.

Meanwhile, of course, they are expected to do their patriotic duty and seek little more than 7 percent from their employers for pay and fringe benefit increases.

"The difficulty with a voluntary program," President Carter said last October, "is that workers fear that if they cooperate with the standards while others do not, then they will suffer if inflation continues." So far, at least, that fear has been more than justified.

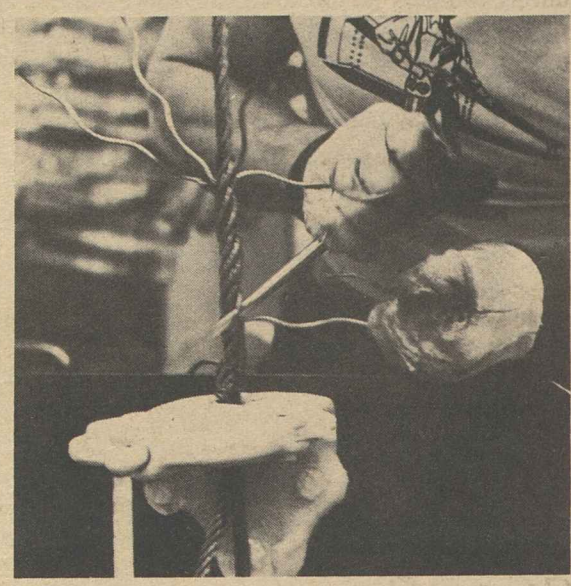


LITTLE OR NO HELP for poor, elderly and disadvantaged Americans will flow from President Carter's Phase I health care bill, declared Director Bert Seidman, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Diane Brockett of the Washington Star and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.



Thousands of visitors made the rounds of exhibition booths featuring union-made products and skilled craftsmen.





Union Label Show a Smash Hit



Showgoers "audition" for a taped commercial under the guidance of performing artists and broadcast technicians.

A **SIX-DAY STAND** for the 34th edition of the Union-Industries Show attracted more than 200,000 visitors to Denver's Currigan Hall.

They came to view the products and skills of union craftsmen at the hundreds of exhibition booths and specially constructed working displays.

In opening the show, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland termed it a showcase of the best aspects of the American economic system and free collective bargaining.

The visitors took home more than $100,000 worth of products in souvenirs and prizes that were distributed free at the booths of participating unions and industries, the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. reported.





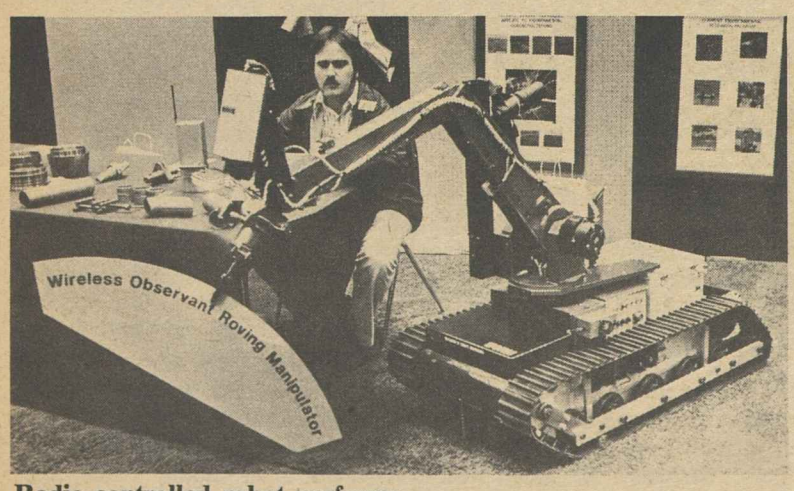
Age-old process of glass blowing is a featured standby of the show.



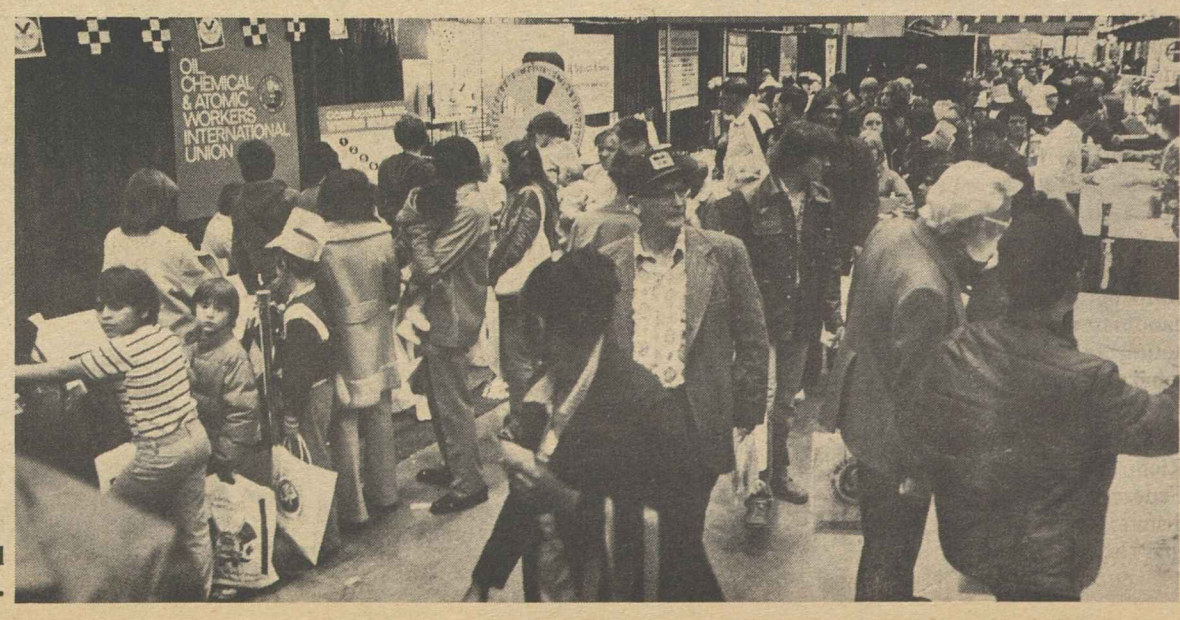
Bakers display artistically iced cake for VIP visitors. From left, Sec.-Treas. Rene Rondou of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, President Joseph Keenan of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept., and Labor Under Sec. Robert Brown.



Skilled hands of union craftsmen—from top, Flint Glass Worker, Iron Worker and Communications Worker, as well as a showgoer trying her hand under the watchful eyes of a Bricklayer.



Radio-controlled robot performs chores directed by a Steelworker.



Visitors collect souvenirs and prizes given away at the show.

Reject Social Security Tie:

Unions Fight Change In Federal Pensions

Unions representing federal and postal workers joined with the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. in voicing strong opposition to any merger of the civil service retirement system with social security.

Congress established a special study group to explore the "feasibility and desirability" of universal social security coverage, and union witnesses made these points during two days of hearings:

● The Public Employee Dept. termed universal social security coverage "a threat to existing public retirement systems."

PED Executive Director John A. McCart said public employees under separate retirement systems —3 million in the civil service plan and at least 2 million in state or local systems—should not be forced to abandon or submerge protection they have earned through long service and in many cases through payroll deductions that have generally run higher than the social security payroll tax.

But when a governmental unit and its employees have chosen social security coverage—which under present law is optional for state and local governments—the employer should not subsequently be allowed to withdraw from coverage, McCart said.

He and other union witnesses also strongly criticized a recently enacted law that will decrease the total retirement payment for a worker retired under social security whose spouse is entitled to a federal service pension.

● Postal Workers President Emmet Andrews protested an Administration proposal that would reduce retirement payments to persons who have earned pension rights under both social security and civil service based on their employment history.

He reminded the panel that these people were required to make payments to both systems during their working careers and said they should be entitled to receive in full the benefits they earned.

● President Kenneth T. Blaylock of the American Federation of Government Employees urged that the civil service retirement system be improved and not watered down.

His recommendations included union representation among the trustees for the government retirement funds and "negotiation of appropriate interest rates equivalent to interest earned by private sector trust funds to assure a proper rate of return on assets."

● James J. LaPenta, representing members of the Laborers employed in the postal and federal service, said his union's members have made it clear "in no uncertain terms" that they do not want social security "merged, integrated or coordinated with their retirement system" and "most of all, they do not want social security in place of their retirement system."



CHAIRMAN Shimon Peres of Israel's Labor Party addresses a luncheon meeting of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut in New York. Peres came to the United States for the signing of the Middle East peace treaty at the White House. Histadrut is Israel's labor federation.

Social Security Rule Upholds State-County

The Social Security Administration has upheld the position taken by the State, County & Municipal Employees and ruled that New York City must continue to pay social security taxes for some 20,000 workers in public hospitals and provide retroactive coverage for an additional 7,700 employees.

New York City officials had contended that a change in status of the public hospital workers eliminated the city's obligation to continue their social security coverage. In a budget-motivated decision, the city last March delayed payment of social security taxes in the dispute over coverage.

The decision can be appealed to Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Joseph A. Califano, and city officials said they plan to do so and may also seek court review if it is not overturned.

New York municipal employees generally have a choice between coverage under both social security and the city retirement system or no coverage at all. But city hospital workers had not been considered part of the municipal workforce and have been covered by social security alone.

Union Leader Is Released In Malaysia

Malaysian trade union leader Donald U'ren has been released after two months of imprisonment by the Malaysian government.

U'ren's release was announced on Apr. 16 by Chazali Shafie, the government's home affairs minister, the U.S. State Dept. informed AFL-CIO officials.

Jack Otero, secretary of the International Transport Workers Federation's North American caucus, reported also that nine of 23 other leaders of the Malaysian Airlines Employees Union have been set free.

Otero, who is a vice president and international affairs director of the Railway & Airline Clerks, added that the Malaysia government had de-registered the union as the bargaining agent for the Malaysian Airlines System following the granting of a wage increase to the carrier's workers.

The arrests stemmed from a dispute between the union and the airline in which the union instituted a work-to-rule campaign to get the carrier to bargain on better pay and working conditions.

AFL-CIO President George Meany and a number of airline unions affiliated with the federation lodged formal protests over the arrests last month. U'ren, widely known in American and international trade union circles, served as Asian representative for the International Transport Workers Federation.

Rail Labor Condemns Planned Amtrak Slash

Railroad unions called upon Congress to reject the Administration's plan to cut back the Amtrak rail passenger system by 43 percent, charging that the proposal flies in the face of prudence.

James R. Snyder, legislative director of the United Transportation Union, told a House Transportation subcommittee that with the oil situation becoming worse each day, it would be the height of folly to wreck a rail passenger system to the point "where it simply will not survive."

It makes no sense, Snyder said, to cut the quantity and quality of "our most fuel-efficient form of transportation." Snyder is also chairman of the legislative committee of the Railway Labor Executives' Association.

The Administration's plan, as drafted by the Transportation Dept., would go into effect on Oct. 1 unless either the House or Senate passes a resolution of disapproval by May 15. Resolutions favoring the plan's rejection have drawn wide support from members in both houses of Congress but not yet in sufficient number to insure its being overturned.

Snyder told a House Commerce subcommittee that the Amtrak decision should not be made on budgetary considerations but on the nation's future requirements.

"We must decide now whether our children and grandchildren will have available to them an existing rail passenger system that can be expanded to meet their needs, or will they be compelled to create a rail passenger system from scratch," he said.

Snyder warned also that "the day is swiftly approaching when gasoline will become so expensive and perhaps so scarce" that intercity rail service will be preferred to travel by private auto.

Even now, despite ancient railway equipment, train ridership is increasing throughout the country —including traffic volume on those trains that would be eliminated under the Administration plan, Snyder said.

Since Amtrak's inception in 1971, only 2 percent of the $76 billion in federal aid to transportation has been assigned to the rail passenger line, Snyder pointed out. Meanwhile, over 55 percent of the total has gone to highways and 18 percent to air transportation, both of which are associated with high oil consumption.

"Incredibly, our federal transportation budget for fiscal 1980 increases subsidies to other modes of transportation by 6 percent but reduces federal aid to rail transportation by 26 percent," Snyder observed.

He also cited the potential loss of an estimated 5,800 jobs under the Administration plan, and warned that the government would have to make labor-protective payments by law to those adversely affected workers. Thus, he said, the Administration's contemplated saving through the proposed Amtrak cut would be far less than the 43 percent reduction implied.

Court Ruling Keeps Alive Challenge To Union Campaign Contributions

A federal judge's ruling has kept alive a suit brought by the National Right to Work Committee against the Federal Election Commission in an attempt to cut off campaign contributions to labor-endorsed candidates.

The anti-union "work" committee is trying to stop candidates for Congress from receiving campaign donations from voluntary political funds of affiliated unions as well as from the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education.

Its argument against multiple union contributions was unanimously rejected by the bipartisan Federal Election Commission, which cited statements made in congressional debate and reports by congressional committees as evidence that Congress clearly intended to allow this. A comparable situation, also permitted, would be contributions to business-favored candidates by corporation political action funds as well as from the separate funds of a national employer association.

U.S. District Judge Charles R. Richey rejected a motion by the Federal Election Commission to dismiss the complaint and ruled that the commission erred in basing its rejection of the right-to-work group's challenge on the assumption of congressional intent.

Judge Richey held that the question of whether candidates could receive funds from more than one political action committee had to be decided through a finding of fact as to whether the union committees were genuinely separate or whether they were under common control.

If they were under common control, the judge said, the union contributions would have to be lumped together to determine whether a candidate for the House or Senate had illegally received more than the limit of $5,000 from any single source.

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, the Federal Election Commission had not decided whether it would seek the judge's permission to immediately appeal his ruling on the congressional intent issue or whether to proceed with the case on the basis that the various union political funds are not under common control and therefore can make separate political contributions.

Officials familiar with the background of the campaign financing law expressed the belief that the Federal Election Commission's original ruling "faithfully reflected the intent of Congress" and that on any appeal "the higher courts will so rule." The AFL-CIO itself is not a party to the case.

Wage Gains Mark Airlift Settlement

Chicago—The Air Line Employees Association, an affiliate of the Air Line Pilots, has won wage increases of nearly 14 percent in a new two-year contract with Airlift International of Miami, one of the nation's three all-cargo air carriers.

ALEA President Victor J. Herbert reported that the agreement also provides cost-of-living adjustments and longevity increases. Other gains involve hospital and dental insurance, sick leave accrual, and pensions. The company also agreed to grant extra vacation days based on attendance records.

Picket's Death Stirs Outcry In Minnesota

St. Paul, Minn. — Angered by the senseless death of a young picket, the state's labor movement opened a drive for enactment of laws to prevent similar tragedies in the future.

Donald Pilla, 21, a member of Machinists Lodge 459, died on Mar. 29, when he was run over by a semi-trailer truck during a confrontation at the Coon Rapids plant of Plastics, Inc. The union was engaged in an informational picketing of the facility.

A witness said that the trailer's non-union driver dared Pilla to stand in front of the vehicle and, when Pilla did, deliberately ran him down.

John Peterson, director of IAM District Lodge 77 told a press conference at the state capitol that the union "intends to seek justice through every means at our disposal—political, legal, and moral."

Minnesota AFL-CIO President David Roe said that the union would have the support of the state labor federation in a campaign for remedial legal action. State Sen. Marv Hansen (DFL-Hallock) assured Peterson of the legislature's active interest in seeing that justice is done.

Bargaining Undermined:

Impact of Sanctions Shown by Affidavits

(Continued from Page 1)

told him that the negotiations that start May 1 can't go beyond the guideline because of the company's $1.5 billion in federal contracts. GE Board Chairman Reginald Jones is on public record as describing the contract sanctions as making the guidelines "really a mandatory program."

The union cited similar blunt language in a Westinghouse management newsletter, foreshadowing Westinghouse negotiations to start in mid-May.

Another affiadavit quotes negotiators for Zenith as conceding that management's bargaining position "would have been more flexible if the guidelines did not exist."

A negotiator for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) certified that Rockwell International Corp. had refused to agree to any union proposals without clearing them with the wage-price council because it regarded the pay guideline as "mandatory" in view of the many federal contracts on which the company depended.

President Thomas W. Gleason and other officials of the Longshoremen told the court that the ILA would not be striking the Marine Towing & Transportation Employers Association if the association hadn't contended that it couldn't agree to exceed the guidelines "because many of our customers are defense contractors" and the tugboat operators would be considered "first-tier subcontractors" subject to contract debarment.

Another union exhibit was a memorandum of agreement between the Olin Corp. and the Chemical Workers covering employees of Olin's Joliet, Ill., plant. It provided that the workers would be covered by a dental plan and receive a second-year wage increase above the contract requirement contingent on approval by the wage-price council.

A Steelworkers negotiator, Walter Kurkowski, submitted a detailed affidavit on attempts to negotiate a settlement of a strike at a York County, Pa., plant in the face of management refusal to bargain on anything above the 7 percent guideline. At one of these sessions, he testified, a representative of the Council on Wage & Price Stability was present and declared that the company risked the loss of government contracts if it agreed to a settlement that exceeded the guidelines.

In a four-month strike by the Machinists at Pomona, Calif., a settlement was stymied by the guidelines controversy and the final agreement provided for additional wage increases to be put into effect, as the company phrased it, "when the President's wage controls are removed."

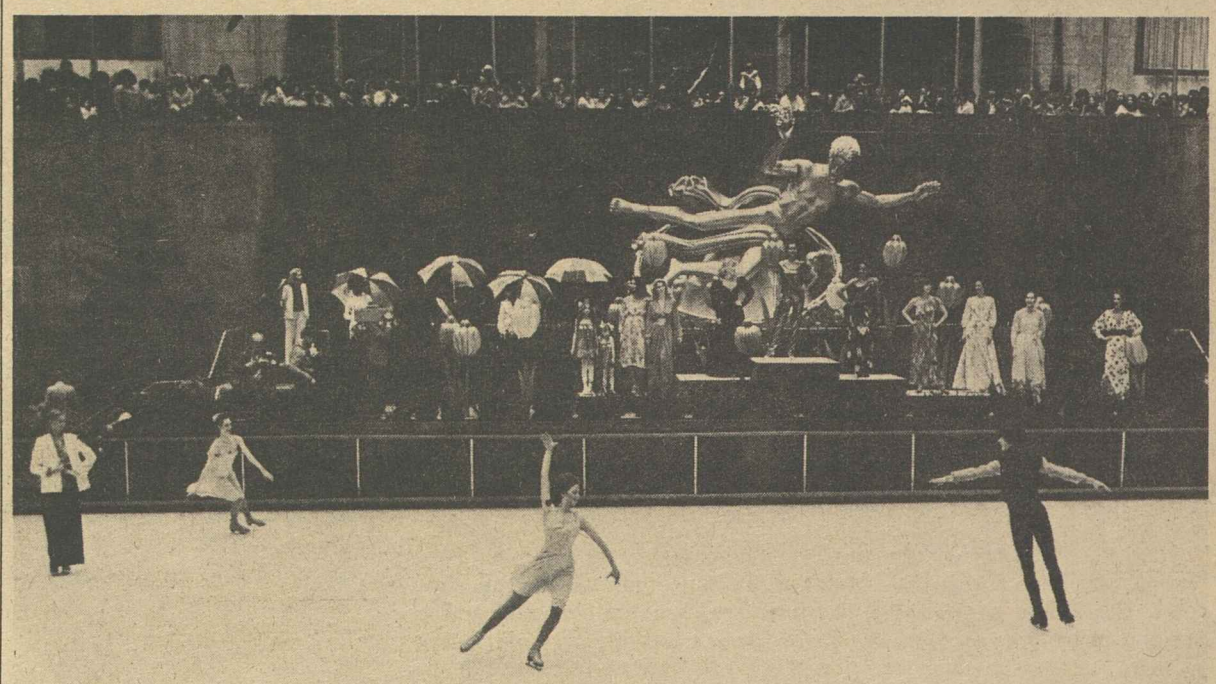
Other documents submitted to the court recited the impact of the guidelines on recent, current or forthcoming negotiations of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, the Rubber Workers and the Telegraph Workers, all parties to the AFL-CIO lawsuit.

In urging the court to declare the use of contract debarment sanctions unlawful, the AFL-CIO and its affiliates stressed that the clear language of the law forbidding any form of mandatory controls was reinforced by repeated statements during the congressional debate supporting labor's interpretation.

Further, the AFL-CIO noted, both the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act deny the government the authority to establish pay standards and impose economic sanctions on violators.

As for the President's authority over the procurement policy of the federal government, the union brief cited a General Accounting Office conclusion that imposition of guidelines "is inconsistent with the competitive procurement policy."





NEW YORK'S EASTER PARADE included a fashion show on ice at Rockefeller Center this year featuring apparel made by members of the Ladies' Garment Workers. On hand for the traditional spring event was New York Mayor Edward Koch, who was greeted by a group of ILGWU members promoting the union label theme.

Changes in Procurement Policy Bill Asked to Protect Labor Standards

A provision in a Senate bill dealing with government procurement policy could undermine the authority of the Secretary of Labor to interpret and administer the Davis-Bacon Act and other labor standard laws, the AFL-CIO warned.

A section of a bill being considered by a Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee appears to broaden the authority of the General Accounting Office over prevailing wage rulings and could result in subjecting Labor Dept. rulings to court review.

Just recently, the Labor Dept. won an inter-agency battle within the Administration over a similar issue. Atty. Gen. Griffin Bell ruled that the Office of Federal Procurement Policy had no right to second-guess the Secretary of Labor on whether a government contractor was covered by a prevailing wage law.

In a statement to the Senate subcommittee, the AFL-CIO expressed concern that the legislation would expand the authority of the General Accounting Office—which is part of the legislative branch of government—beyond its traditional role of overseeing the disbursement of federal funds.

That section of the bill, the AFL-CIO urged, "should be amended to make clear that the Comptroller General does not have the authority to decide legal as opposed to funding questions."

On other procurement policy issues, the AFL-CIO:

- Urged a provision that would prohibit an employer with a cost-plus contract from charging to expenses legal and consulting fees spent to fight a union organizing campaign or to defend the company against charges involving violations of civil rights and such laws as the Occupational Safety & Health Act and the Environmental Protection Act.

"Federal contractors are in a very real sense acting as surrogate federal employers," the AFL-CIO said, and the government shouldn't subsidize attempts to circumvent federal laws.

- Proposed that employers "found to be knowingly or habitually violating the National Labor Relations Act" be denied federal contracts.

- Asked that a statement of policy on federal procurement specify only that the contract should "best meet the public needs," deleting the additional language, "at the lowest possible cost."

It is proper, the AFL-CIO said, that issues of "social costs" and quality factors also be considered in awarding contracts.

New NLRB Order Blasts J.P. Stevens

(Continued from Page 1)

company, which has included 18 orders by the board against Stevens since 1966. The decision can be appealed to the full NLRB, which already is considering two other judges' decision against Stevens involving the firm's labor relations practices at Wallace and Rocky Mount, N.C.

ACTWU had signed 262 of 457 workers to union authorization cards at West Boylston, a number that Giannasi called "a solid 57.3 percent which, in the parlance of political election results, would have been a landslide."

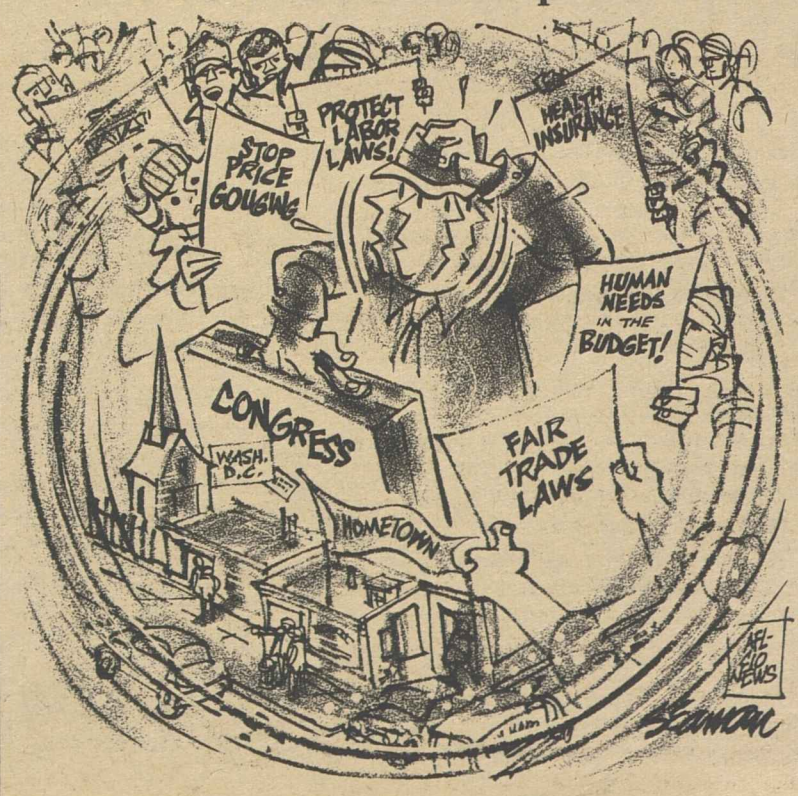
But, the judge found, Stevens's unfair labor practices "were so serious and widespread that they undermined the union majority and precluded a free election."

Among other company practices, he said, Stevens discriminatorily discharged and disciplined many union sympathizers. Twelve workers were subjected to harassment and discharge for their union activities, three others were issued warnings for engaging in union activities, and "many others were touched by threats, interrogation, and other coercive conduct."

By its actions, Giannasi said in his 189-page decision. Stevens "has forfeited its right to an election and the union's majority . . . is a more reliable indicator of majority support than would be a theoretically free election which is impossible to attain in the circumstances of this case."

The judge also noted that Stevens has a history of similar labor-law violations and, despite the existence of court decrees, "it has not changed its apparent policy of flouting the law in order to prevent its employees from freely selecting a bargaining representative to negotiate wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment in their behalf."

Whirlwind Trip



4/21/79

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Building Trades Put Focus On Economy, Political Shift

13.9% Annual Rate:

Price Jump Shows Failure of Controls

By James M. Shevis

The government's latest report on runaway prices in the first quarter of the year proves that the Carter Administration's anti-inflation program is "an absolute failure," AFL-CIO President George Meany declared.

Inflation soared at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 13.9 percent from January through March, the largest quarterly rise since a 14 percent jump in the first quarter of 1974, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

"That's double the Administration's 7 percent wage control figure," Meany pointed out. "Prices march up daily. Every day's report of corporate profits is higher than the day before," he said, citing particularly the skyrocketing earnings of the major oil companies.

"But the Administration continues to attempt to impose mandatory wage controls at the inflexible and unrealistic 7 percent figure."

Meany noted that last October, when President Carter announced his "voluntary" wage and price standards, government spokesmen predicted that the new anti-inflation program's success or failure would be evident in five months.

As BLS announced another leap in consumer prices of 1.1 percent for March, along with further erosion of workers' buying power, the verdict became glaringly clear:

"The 7 percent wage control figure has no basis in equity," Meany charged. "The government's threat to debar companies from government contracts if they meet the economic needs of their workers is illegal.

(Continued on Page 8)

Oil Firms Post Huge Profit Gains

The nation's largest oil companies posted huge increases in profits in the first three months of the year.

Exxon Corp. reported that its first-quarter earnings were up 37 percent, to $2.16 a share from $1.55 a share a year earlier. Indiana Standard's net profit rose 28 percent, to $2.39 a share from $1.87 a year ago.

Standard Oil of Ohio topped all producers, reporting a 303 percent profits gain from January through March. Sohio Chairman Alton Whitehouse claimed that a comparison between the first quarter of this year and last year's was not valid because the company's Alaskan North Slope production was cut by repairs on a damaged pump station.

Other major companies and their first-quarter earnings increases:

Texaco Inc., up 81 percent; Gulf Oil Corp., up 61 percent;

(Continued on Page 6)

Basic Social Programs Cut in Senate Budget

The Senate approved a federal budget ceiling that would cut labor-supported employment, housing, education and health programs below levels needed to continue present services. And it foreshadowed even deeper cuts in the future by adopting a requirement for a balanced budget in the following fiscal year—despite predictions of higher unemployment.

A few additions were voted to the spending ceilings recommended by the Senate Budget Committee, and the Senate rejected all attempts to impose additional cuts. A strong lobbying effort by a coalition that included the AFL-CIO and a number of affiliates helped in these votes.

The Senate funding ceiling, nevertheless, remained below both President Carter's proposed "austerity" budget and the somewhat higher amounts recommended by the House Budget Committee on items dealing with social programs and economic stimulus.

All three versions of the budget come up with similar spending totals in the range of $532 billion for the 1980 fiscal year, which starts Oct. 1, 1979. And they project deficits of about $29 billion.

In fact, the bulk of the expendi-

(Continued on Page 8)



BUILDING TRADES legislative conference hears Vice President Mondale defend the Davis-Bacon Act and pledge that President Carter will not sign any bill that repeals or weakens its guarantee of prevailing wages on government-funded construction. Shown seated are Iron Workers President John H. Lyons and President Robert A. Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept.

Non-Tariff Codes:

Trade Pact Changes Asked on Standards

The AFL-CIO has asked congressional committees to seek changes or clarifications in portions of the international trade agreements recently negotiated by the United States and 22 other nations.

Four years of trade talks have produced agreements on a broad range of tariff reductions, which are not subject to congressional action. Authority for these cuts was given in the 1974 Trade Act.

Also negotiated, subject to ratification procedures of the various nations, were agreements or "codes" dealing with a variety of non-tariff issues.

In testimony before House and Senate committees, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald expressed special concern at provisions of two of the proposed codes.

One is a Government Procurement Code, which would have the effect of nullifying "Buy American" preference for government purchases. The other, a Standards Code, is intended to assure that a country's standards of packaging, marking, labeling and testing aren't used to exclude products from abroad.

When implementing legislation is formally sent to Congress, the codes must be voted up or down, without amendment, within 90 days. But before that step is taken, congressional committees have been informally considering the issues so as to work with the Administration on the final shape of the legislation.

Oswald cautioned the congressional committees that many of the proposed changes in U.S. law that would result from the codes will make it easier to import goods into the United States but won't necessarily assure an offsetting rise in U.S. exports.

As presently drafted, he charged, both the Government Procurement Code and the Standards Code have disadvantages that "far outweigh any potential benefits."

(Continued on Page 2)

Congress Lobbied on Programs

By David L. Perlman

More than 3,000 local and state building trades leaders lobbied for labor's program on Capitol Hill and served notice that unions won't play the scapegoat for an inflation that workers didn't cause.

The three-day legislative conference of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. reflected growing concern over the nation's apparent drift towards economic recession and political retreat.

Delegates from the department's 17 affiliated unions reported construction slowdowns in communities across the nation stemming from soaring interest rates and government budget cuts.

In turn, they were warned by their union lobbyists that employer influence in Congress has grown to the stage that there is a real threat to the Davis-Bacon Act and other labor standards.

Building Trades President Robert A. Georgine was sharply critical of legislators who campaign as progressives but abandon commitments because of "simplistic" public opinion polls that ask such questions as, "Should the federal government balance the budget" or "Should taxes be lower?"

The labor movement will be asking its own questions, he said, and union members will make their views known "in the only opinion poll that really counts, Election Day."

Georgine said the Administration's anti-inflation program is a failure because it can't control prices and he warned that wage controls without price controls help

(Continued on Page 3)

Guideline Pressure Mars Rubber Talks

The Rubber Workers resumed negotiations for new three-year agreements with the major tire producers as the Carter Administration exerted strong pressure on the industry to keep the settlement within its wage guidelines.

URW President Peter Bommarito entered new talks with Uniroyal in Washington with the warning that the union was weighing strike action unless there is more progress toward an agreement.

He charged that a settlement was being held up by the company's fear of government reprisals in the form of cancelled supply contracts if it agrees to terms the Administration deems excessive.

"There's two or three options we have," Bommarito said shortly before the AFL-CIO News went to press. "One includes a strike."

Uniroyal is the lead company in this year's bargaining with the industry's Big Four firms, which employ 55,000 URW members. The outcome of the talks would set a

(Continued on Page 2)

Steelworkers Suspend Strike At Shipyard

Newport News, Va.—The Steelworkers suspended their 12-week-old strike against the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., for the second time after the company withdrew its demand that returning workers sign unconditional agreements to take any job assigned to them.

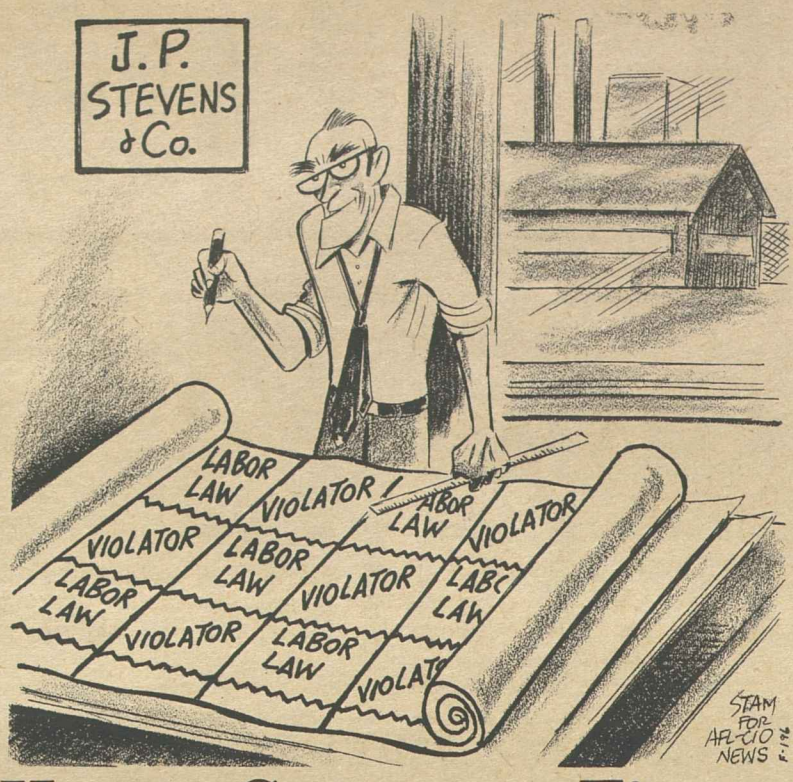
USWA District Director Bruce Thrasher said that the company's decision paved the way for the union to remove its picket lines on Apr. 22.

USWA Local 8888 leaders had suspended the strike earlier in the month, saying it was in the interest of members and the community to return to work while the union's attorneys conclude current proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board. At an Apr. 13 membership meeting, however, the workers voted to remain on strike until the company withdrew its conditions.

The strike began on Jan. 31 after the firm, a Tenneco, Inc., subsidiary, refused to recognize the union as bargaining agent for the shipyard's 17,000 production workers. The Steelworkers a year earlier had won a representation election over the incumbent Peninsula Shipbuilders Association by a substantial majority.

The company charged voting irregularities, and appealed the election results and the union's certification by the NLRB to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit. The appeals court rejected the company's request for a new election and remanded the case to the NLRB for a hearing on a single charge of improper voting.

Same Old Pattern



Heavy Contempt Fines Asked for J. P. Stevens

New York—The Clothing & Textile Workers asked the National Labor Relations Board to seek stiff fines on J. P. Stevens & Co. for failing to comply with a sweeping contempt order against the huge textile firm in 1977.

The order, issued by the U.S. 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals, called for a $100,000 fine for each new labor-law violation by the company, plus $5,000 for each day that it continued.

The union's request was contained in a strongly worded letter to NLRB General Counsel John Irving from ACTWU attorney Arthur M. Goldberg. The letter cited two new cases involving Stevens plants in Rock Hill and Pamplico, S.C., in which the NLRB has authorized issuance of government complaints against the giant company.

The cases involve a minimum of six violations by the company, including improper warnings to workers because of their union activity, threats, and other acts.

In his letter to Irving, Goldberg recalled the 2nd Circuit Court's contempt order characterizing Stevens as the "most recidivist in the field of labor law," and said that in view of the continued violations at Rock Hill and Pamplico the NLRB should undertake action in the appeals court to obtain compliance fines based on the violations in those cases.

Copies of the letter were sent to Sen. Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.), chairman of the Senate Human Resources subcommittee on labor, and Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.), chairman of the House subcommittee on labor-management relations.

ACTWU urged both subcommittee chairmen to seek periodic reports from the NLRB on the status of the two new Stevens cases and the union's petition for compliance with the court's contempt order.

Nation's Total Output Hits Sharp Slowdown

Economic growth slowed sharply in the first three months of 1979, the Commerce Dept. reported.

Real gross national product—the market value of all goods and services produced in the United States—increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of only seven-tenths of 1 percent, the government said.

By comparison, real GNP rose during the fourth quarter of 1978 at a 6.9 percent annual rate. The January-March performance was the smallest advance since the first quarter of last year, when total output declined by one-tenth of 1 percent.

Commerce Sec. Juanita Kreps said that the first-quarter rate indicated that "a genuine slowdown in the economy's growth" was in progress, but added that "the signs are mixed." She said that the government expects a "temporary pickup" in the current quarter and an "overall slowing in the second half" of the year.

The government report also showed that inflation gained in the first three months of 1979. As measured by a GNP-based statistic that is considered the broadest gauge of inflation, prices during the first quarter rose at an annual rate of 8.7 percent from an 8.2 percent rate in the previous quarter.

The low rate of economic growth in the first three months of the year reflected weaknesses in consumer purchasing and in construction spending, the government said.

Adjusted for inflation, the quarter's gross national product rose to $1.417 trillion from $1.415 trillion in the previous quarter.

Consumer spending increased at an annual rate of $40.8 billion annual rate, compared with $47 billion in the fourth quarter. Meanwhile, personal savings rose at a rate of 5.2 percent compared with 4.8 percent in the previous quarter.

Labor Mourns Mrs. Bayh as 'Inspiration'

The AFL-CIO, which earlier this year chose Marvella Bayh as co-recipient of the 1979 Murray-Green Award for humanitarian service, mourned her death from cancer at the age of 46.

President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland expressed the labor federation's sense of loss in a telegram to her husband, Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.).

"Her courage was an inspiration to all Americans," they wired the senator, and "her determination to help others" afflicted by cancer during the years of her illness earned "the labor movement's highest award for humanitarianism."

Since her first surgery eight years ago, Mrs. Bayh had devoted her time and energy to American Cancer Society projects.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council unanimously chose Mrs. Bayh and Dr. Irving Selikoff, the environmental medicine crusader and researcher, to share the Murray-Green Award.

Bommarito Hits Interference:

Guideline Pressure Mars Rubber Talks

(Continued from Page 1)

pattern for the union's negotiations with B. F. Goodrich, Goodyear, and Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.

The union's contracts at some 50 tire manufacturing plants across the nation expired at midnight on Apr. 20. Workers agreed to stay at their jobs, however, pending a settlement or a strike call by Bommarito.

On Apr. 19, Bommarito announced that the union had reached agreement on major economic issues with Uniroyal, Firestone and Goodrich, and would act on the accord at a meeting of the URW Big Four Advisory Committee in Columbus, Ohio.

Before the committee meeting got under way, however, Uniroyal reneged on the agreement, Bommarito said. He charged that this resulted from direct interference by the Administration.

Bommarito said the two points that Uniroyal reversed itself on were an agreement to improve the cost-of-living provision in the old contracts and a promise to remain neutral in any future union organizing campaigns.

Bommarito refused to attend a meeting called by Labor Sec. Ray Marshall after discovering that its purpose was to discuss the Carter Administration's wage-price guidelines and the effect that the proposed Uniroyal agreement might have on inflation.

"I have made it clear from the outset that the URW does not intend to conform our Big Four package to the guidelines," Bommarito said. "Attending this meeting would take away from valuable time at the bargaining table.

"We are also well aware of the causes of inflation of prices of food, fuel, housing, and medical costs—items which are left virtually untouched by the guidelines. It escapes me how our government can expect a 7 percent settlement with inflation running in the double digits."

Bommarito said Uniroyal negotiators acknowledged that "the government has pressured them very, very strongly" to stay within the Carter guidelines.

Earlier, the URW head warned that government interference in the contract bargaining "may well serve to cause a strike, a move that the URW and the companies have sought to avoid.

"Apparently, Carter would prefer an industry strike to peace if it will allow his Administration to save face with its unrealistic program," Bommarito said.

He has authority from the union to call a strike against Uniroyal at his discretion. The union struck all four companies for more than four months in 1976.

Labor Calls for Changes In Trade Pact Codes

(Continued from Page 1)

The AFL-CIO's "priority recommendation," he said, is that the two codes be sent back to the negotiating table, where talks on two other codes are still continuing. If that proves impossible, then the committees of Congress should insist that the implementing legislation be written "to minimize the damage that will likely occur."

Oswald, joined by AFL-CIO Associate Legislative Director Ray Denison, made these major points in testimony before a House Ways & Means subcommittee and the Senate Government Affairs Committee.

- The U.S. government procurement system is already "the most open in the world" and eliminating preference requirements on a broad range of products could cost "tens of thousands of U.S. jobs" in the private sector.
- Considering that many foreign industries are state-owned, "political realities abroad" make it unlikely that the code will lead to U.S. exports replacing the products of nationalized companies. The likelihood is that, as in the past, other nations will buy from the United States primarily products they can't satisfactorily obtain from domestic industry.
- The standards code could have a serious impact on environmental and consumer protection laws and product safety laws.

Oswald submitted to the congressional committees detailed proposals to minimize adverse effects through implementing legislation if the agreements themselves are not renegotiated.

He urged that legislation covering government procurement be for a two-year test period, and that it should state that no U.S. laws are amended or repealed unless specifically provided in the legislation. There should also be specific affirmation of state or local "Buy American" laws.

On the standards code, the legislation should make clear that it doesn't supersede federal or state regulations, that the United States has the right to improve its standards, and that the test of violation should be a finding that adoption of a standard is designed to discriminate against imports, not merely that the standard could interfere with trade.

Unfair Practice Charges Cite Winn-Dixie Stores

Atlanta—The Retail Clerks filed unfair practice charges against the Winn-Dixie food chain, accusing its Atlanta division of interfering with its workers' basic right to organize.

"The company's no-solicitation rule is illegal," declared William Dryer, director of the union's southeastern division. "It simply says Winn-Dixie sets its own rules and let the law be damned."

In complaints lodged with the National Labor Relations Board, RCIU also accused the firm of discriminating against a former employee so that he was dismissed by his new employer.

Dryer said the former employee was discharged after he had distributed "Boycott Winn-Dixie" materials. Winn-Dixie had brought pressure to bear on the new employer to dismiss him, Dryer said.

He said an unfair practice charge also has been filed against the worker's employer, Glass Electric of Fairburn, Ga., for "caving in to the illegal pressure" from Winn-Dixie.

Dryer said the case is not an isolated instance confined only to the Atlanta area. The company exhibits the same "calloused, calculating contempt for the law" in all 14 southern states in which it operates, he said. He charged that Winn-Dixie has used "methodical lawbreaking" to deny its employees their rights to the collective bargaining process.

The company has been the object of a nationwide consumer boycott supported by the AFL-CIO since December 1977. The Retail Clerks, and later the Meat Cutters, were on strike against the firm's New Mexico stores at that time. The NLRB subsequently ordered Winn-Dixie to sign a contract, but the company refused and sold off 23 stores in the state.



Reject Scapegoat Role:

Trades Lobby Hill To Preserve Gains

(Continued from Page 1)

bring on a recession because "the paychecks of workers cannot purchase the goods and services the economy produces."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told the delegates that their visits to Capitol Hill will help, but the big lobbying job will come after they return home.

"Successful lobbying programs are built around repeated contacts with members of Congress on a host of issues," he stressed. And only by "getting our people involved and active" can labor overcome the big spending of conservative and employer groups.

"If you have a legislative program going at the local level, improve it," he urged. "If you don't have one, start one."

Kirkland had a suggested retort "when members of Congress plead that they must make the 'tough decisions' about cutting social programs to balance the budget."

In that case, he said, "we should ask them why they don't leave those programs intact and make the tough decision to make the rich pay their fair share."

As for fighting inflation with high interest rates, Kirkland noted that "every time interest rates are increased, the cost of just about everything goes up."

Interest costs have priced most families who need homes out of the housing market. "And as every construction worker knows," he said, "when the housing industry is in a decline, the entire economy soon follows."

Lower interest rates "would do more good than anything else," Kirkland insisted. "All across America, there is a need for new construction — single homes, apartments, municipal facilities of all kinds, highways, plants and utilities. And there are workers ready, willing and able to build them."

The building trades delegates heard from congressional leaders of both parties—at sessions held in a huge hotel ballroom and on the steps of the Capitol before they made their calls on home-state representatives and senators.

Major speakers included Democratic Senators Daniel Patrick Moynihan (N.Y.), Howard M. Metzenbaum (Ohio) and Edward M. Kennedy (Mass.), and Republicans Howard H. Baker, Jr. (Tenn.) and Lowell Weicker (Conn.).

Both Republican speakers are avowed candidates for their party's presidential nomination and were frankly bidding for labor support.

Baker, who is the Senate Republican leader, found it "astonishing" that labor and the Republican Party are not allies. He termed unions "the crowning jewel of the American free enterprise system." But mixed in with the polite applause at the conclusion of his speech were calls from the audience, "What about Davis-Bacon?"

Weicker, with a better voting record by COPE standards, began his speech the following day by declaring that on Davis-Bacon, on labor law reform and on common site picketing his position is "the same today as it was yesterday and will be tomorrow—with labor."

Kennedy told the conference that "representative government on Capitol Hill is in the worst shape I have seen it in my 17 years in Congress," with both the Senate and House "awash in a sea of special interest campaign contributions."

Only through public financing of congressional elections, he said, "can we end the stranglehold that special interest groups have on Congress."

Metzenbaum challenged the Administration's oil decontrol policies as bringing about "a massive transfer of wealth from consumers to oil companies."

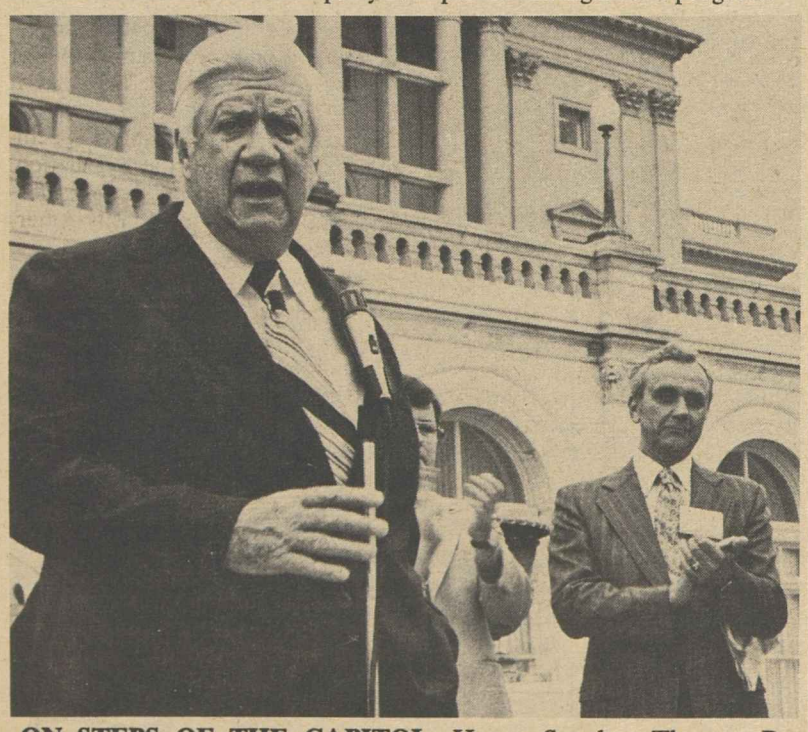
And Moynihan suggested that union members make clear that their political support can't be taken for granted. The current Congress, he said, "is disgracing the traditions of a Democratic Congress."

Both House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-Mass.) and Senate Democratic Whip Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) welcomed the delegates when they arrived at Capitol Hill in a caravan of special buses.

Other panels and speakers covered a variety of issues of special concern to the building trades, with a special focus on atomic energy.

Building trades leaders and conference speakers made clear their continued support for both nuclear energy and nuclear safety, and Georgine urged delegates to include in their lobbying activity support for the nuclear breeder reactor program at Clinch River, Tenn.

A 54-page booklet distributed to all delegates began with a current "profile of the construction industry" and included position papers with in-depth discussions of the department's legislative program.



ON STEPS OF THE CAPITOL, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., welcomes building trades delegates from all parts of the country who came to show support for labor's programs.



3,000 DELEGATES to the legislative conference of the Building & Construction Trades Dept. hear AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland urge them to follow through on their congressional contacts after they return to their home locals. He called for more union members to get "involved and active" as labor's grassroots lobby.

Mondale, Marshall Hit Attacks on Davis-Bacon

President Carter will never sign into law a bill that repeals or weakens the Davis-Bacon Act, Vice President Walter F. Mondale promised.

Mondale and Labor Sec. Ray Marshall told cheering delegates to the legislative conference of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. that the Administration supports the principle of prevailing wages on federally-funded construction and will actively oppose attempts to scuttle Davis-Bacon and other labor standard laws.

There will be no retreat, Mondale pledged. "We were with you on Davis-Bacon yesterday. We are with you today. And we will be with you tomorrow."

Marshall flatly rejected the assertion that Davis-Bacon requirements are inflationary and that the country would be better off if people had to work for anything they can get.

"That's just nonsense," he said.

"Davis-Bacon provisions merely reflect local construction wages. They neither raise nor lower them."

Construction costs have gone up because of materials, land prices and interest rates, Marshall said, while pay scales in recent years have trailed other segments of the workforce.

"The fact is that construction workers have already paid their dues to inflation."

Marshall, a university professor before joining the Carter Cabinet, termed a report drafted by the General Accounting Office attacking the Davis-Bacon Act "a very sloppy piece of work" and said he would have flunked any student who turned in such a report.

He said the Labor Dept. will work to improve Davis-Bacon administration and regulations "to make sure they work the way the law intended."

But he said it would be "a major tragedy" if the Davis-Bacon Act were weakened just as substantial numbers of minority group workers brought into union apprenticeship programs are reaching journeyman status.

Mondale linked the attacks on Davis-Bacon and comparable state laws to the stepped-up attempts to pass state "right-to-work" laws, which he said meant that "if you are lucky enough to get a job, you have the right to work for less."

Union Backs Aid to Reopen Steel Plant

Pittsburgh—Presidential approval of an application for $17 million in federal assistance to reopen the Campbell, Ohio, works of the Youngstown Sheet Tube Co. was urged by Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride in a letter to President Carter.

The application was made to the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development by Youngstown Mayor Phillip Richley and the city of Youngstown on behalf of the Ecumenical Coalition of the Mahoning Valley.

In his letter to Carter, McBride said the closing of the Campbell plant and the threatened closing of its sister plant at Brier Hill in Youngstown "have been an economic and social tragedy to thousands of Mahoning Valley families."

The Campbell plant was shut down in 1977 because it was unable to compete with the steel imported into the United States, McBride charged. He said that due to the loss of steel capacity that occurred in 1977, "we have become increasingly dependent on foreign producers to supply the American market."

He added that "our nation needs the steel-producing capacity of Campbell Works and the 4,500 skilled men and women it employed."

Study Finds Gain in Jobs Is Scattered

An AFL-CIO analysis of employment gains from 1974 to October 1978 shows that they have been fairly scattered across the country and refutes the view that only the so-called sun belt has been adding jobs.

New York state lost in employment but among other northern and northeastern states Michigan, Minnesota and New Hampshire are among the top 10 in terms of job gains over the four-year period, the study shows.

The top 10 states measured by numerical employment gains were California, Texas, Michigan, Washington, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Virginia, Wisconsin and Colorado. In terms of percentage employment increases, the top 10 states were Wyoming, Nevada, Idaho, New Mexico, Alaska, New Hampshire, Washington, North Dakota, Oregon, and Montana.

While manufacturing employment increased by 586,000 between 1974-78, the study indicates that 12 states lost jobs in this work category. The biggest losses were in Pennsylvania, Illinois, and New York.

Construction employment, which increased nationwide by 581,000, also fell in 12 states, with the biggest losses in New York and the District of Columbia.

Employment in Wyoming increased by 39 percent to lead the gainers in percentage terms. California topped all other states in numerical gains, adding 1,410,300 jobs.

Downward Trend Found In Average Job Tenure

The average number of years an American worker had been on his or her job in 1978 declined slightly from five years earlier, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

A BLS survey conducted during January 1978 showed that the average (median) job tenure for all workers at that time was 3.6 years, down from 3.9 years in January 1973 when a similar survey was held.

Between surveys, the percentage of workers with one year or less on their current jobs increased, from 25.1 to 28.2 percent, while the proportion with over 10 years of tenure decreased, from 14.8 to 13.7 percent.

BLS said that the decline in average job tenure reflected two basic trends that have been evident for some years—the large inflow into the labor force of youths and women, who start at the bottom in terms of job tenure, and the trend toward earlier retirement, which removes some of the workers with the longest tenure from the work force.

"In addition, the relatively high unemployment in recent years has also contributed to a decrease in job tenure," BLS said.

The length of continuous employment, or job tenure, differed considerably among the various population groups, the survey showed. For example, men had an average of 4.5 years on the job in 1978, about two years more than women.

The survey was conducted for BLS by the Census Bureau.

The Tough Decisions

PUBLIC OPINION POLLS translate the complex legislative issues Congress must address into one-sentence questions. "Should the federal government balance its budget?" That's but one of the simplistic questions pollsters ask.

Do the people really want a balanced budget? The short answer is probably, "Yes." But the honest answer is that they also want the schools, highways, public facilities, housing, energy and transportation that are essential to the American way of life.

And, most assuredly, the American people do not want the severe recession, rampant joblessness and hardship that would accompany a budget balanced at a level far below the urgent needs of the nation.

There are those who will tell you that the government should be run like a business. Well, that's nonsense. Government has a responsibility to meet human concerns that just don't figure in corporate profit-and-loss charts.

If you take away debt corporate America would collapse. The federal debt increased 12 times between 1940 and 1976. During the same period of time, corporate debt increased 19 times—and it is now about three times as large as the federal debt. If debt is so good for business, then why is it so bad for government?

What would happen if Congress were to pass a law prohibiting any debt? You couldn't buy a house. You couldn't get any interest on your savings accounts, because the way that banks make money to pay interest on savings is to charge interest on loans.

HOW MANY TIMES have you heard conservatives say, "If every family must balance its budget, then the government should do the same?" Yet, consumer debt has increased 2,700 percent in 36 years.

How effective would balancing the budget be in controlling inflation? The best estimates run in the range of one-quarter to one-half of one percent.

That wouldn't even counterbalance the effects of deregulating gasoline and oil prices, with or without an excess profits tax.

In fact, about half of the current federal deficit could be wiped out immediately just by repealing the expansion of the capital gains tax loophole the Congress enacted last year.

And the rest of the deficit could be eliminated simply by closing a few more of the loopholes that permit businesses and the rich to avoid paying their fair share of taxes.

When members of Congress plead that they must make the "tough decisions" about cutting social programs to balance the budget, we should ask them why don't they leave those programs intact and make the tough decision to make the rich pay their fair share.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to Building & Construction Trades legislative conference.

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'Let's Swing This!'



God Save the Mark:

Computerized Consumer Lists Make Easy Prey for Pitchmen

By Gus Tyler

IN OUR MARKET-MINDED NATION, just about everybody is on a list, a handy little list, to make it easy for the peddler of almost anything to seek you out for solicitation by mail.. The compilation, classification and selling of such lists is now a sizable and profitable business in our land.

The lists have a common psychological component: They categorize people by their weaknesses, by their vulnerabilities and sensitivities, by their susceptibilities to pitchmen of one variety or another. Used cunningly, these lists are the "open sesame" to success for the super-salesman.

Should you doubt the omniscient and suggestively omnipotent power of these lists, just take a look at one of the most remarkable pieces of literature in our current culture: the Dunhill International 1978 Mailing List Catalog, which pigeonholes just about all of us.

In its introductory index there are about 1,600 listings of different categories of people; within each of these major headings are many subheadings. Arranged alphabetically, the index runs from "accountants" to "zoologists." Most of the divisions are made up of tradesmen of one kind or another; air and gas compressor wholesalers, animal breeders, casket manufacturers, fertilizer dealers, screw machine products manufacturers, undertakers, zinc mills.

But there is a liberal sprinkling of listings for people who are distinguishable for traits other than the product they make and sell, like "black activists," or "government surplus bargain hunters," or people who are interested in "envelope stuffing," or in advice on "how to build an instant fortune."

As I pore through this remarkable volume, made possible only in an age where the peddler is the potentate and where the computer can compile the infinite, I fantasize about a script where an ambitious and unconscionable young buck with much macho and moxie decides to embark on a well-researched voyage to fortune.

He begins by turning to page 61, where he finds the listing "wealthy widows and divorcees." He finds 11,000 of them. He purchases the list for $50 a thousand.

But since the wants a woman who thinks about getting the most out of her wealth, he buys the list, "tax exempt bond fund." He cross-matches the list to find wealthy widows or divorcees smart enough to make tax-exempt investments.

Now he wants to know how to approach such a woman. So he gets a list entitled "art (lovers) show attendees." There are 47,000 of them. He cross-matches again to find a woman of wealth, with good investment instincts, who loves art. Now he can bone up on paintings to make a good impression on the woman of his dreams.

Since our man is a warm-weather creature, he can also cross-match to find which of his select women also fall into a category labeled "Florida homesite buyers." He can put a refinement on this by sifting his result through a listing marked "Hawaiian vacationers."

When he is done, he has a choice of about 221 carefully selected buyers of his masculinity. The rest is up to him—unless he wants to create and list himself under a category called "male for sale."

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Marshall Stresses Need for Vigilance

We must be vigilant this session of Congress.

We must fight attempts being made to remove protection for workers under the Occupational Safety & Health Act. Proposals to exempt small business would mean needless, tragic new dangers to hundreds of thousands of construction workers.

Perhaps the biggest threat this year is to the Davis-Bacon Act.

Almost half a century ago, we established with Davis-Bacon the principle . . . that contractors could not beat down wages to win government contracts.

Now we are hearing that paying prevailing wages is inflationary . . . that what this country needs is so much economic misery that people will work for anything they can get.

That's just nonsense.

—Sec. of Labor Ray Marshall to Building & Construction Trades Dept. legislative conference.

From the Time of Gompers:

Labor in Vanguard of Struggle To Achieve Justice on the Job

The following is excerpted from remarks by AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Albert J. Zack to a civil rights conference at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies.

IF YOU HAPPEN to be black, you have probably heard that unions are racist and elitist and dedicated to the exclusion and repression of minority workers.

If you happen to be a woman, you are likely to hear that unions are instruments of male supremacy, conspiring to keep women in low-paid, insecure jobs and giving them no voice in union affairs.

If you happen to be an adult white male in a southern plant where workers are about to vote on union representation, your boss will almost certainly tell you that if you're foolish enough to vote "yes," you can kiss your job goodbye, because the first thing the union will do is force your employer to fire you and all your fellow workers and replace you with blacks or women or "outsiders" or all three.

When you're accused of doing so many contradictory things at once, chances are that you're doing something completely different. So what, exactly, does the labor movement stand for?

It stands for workers. Not white workers or black workers, not male or female workers, not skilled or unskilled workers. It stands for workers and for their rights as workers, as citizens, as consumers, as members in good standing of the human family, regardless of race, creed, color, sex, age, place of national origin, previous condition of servitude or any other distinction that comes to mind.

I don't argue that this has been true in every time and place without exception, or that there are not still pockets of discrimination of various kinds in our ranks. An institution that includes so much of our national history and so wide a cross-section of our population has to have weaknesses, as well as strengths.

But I would argue that the labor movement succeeded in growing up faster and throwing off age-old prejudices and suspicions more completely than any other institution in America. In its best impulses, in its central concerns, through its wisest leaders, labor has always spoken for justice, for reason, for equal pay, equal rights and equal opportunity.

Back in 1890, Samuel Gompers declared that the American Federation of Labor "has upon all occasions declared that trade unions should open their portals to all wage workers, irrespective of creed, color, nationality, sex or politics."

And he warned that unless the unions welcomed and admitted blacks, "There can be no question but that they will not only be forced down in the economic scale and be used against any effort made by us for our economic and social advancement, but race prejudice will be made bitter, to the injury of all."

THERE ARE TWO FACTS we can never lose sight of. First, even though the forms and sanctions of discrimination have vanished, the habit of discrimination lives on. Discrimination was a part of the American way of life for too many centuries to be wiped out in one or two or three generations. So we have to keep working at it, keep spelling it out and keep speaking up whenever and wherever any of our neighbors loses sight of the fact—in letter and in spirit—of human equality.

Second—and this is much harder—we have to face the fact that America is not going to succeed in reaching the level of justice that Gompers spoke for in 1890 unless we overcome the last, all-important stumbling block that George Meany pointed out in 1963.

You can't have justice on the job unless there are enough jobs to go around. The one great contribution that remains to be made toward equal employment opportunity is full employment.

Coupled with Tight Money:

Deeper Housing Crunch Feared In Wake of Carter's Cutbacks

PRESIDENT CARTER'S cuts in the federal housing program, coupled with high interest and tight-money policies, are the wrong medicine to head off the credit-related cyclical decline that will hit the housing industry later this year, AFL-CIO housing expert Henry Schechter warned.

Schechter said on Labor News Conference that "low-income people—those who suffer most in competition for short-supply housing—will suffer additional hardships" as a result of the Administration's cutback on housing subsidies. The focus of the Administration's housing efforts should be on increasing the supply, not shrinking it further at a time when vacancy rates are running at all-time lows, he stressed.

Schechter predicted that by the end of this year or early next year, "we will have stagflation in housing." Housing starts were at an annual rate of 2.1 million units during the last quarter of 1978 but dropped to 1.4 million in February, he pointed out.

"Now, I don't think we will stay at the 1.4 million level, because there was unusually severe weather. We're likely to get back, for a while to about 1.7 million or so," he said.

"But then, as the tight-money policy is pursued further we will begin to get some of the effects of declining construction and rising unemployment.

"When a tight-money policy is pursued, rising interest rates, combined with the high prices that we have today in housing, become a knock-out blow" for national housing needs, Schechter declared. Noting that "tremendous declines in the rate of housing starts" developed in the early months of the year, he said that even the slight recovery that may come in the months ahead won't be enough to head off a substantial jump in the unemployment rate.

Schechter, who is director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Urban Affairs, warned that the Administration's policies will produce "second-order effects" that will ripple throughout the economy. He pointed out that American households now have "the highest debt-repayment obligation for consumer debt and mortgage debt that we've ever had." He said many families have to commit "about 40 prcent of their income to debt repayment," which all too often demands two wage earners to meet those payments.

As unemployment grows, he said, "those families are going to have to cut back drastically on all sorts of consumer expenditures." And that cutback, he asserted, "will lead to additional unemployment . . . it could mean half-a-million jobs lost."

Sales of new and existing homes have been falling off since the latter part of 1978, Schechter noted. Savings and loans associations, although they still have adequate funds, have not been able to place as much as they could place in mortgages at the 10.5 percent mortgage interest rates now prevailing, he said.

The vast majority of Americans cannot afford to buy homes today, he observed. New homes are now up to $61,000 and the median price of existing houses is $52,000. People with higher incomes can afford such prices, but low- and moderate-income families cannot.

Reporters questioning Schechter on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Byron Fielding of Housing Affairs Letter and Dale Mcfeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

EACH YEAR upword of 300,000 workers and job applicants undergo "truth" tests conducted by an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 commercial polygraph machine operators.

Lie detectors are sometimes used on a random basis as part of a general sweep of a plant or shop, sometimes on an individual basis in connection with an incident of theft or other wrongdoing, and sometimes as a job screening tool.

A survey conducted by researchers at Wichita State University estimated that one-fifth of the nation's major corporations are using polygraph tests in personnel-related areas. Half of the retail companies surveyed use the polygraph.

Fast food industry giants such as McDonald's and Burger Chef are regular users, according to the American Polygraph Association.

The "truth" test used by these companies works this way. The machine records certain physical reactions—changes in blood pressure, pulse rate, respiration—during questioning by the polygraph operator. The graphs of the reactions are interpreted by the operator. It is assumed that lying will create an aroused emotional state which will be reflected in the physical readings of the machine.

The effort to use physical symptoms to distinguish truth from falsehood is not new. As University of California Law Professor Edgar A. Jones, Jr. points out in a recent article on the subject, a primitive lie detector test was used in ancient China.

A person accused of a crime would tell his story. Then his mouth was stuffed with rice. If he had lied, the ancients reasoned, his mouth would be dry and he would choke and not be able to swallow the rice.

Claims of high reliability are made for the polygraph tests and machine operators—mainly by people with a financial stake in the business. However, other studies indicate that in many ways the machines are no more reliable in assessing honesty than the Chinese rice test.

First of all, the physical measurements taken by the machine can reflect many things going on in the "subject," including a variety of thoughts and feelings as well as physical states.

COMPOUNDING THE PROBLEM is the use of polygraph operators untrained in any related subject area, such as medicine or psychology. According to psychiatrist David Lykken, fewer than 1 percent of operators have any such training.

Most states have no licensing requirement for polygraph machine operators and those that do, have inadequate standards. For example, a Kentucky applicant must be at least 18 years old and have been in business for at least two years, Jones points out.

It also should be noted that lie detectors are sometimes used for purposes other than protecting businesses from thefts. The tests may be used to screen out job applicants with health problems or to probe the political views or sex habits of the applicants.

No one knows exactly how many people have been fired from their jobs or denied jobs or branded thieves because of "evidence" gathered from polygraph tests.

The Privacy Protection Study Commission created by Congress in 1974, in its 1977 final report recommended legislation to forbid the use of the polygraph or other truth verification equipment in gathering information from an applicant or employee.

President Carter in April delivered a privacy protection message to the Congress in which he urged "fair information practices" to protect the privacy of medical, financial and research records. The President also expressed specific support of a bill sponsored by Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) that would sharply restrict the use of lie detectors in employment.



CHANCES THAT the housing industry will sink into a credit-related cyclical decline later this year are increased by President Carter's plan to cut housing programs and to continue his high-interest and tight-money policies, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry Schechter, center, warned on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Byron Fielding, left, of Housing Affairs Letter and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The public affairs program is produced by the AFL-CIO and is aired on Mutual radio.

First Quarter Oil Company Profits Soar

(Continued from Page 1)

Cities Service Co. and Getty Oil Co., up 42 percent each; Amerada Hess Corp., up 279 percent; Marathon Oil, up 108 percent; Shell Oil Co., up 16 percent; Standard Oil of California, up 43 percent, and Phillips Petroleum, up 4 percent.

Continental Oil Co., ranked No. 9, said it earned $1.50 a share against 34 cents a year ago.

While the surging profits were not related to the Carter Administration's plan to decontrol domestic crude oil prices, they appeared to strengthen the President's arguments for a windfall profits tax on the even higher earnings destined for the industry when controls are removed June 1.

The AFL-CIO has denounced the decontrol plan, declaring that it will worsen inflation and heighten the threat of inflation. "Even with a windfall profits tax, the decision is bad," Federation President George Meany said.

In a speech to the National Academy of Sciences, Carter accused opponents of the proposed tax of seeking to perpetrate a "charade" on the American people by enacting a measure that would "kick back" billions of dollars in profits to the oil industry.

The tax opponents' strategy seems to be to enact a bill "designed primarily to provide loopholes so the oil companies will get another $4-$5 billion in unearned profits on top of the $6 billion they would get under decontrol with an honest windfall profits tax passed," Carter declared.

The President was scheduled to send Congress his windfall profits tax proposal on Apr. 26.



SOLIDARITY with the Farm Workers is expressed by Industrial Union Dept. President Jacob Clayman, left, and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to Cesar Chavez. The UFW president was in Washington to address the National Press Club.

CWA, Bell Agreement Improves Disability Plan

The Communications Workers have negotiated a new "anticipated disability" program with the Bell telephone system that improves disability payments for pregnancies and extends eligibility for leaves of absence to both male and female workers for an anticipated disability, such as elective surgery or childbirth.

The program, which takes effect Apr. 29, covers workers at all Bell System companies represented by the CWA. It replaces the old maternity payment plan to bring company policies into compliance with the 1978 amendments to the 1964 Civil Rights law, the CWA said.

Leave provisions of the program broaden eligibility to fathers and mothers to care for either natural or adopted newborn children. Under the old plan, the CWA noted, only women workers were eligible during the late stages of pregnancy and post-delivery for up to six weeks of leave.

Leaves of absence for anticipated disability will be granted initially for up to six months, but may be extended for as long as 53 weeks if needed, the union said.

The payment of benefits under the new program is based on a worker's length of service with the company. The schedule of payments starts at half pay for 52 weeks for workers with six months to two years of service and increases in steps to 52 weeks at full pay for workers with 25 or more years of service.

Bell employees returning to work after disability leave will be guaranteed the same job or one of similar status and pay, subject to Bell-CWA contract provisions if layoffs have occurred during their leave period, the union said.

The agreement also provides that workers have the option to take accrued vacations prior to beginning their leave.

The union said all employees, regardless of length of service, are eligible for leaves after furnishing the employer with a certification of disability.

During the leave period, employees will be able to continue to receive medical and dental plan coverage at their expense. For workers receiving disability payments, the company will reimburse them for the medical and dental policy premiums for the month that the disability began.

The union said the new program does not apply to currently disabled Bell employees who will continue to collect benefits from the old program.

Trade Commission Split On Steel Import Curbs

The adverse impact of increased specialty steel imports on American jobs should be weighed carefully by President Carter in considering a cutoff of import restraints, union and industry officials urged.

The International Trade Commission has split evenly on whether to recommend that the President extend for another three years the import limitations on high-technology metals and alloys which expire June 13.

The Steelworkers and 21 American steel firms had petitioned the ITC last November to recommend an extension, warning that recent gains in production and employment by the specialty steel industry would be jeopardized if the restraints are lifted.

Following the 2-2 vote of the ITC commissioners, USWA President Lloyd McBride and President Richard P. Simmons of Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corp. noted that the President's decision on the imports would be vital to the domestic specialty steel industry.

Two veteran members of the ITC, Catherine Bedell and George Moore, concluded in their findings that lifting the import restraints would hurt the domestic steel industry. But two Carter appointees, Bill Alberger and Paula Stern, stated in an interview that there would be "little, if any adverse effects" on U.S. industry by allowing the restraints to expire. ITC Chairman Joseph Parker abstained from the voting.

Carter has a number of options in dealing with the issue. He can extend the quotas imposed by former President Ford in 1976, modify them, or let them expire.

The current import limitations are the outgrowth of an orderly marketing agreement negotiated with Japan in 1976. Quotas on imports from other countries were implemented when the European Economic Community refused to negotiate an agreement.

Massachusetts Labor Shares Energy Grant

Boston—The Massachusetts State Labor Council and Americans for Energy Independence will share an $82,555 Energy Dept. grant to develop a program to inform union members about national energy policy and to involve them and their families in energy education and conservation efforts.

The 18-month project got under way with a conference at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

President William J. P. Cleary of the State Labor Council, noting the relationship between jobs and energy, said that "labor is especially vulnerable in an energy crisis and has a great stake in the nation's energy viability."

Americans for Energy Independence is headed by former Sec. Joseph Keenan of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Abraham Desser Dies, Organizer, Mediator

New York—Abraham A. Desser, a union organizer during the depression years and a former federal mediator, died Apr. 19 at Roosevelt Hospital. He was 76.

Desser was an organizer and international representative with the Ladies' Garment Workers from 1935 to 1941 when he joined the organization staff of the AFL. He later was with the American Arbitration Association before going to the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, which he served as a commissioner from 1952 to 1972.

If Unemployment Rises:

Standby Plan Urged For Public Works

Expanded federal support for job-creating public works programs is needed to head off a possible recession as well as to provide continuing aid to areas of high unemployment, the AFL-CIO testified before the Senate Public Works Committee.

Legislative Rep. F. Howard McGuigan said that while the federation supports legislation to extend the activities of the Economic Development Administration, there are certain sections of the measure that need strengthening.

He also urged that Congress provide standby funding authority for an additional $4 billion for public works construction that could be triggered automatically in the event of an economic downturn.

McGuigan, who was accompanied at the hearings by AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter and Assistant Research Director Arnold Cantor, expressed concern that the proposed bill fails to provide safeguards against subsidizing plant relocations and plant piracy.

He pointed out that the 1965 Public Works & Economic Development Act contained specific protections against the unnecessary transfer of jobs to other parts of the country, and urged that similar language be included in the Senate bill.

The federation's proposal for standby public works authority would make half the authorized funds available if the national unemployment rate averages 6 percent or more during a three-month period, with the remainder to be "triggered" in if the jobless rate reaches an average of 6.5 percent.

"If such a standby program had been on the books during the deep 1974-75 recession," McGuigan said, "job creation stimulus would have begun to work at the end of 1974, and some of the sharp rise in joblessness—to 9 percent by mid-1975—could have been blunted."

The federation's testimony noted that a number of communities across the country have not yet recovered from the mid-1970 recession. Citing Bureau of Labor Statistics data, the AFL-CIO observed that although the national jobless rate stood at 5.7 percent in February, 56 metropolitan areas recorded unemployment rates above 7 percent and 19 of those areas had jobless rates of 8.5 percent or more.

McGuigan also observed that expenditures for public construction programs by state and local governments have not kept pace with inflation during the past 10 years.

He said the $35.7 billion that state and local governments spent for public construction last year was 30 percent below the outlays for 1969 when adjusted for inflation.

"In real terms on a per person basis, these figures show that public construction represented $151 per capita in 1969, compared with only $99 last year," McGuigan pointed out.

IBEW Wins Vote at D.C. Area Utility

Washington — The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers was chosen overwhelmingly to represent a 3,400-member bargaining unit at Potomac Electric Power Co. in Washington, D.C., and surrounding Maryland communities.

Based on returns of a National Labor Relations Board election, the IBEW will replace the unaffiliated Electrical Utilities Employees Union, which has represented the Pepco workers for the past 40 years.

The IBEW received 1,611 votes to EUEU's 938 and 93 for the Utility Workers. There were 24 votes for no union.

IBEW Organizing Director Michael Lucas said the new unit, designated IBEW Local 1900, will take over as the bargaining representative when the current contract with EUEU expires May 31.

The unit includes 2,400 plant and line crew workers and about 970 office and clerical employees.

Social Security Panel Terms Funds 'Sound'

Trustees of the social security system found the program in generally healthy condition with no serious problems in sight unless heavy unemployment upsets economic assumptions.

The annual report described the current conditions of both the old age and survivors trust fund and the separate disability insurance trust fund as "basically sound" as a result of the tax increase schedule enacted two years ago.

But the trustees warned that the Medicare fund could run dry before the end of the century unless hospital costs are brought under control. Their report recommended to Congress enactment of the Administration's hospital cost containment bill as one means of checking the cost rise.

Three Cabinet members are designated by law as trustees of the various social security funds that come largely from payroll taxes paid by workers and their employers. They are the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare.

One section of the report could be read as weakening the Administration's case for tightening eligibility for disability insurance and imposing limits on benefits. The increase in the number of persons receiving disability benefits was less than had been anticipated, leaving the condition of the fund stronger than predicted.

As for very long-range predictions about the future income and outgo of the funds, the trustees noted the difficulty of making accurate projections well into the next century and recommended that long-range financing problems "should be the subject of extensive study during the next several years."

For the shorter range, it suggested that some temporary funding problems might be met through greater flexibility in allocating funds between the old age and the disability insurance trust funds.

New Policy Urged:

Union Cites Abuses In Mentally Ill Care

The State, County & Municipal Employees have called for a complete overhaul of the nation's mental health care policy while pledging full cooperation with congressional panels investigating abuses in profit-making operations for the mentally ill.

Tens of thousands of mentally disabled persons have been turned out of state-run facilities in recent years and dumped into fire traps and flop houses," the union charged.

AFSCME President Jerry Wurf said that the population of state mental health facilities has dropped from 559,000 in 1955 to 160,830 at the end of 1977.

He pledged the union's cooperation to congressional investigators in a letter to Chairman Claude Pepper (D-Fla.) of the House Committee on Aging. The committee is conducting hearings on conditions in private nursing homes following a rash of fires that killed and injured numerous elderly and mentally handicapped persons.

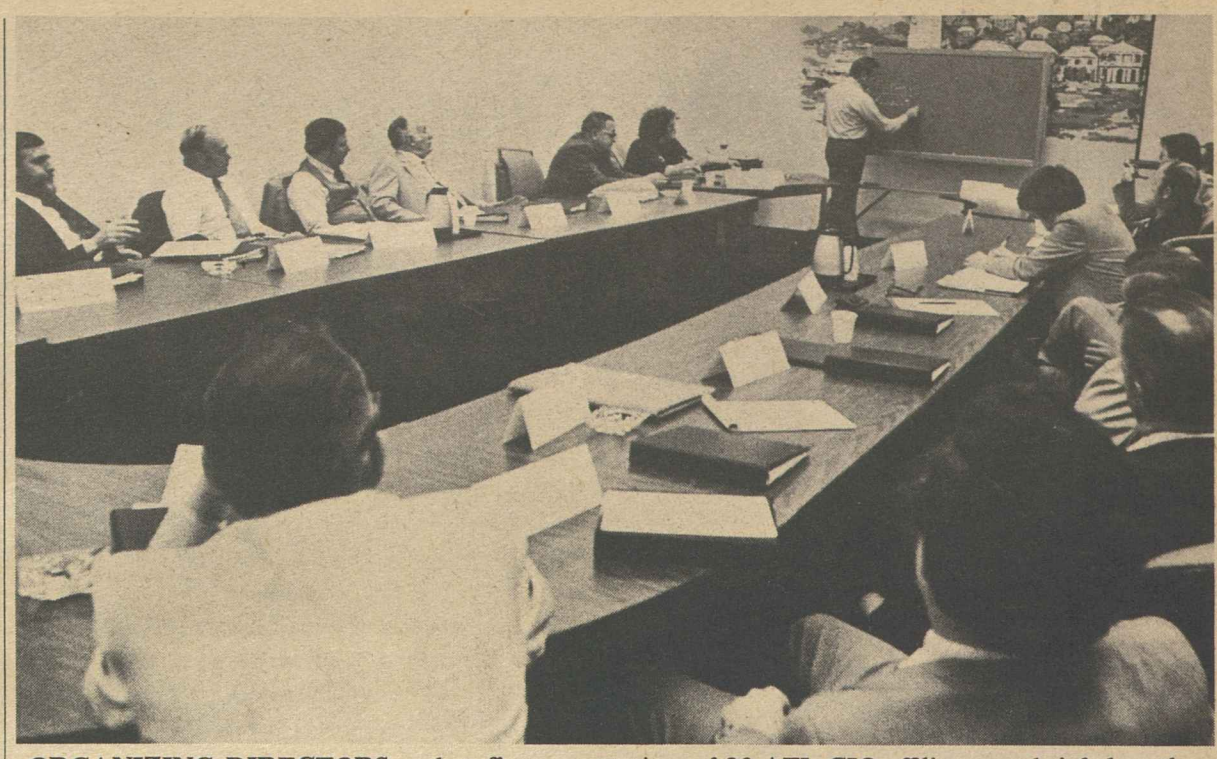
Wurf said AFSCME will "unleash an army of whistle-blowers from state and local governments around the country if that's what it takes to expose national policies that keep dumping the mentally ill into hellholes."

The union represents about 250,000 mental health care workers from among its more than 1 million public employee members.

"There are mental hospital psychologists who have been ordered to discharge patients who need continued care, health inspectors whose reports on nursing home abuses have been ignored and food services workers and ward attendants who know about health hazards resulting from cutbacks in institutions where they work," Wurf said.

"But they want to cooperate in an investigation that will lead to real improvements in patients' lives, not just newspaper headlines," he said, noting that previous findings of nursing home abuses by Congress have done little to correct the abuses.

Wurf stressed the need to broaden the congressional investigations and conduct regional hearings throughout the country in an effort to devise a new national mental health policy.



ORGANIZING DIRECTORS and staff representatives of 20 AFL-CIO affiliates are briefed on the operations of anti-union consultants and on ways to counter union-busting activities. The briefings were conducted by the federation's Dept. of Organization & Field Services at a two-day conference in Washington in an effort to develop a full-scale program on combatting union-busting operations.

Probe Widens On Risk From Hair Dryers

The Consumer Product Safety Commission, after a series of meetings with union representatives, expanded its investigation of asbestos in hair dryers to include those models used by barbers and beauticians in commercial salons.

The CPSC said it would issue a special order to manufacturers and importers of hair dryers requiring them to identify professionally-used dryers that contain asbestos. The pledge came in response to a request by the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. and the Barbers & Beauticians.

"The CPSC's action is crucial in assuring that workers and consumers are adequately protected from the hazards posed by exposure to asbestos," Sec.-Treas. Robert Harbrant of the FBTD commented. "We are pleased with the CPSC's decision; the hazard faced by barbers and beauticians is potentially far greater than that of the occasional home user."

Meany Protests Arrest Of Argentine Unionists

A strongly-worded protest over the arbitrary arrest of 20 top Argentina union leaders was registered by AFL-CIO President George Meany in a cable to Gen. Jorge Rafael Videla, head of the Argentine military government.

The labor leaders were arrested without warning, Apr. 23, as they left a meeting called by the Minister of Labor in his offices in Buenos Aires. They were taken in several unmarked cars to undisclosed locations after the meeting failed to result in cancellation of a 24-hour general strike called for Apr. 27.

AFL-CIO Inter-American Rep. Andrew C. McLellan reported that the general strike was called to direct public attention to the plight of workers in Argentina, who have suffered disastrous declines in real earnings as a result of the inflation that has exceeded 500 percent since May 1976.

Average monthly earnings of Argentine workers have remained in the range of $120 to $150, McLellan noted, while the annual rate of inflation has averaged 160 percent for the past three years. He said the cost of living in Buenos Aires has made the city the most expensive in the world whereas five years ago it was among the lowest. McLellan noted that business leaders, too, have criticized the military junta's wage and price policy, which has caused plant closings and increased unemployment as domestic consumption has dropped.

One of the first actions of the junta when it took power three years ago was to put down the central Argentine labor organization, the General Confederation of Workers (CGT). The CGT leadership subsequently regrouped into two provisional organizations—the Commission of 25 and the National Labor Commission.

The arrested union officials, many of whom were guests of the AFL-CIO at its 1977 convention in Los Angeles, were leaders of the Commission of 25, which represents two-thirds of Argentina's 3.5 million workers.

The arrests drew strong messages of protest from major labor organizations throughout the free world. Representatives of the Commission of 25 have said the general strike would be held despite the jailing of their leaders.

Screen Actors Name Information Director

Los Angeles—Kim Fellner, formerly associate editor with the Service Employees, has been named information director of the Screen Actors.

Fellner will handle press relations and serve as editor of SAG publications. She succeeds Judith Rheiner, who resigned.

Labor Asks Restoration Of Job Funds

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to restore $1.5 billion of the Administration cuts in funds for job and training programs in the Labor Dept.'s budget for the 1980 fiscal year.

"With unemployment rising later this year, as projected even by the Administration's own optimistic economic forecast," the federation observed, "the need for adequate appropriations for people-oriented programs is all the more essential." The testimony was presented by Legislative Rep. Kenneth Peterson before the House Appropriations subcommittee on labor, health, education, and welfare.

Peterson urged a restoration of the $1.5 billion under the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act to bring CETA funding at least to the fiscal 1979 level. The Administration's proposed cut is magnified in the light of higher inflation and would result in a particularly sharp decrease in Title VI public service jobs and in the summer youth program, Peterson said.

Wiping out summer jobs would seriously affect opportunities for minority teenagers who have the highest unemployment rates, the statement pointed out. Black unemployment now is at 11.9 percent, 3 percentage points higher than it was six years ago.

Peterson also called for an increase of 915 enforcement positions for the Occupational Safety & Health Administration. The President's budget allows for a total of 2,336.

The additional compliance field staff recommended by the AFL-CIO would increase inspection capacity by 40 percent. This would make possible more adequate inspections of larger workplaces, particularly those in high hazard categories, Peterson noted.

The AFL-CIO also proposed an additional $1 million appropriation for the Bureau of Labor Statistics to carry out surveys and studies useful in collective bargaining.

It also urged restoration of funds to provide work opportunities for handicapped individuals and to run joint union-management occupational alcoholism programs.

Marshall Sees Progress By ILO Governing Body

Recent sessions of the International Labor Organization's Governing Body have addressed in a "forthright and positive manner" one of the basic concerns of the United States regarding the ILO—the need for impartial examination of human and trade union rights violations, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall reported.

But other ILO issues of concern to the United States remain to be resolved, Marshall said in a statement following a meeting of the tripartite committee that has been monitoring ILO developments since the United States withdrew from the world body two years ago.

Marshall, who is chairman of the committee, noted that the ILO's general conference in Geneva in June will address a number of significant issues, including human rights standards. He said the ability of the conference to ensure respect for due process may also be tested, and certain questions related to the organization's structure and procedures remain unresolved.

"While the United States is no longer a member of the organization, it nevertheless continues to follow with interest developments which could permit the United States to seriously consider the resumption of membership in the ILO," Marshall said.

"We hope, therefore, that government, employer, and worker delegates to this conference will take positions which will enhance, rather than weaken, the ability of the ILO to carry out its fundamental purposes."

The United States left the ILO after a Communist-Arab voting bloc increasingly used its forums for propaganda attacks, distorting the world organization's concept of worker-employer-government participation in establishing international labor standards and rights.

AFL-CIO President George Meany is a member of the tripartite review committee. The panel's members also include employer representatives as well as Cabinet-level government officials.

Representing the federation at the committee's Apr. 18 meeting were Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland; Michael Boggs, assistant director of the Dept. of International Affairs, and Irving Brown, the U.S. worker representative to the ILO before the nation's disaffiliation.

House Modifies Law On Right to U. S. Visa

The House approved by voice vote a measure designed to clarify and strengthen the State Dept.'s authority under the McGovern Amendment to refuse visas to representatives of Communist labor fronts and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

While the AFL-CIO viewed the action as a step in the right direction, Legislative Director Kenneth Young said the federation will continue to work for outright repeal of the McGovern Amendment.

The two-year-old McGovern Amendment lifted virtually all restrictions on the issuance of entry visas to Communists, including representatives of totalitarian labor fronts.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Stephen J. Solarz (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Edward J. Derwinski (R-Ill.), would make it clear that the McGovern Amendment does not apply to individuals who belong to the Palestine Liberation Organization, and would leave to the State Dept.'s discretion whether to admit individuals from signatory nations that are not in substantial compliance with the Helsinki accord, particularly its humanitarian and human rights provisions.

In the past, the State Dept. has treated the McGovern Amendment as if it imposed a mandatory requirement to admit persons from such countries in the interests of carrying out U.S. obligations under the Helsinki pact. The practice allowed government operatives—in the guise of trade-union officials—from the Soviet Union and other Communist nations to enter the U.S.

Otero Named to Panel On Immigration Policy

Joaquin F. Otero, a vice president of the Railway & Airline Clerks and vice chairman of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, has been appointed by President Carter to the Select Commission on Immigration & Refugee Policy.

Otero will serve a two-year term on the 16-member panel.

Below Current Levels:

Deep Program Cuts Set in Senate Budget

(Continued from Page 1)

tures are uncuttables and include such items as payments from the social security trust funds and interest on government bonds.

The congressional budget battles are being fought over relatively small percentages of the overall budget, but the amounts are significant in terms of the programs.

The House will debate its version of the budget resolution during the first week in May and a House-Senate conference will try to reconcile the two versions for final action by May 15. That figure will serve as a tentative ceiling on appropriations, but a binding and more detailed second budget resolution must be adopted by mid-September.

The Senate's budget ceiling would drastically slash the countercyclical public service jobs program, which now is keyed to the rise or fall in unemployment.

The Administration proposed and the House Budget Committee endorsed a cutback from the present level of 358,000 jobs to 200,000 by the end of Fiscal 1980. But the Senate version would cut even that reduced level in half, to 100,000 jobs.

An amendment by Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.) to phase out the program entirely was beaten, 63-29.

The Senate went along with Administration proposals to cut back summer youth jobs and the Work Incentive Program.

The Senate budget provides no funding authority for the anti-recession program of assistance to local governments with unemployment rates over 6.5 percent.

It goes along with the Administration plan to slash "impact assistance" to school districts.

On the plus side, the Senate approved higher ceilings for the food stamp program—necessitated in large part by soaring food prices.

The Senate rejected, 61-30, an attempt by Sen. Richard G. Lugar (R-Ind.), to cut back the food stamp figure to this year's level. It then went on to approve an amendment by Sen. Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) to allow $400 million additional in supplementary food stamp funding for this year.

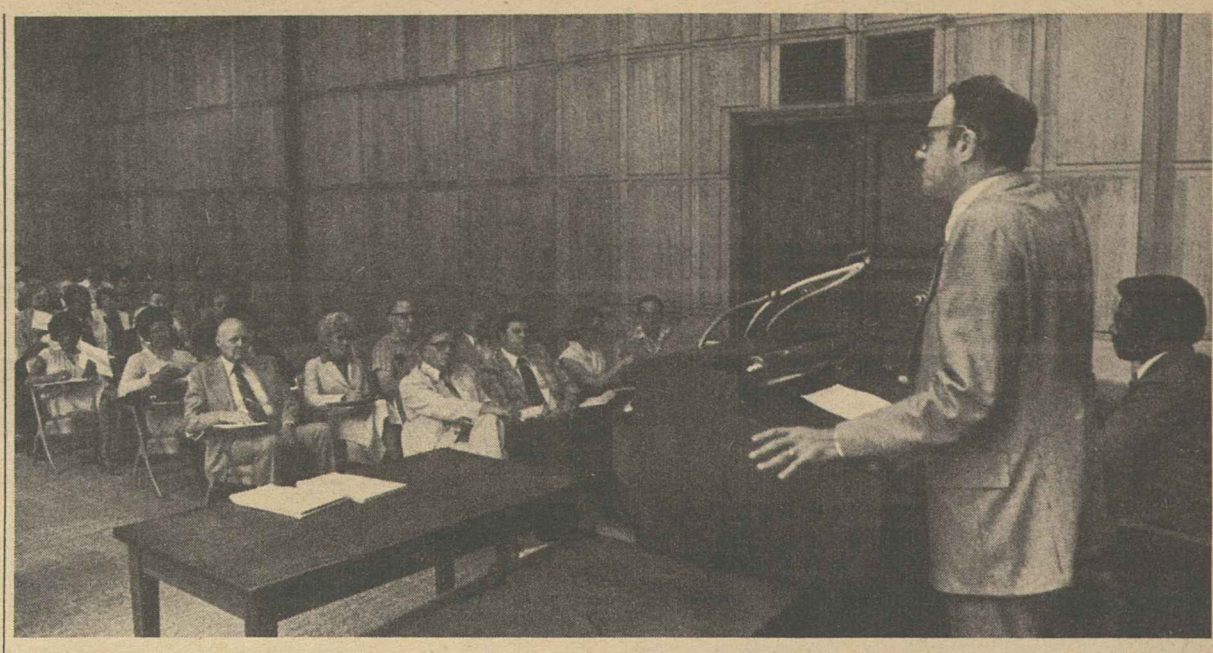
In another need-related area, the Senate voted 68-21 approval of a labor-supported amendment by Sen. Howard M. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) to add $100 million for nutritional programs for the elderly.

It also restored funding authority for a budget category that includes social security and other income maintenance programs, and it added unbudgeted funds for relief to areas devastated by recent floods and tornadoes.

Congress earlier this year directed its budget committees to recommend the alternatives of a balanced budget in Fiscal 1981, which starts a year from October, or the following fiscal year. The Senate adopted as part of its budget resolution a balanced budget target for Fiscal 1981 with a tax cut to follow in Fiscal 1982.

In a letter to senators before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said the balanced budget goal "makes no economic sense" if unemployment increases next year as Administration economists predict.

The AFL-CIO joined with the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the Conference of Mayors and various social service and religious groups concerned at the impact of the budget cuts in a coordinated lobbying effort. Several state AFL-CIO officers and COPE staffers came to Washington to contact key congressional delegations. Various unions brought in members to help, with both the Machinists and the Ladies' Garment Workers having large groups.



UNIONS PARTICIPATING in a coalition effort to restore funds lost to budget cuts for job, housing, education and health programs called in members from key states to help lobby Congress. This group is being briefed by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young and Legislative Rep. Robert McGlotten, seated.

Current Health Care System Called Bad Buy for Nation's Consumers

Kansas City—Consumers are not getting their money's worth for the costly health care they're paying for, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman told the Health Insurance Association of America.

In an address to the association's conference here, Seidman said that Americans are paying for the ever-rising cost of health care through health insurance premiums, taxes and out-of-pocket expenses for uncovered services.

"For a long time, negotiators for unions and companies alike have been appalled at the gigantic bite that health insurance takes out of every economic settlement," he said.

The billions of dollars paid every year to doctors and hospitals to meet the increasing costs of an outmoded system continue to take more money out of workers' wages, Seidman observed.

The nation's health care bill is expected to rise to $204 billion this year and to $302 billion by 1983—about double last year's level.

"If we don't do anything about it," Seidman warned, "by the year 2000, health care costs will climb to $1 trillion and will consume 12 percent of the gross national product."

He said a major cause of the cost escalation is fee-for-service medical practitioners and stressed the need for increased development of prepaid group health plans that emphasize preventive care.

"It is labor's conviction that the fee-for-service system of reimbursing physicians is the driving force of health care inflation because the doctor is rewarded by prescribing more services and more expensive services," Seidman said.

Under the prepaid method, he observed, "the doctors have every interest in keeping plan members well, because if they don't, they may have to work themselves to death treating patients for no extra money."

The ultimate solution to the nation's costly health care problems is a comprehensive national health insurance program as spelled out in Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's Health Care for All Americans Act, Seidman suggested.

Only through a comprehensive health program will the nation achieve lasting, effective control of health care costs, he said. He also warned that the Carter Administration's "meager and fragmented" Phase I proposal could block efforts to achieve comprehensive national health insurance.

"Americans have been forced to endure inadequate, inappropriate and high-cost medical care too long," Seidman declared.

"There is just one answer—early enactment and the quickest possible implementation of universal comprehensive national health insurance. This is the only way to gear health care costs to the nation's economy. It is the only way to assure good health care for every American."

U.S. Regulation Sought For Laboratory Tests

A new attempt at federal regulation of clinical laboratories that perform tests for doctors was endorsed by the AFL-CIO at Senate hearings.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) and six co-sponsors, would require federal licensing and inspection of laboratories unless state programs met the same standards.

The 750 laboratories doing interstate business are already under federal regulation, the result of an earlier Javits bill that Congress enacted in 1967. But the remainder of the nation's 15,000 clinical laboratories do business in only one state and are exempt from the federal law.

Twice in recent years, the Senate passed bills extending federal regulation of laboratories, but they were blocked in the House.

The AFL-CIO statement cited surveys showing errors in 25 percent of laboratory tests, with some labs having an error rate as high as 50 percent.

"No one really knows how many patients have died because of a faulty diagnosis followed by inappropriate treatment induced by inaccurate laboratory work," the AFL-CIO said.

"No one knows how many patients have been treated for a condition they did not have because of false reports from laboratories. . . . Clearly, corrective measures are indicated."

While supporting the Javits bill "without any weakening amendments," the AFL-CIO urged an additional provision to require competitive bidding for all outside clinical laboratory work performed on behalf of patients covered by any federally financed health program.

Too many doctors send their laboratory work to firms in which they are owners or stockholders, the AFL-CIO charged. Using a lab that charges $45 for a test that could be done for $10 in another laboratory is a "ripoff" of whoever pays the bill, the federation said.

But the New York City Health Dept. proposed to cut Medicaid laboratory costs through a bidding system. The Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare joined the laboratories in seeking court action to block the city's action.

The AFL-CIO told the panel that it has no objection to doctors investing in clinical laboratories "as long as there is honest competition in the industry."

Failure of Guidelines Cited as Prices Soar

(Continued from Page 1)

"The entire program is geared to decreasing the standard of living for workers, and they can't be expected to be—and won't be—the scapegoats for an unwise and inequitable program."

The 1.1 percent rise in the government's consumer price index last month followed increases of 1.2 percent in February and 1 percent in January. The latest round of price increases lifted the CPI 10.3 percent above its March 1978 level.

The higher prices, coupled with a decrease in average weekly hours worked, lowered real spendable earnings in March by one-tenth of 1 percent. Over the year, real spendable earnings—take-home pay for the average worker with three dependents, adjusted for inflation's impact since 1967—were down 2 percent.

Food prices moderated only slightly in March, rising 1.2 percent after increases of 1.7 percent in February and 1.5 percent in January. Meat prices rose 2.8 percent over the month—33.6 percent on an annual basis—and accounted for more than two-thirds of the overall rise in grocery-store prices.

Beef prices increased sharply for the sixth consecutive month while dairy products and egg prices rose "substantially" and prices for fresh fruits also showed large increases.

Rising homeownership costs and household fuels accounted for nearly all the 1 percent increase in the housing index. Mortgage interest costs rose 2 percent, reflecting increases of nine-tenths of 1 percent in home prices and 1.6 percent in mortgage interest rates.

Gasoline prices increased 3.8 percent in March, the fastest rate since the summer of 1975, and accounted for three-fourths of the 1.2 percent overall rise in transportation costs. Prices for apparel and upkeep turned up sharply, 1.2 percent, reflecting higher-priced spring clothing.

Trade Adjustment Aid Boosted 10%

The maximum weekly payment for workers who have lost their jobs to imports has been increased by 10 percent to $250, the Labor Dept. announced. The benefit ceiling is keyed to the average manufacturing wage.

Trade adjustment assistance is available for affected workers under the 1974 Trade Act. Payments are limited to 52 weeks.

Since the program went into effect in 1975, some 430,000 American workers have been certified as eligible for the payments. However, aid was denied to more than a half-million other displaced workers who sought assistance over the past four years.

N.H. Governor Pledges To Veto 'Work' Bill

Concord, N.H.—New Hampshire Gov. Hugh Gallen, a Democrat has reaffirmed his intention to veto a so-called right-to-work bill as the state House of Representatives approved a "work" measure and sent it to the Senate.

The House vote was 183 to 161 with 65 members absent. The Senate is expected to consider the bill within the next two weeks.

Earlier this year a right-to-work bill was passed by the New Mexico legislature and vetoed by Democratic Gov. Bruce King.

4/28/79

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Oil, Gas Prices Pour Fuel on Inflation

Meany Hits Decontrol Proposal

By James M. Shevis

Surging inflation gave no sign of abating as the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported another jump of nine-tenths of 1 percent in wholesale prices for April. If wholesale prices were to continue to rise at that rate for the next 12 months, it would mean an 11.4 percent inflation rate.

"As depressing as today's figures are," AFL-CIO President George Meany said, "they are only an indication of the gloomy inflation picture for the months ahead if the Administration is successful in its efforts to decontrol gasoline and crude oil prices."

Meany called the staggering increases in energy prices since the first of the year "unconscionable" in light of the huge profit gains rung up by the major oil companies during the first quarter. Gasoline prices shot up 4.4 percent in April, and were 9.8 percent higher than in January. Home heating oil prices soared 6.7 percent last month, up 12.9 percent in the past three months.

"The Administration's energy policy is a major contributor to the inflation it is fighting on only one front—wages," Meany declared. "Workers and consumers cannot be held to a 7 percent wage guideline while price increases are maintaining inflation at double-digit levels."

The AFL-CIO strongly opposes President Carter's plan to decontrol domestic oil prices beginning June 1, and Meany urged Congress to maintain present controls.

The sharp April climb in wholesale prices marked the fifth straight month of double-digit inflation. Prices of food ready for sale to grocery stores improved dramatically during the month, but producer prices of finished goods other than food climbed by 1.3 percent—the sharpest increase in that category since October 1974 and a sign that higher consumer prices will hang on for months to come.

The drop of three-tenths of 1 percent in finished consumer foods was the first decrease since last August, and followed increases of at least 1.2 percent in each of the previous four months. Much of the decline in food prices was credited to seasonal influences.

Improved growing weather, for

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AFL-CIO News

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Worker Protection Target Of Attack on Davis-Bacon

Profits Up Sharply in 1st Quarter

Corporate profits boomed in the first three months of the year, increasing 37 percent from a year earlier, a Wall Street Journal survey showed.

Another survey, by Business Week magazine, estimated the first-quarter gain at 35 percent higher than the earnings level for the same quarter in 1978.

The profits cleanup comes after unusually strong earnings in last year's final quarter and is expected to continue.

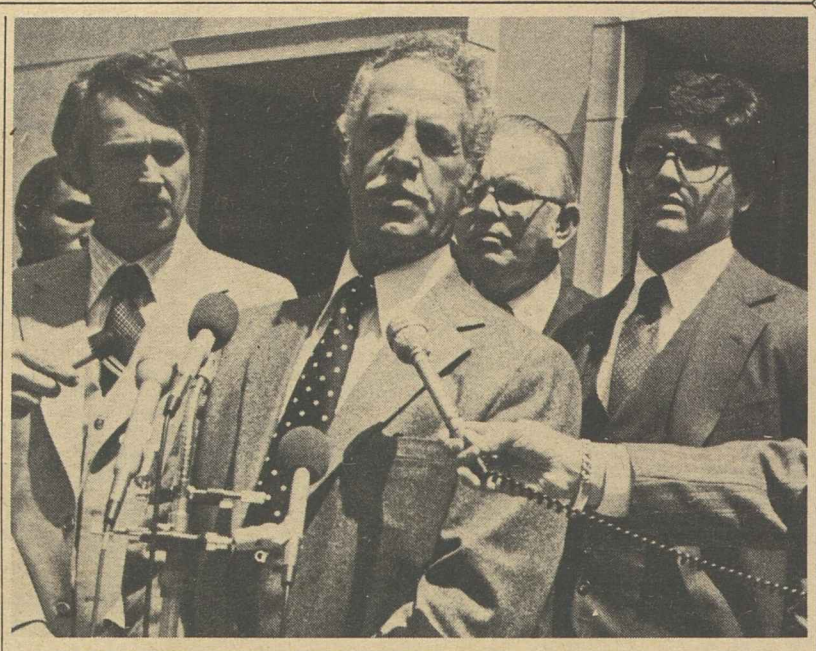
"For the current quarter, further increases in earnings are widely predicted," the Journal observed.

Mining and non-ferrous metal company profits were up the most in the Journal survey, 340 percent. Next were farm equipment manufacturers, with profits soaring 310 percent over the like quarter of 1978.

Railroad profits were up 184.5 percent; pulp and paper, 65.6 percent; petroleum products, 48.5 percent, and automotive, 42.1 percent. Huge gains also were posted for other industry groups.

The nation's two leading auto makers—Ford and General Motors—registered solid gains as Americans rushed to buy small cars amid a season of strong overall auto sales. GM's first-quarter earnings of $1.26 billion, or $4.39 a share, were up sharply from $870 million,

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ADMINISTRATION PRESSURE got Uniroyal to back off from a contract agreement with the Rubber Workers, URW President Peter Bommarito told reporters at the federal courthouse where the union and the AFL-CIO sought an order barring the Administration from interfering with negotiations.

Labor Asks Congress to Reject Bid

By David L. Perlman

Destruction of the Davis-Bacon Act would be "a first step toward dismantling 50 years of carefully designed social legislation," the AFL-CIO warned at Senate hearings.

Employer associations and their congressional allies have been using anti-inflation rhetoric to mount an all-out attack on the requirement that contractors pay area prevailing wages on federally-funded construction.

As a wedge toward an outright repeal of the 48-year-old law, they are trying to get Congress to exempt billions of dollars in federally-assisted housing, urban projects and mass transportation from Davis-Bacon requirements. At the same time, they are lobbying in state legislatures for repeal of "little Davis-Bacon Acts" covering state and local construction, recently scoring their first success in Florida.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young told the Senate's Housing & Urban Affairs subcommittee that the employer groups are trying to turn the clock back on a broad range of worker protections.

"The business interests of America are attacking not only the Davis-Bacon Act but also the Service Contract Act, the Occupational Safety & Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Civil Rights Act—all under the pretense of fighting inflation," Young testified.

There were no neutrals in the

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Rubber Industry Talks:

Court Asked to Bar Contract 'Meddling'

The AFL-CIO and the Rubber Workers asked a federal court to order the Carter Administration to stop "meddling" in the union's bargaining with Uniroyal Inc., which they said had produced an "intractable stalemate" that forced the URW to call a strike.

The action filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, seeks a temporary restraining order prohibiting the government from further interference in the union's negotiations with the nation's four major rubber companies—Goodyear, Firestone and Goodrich, as well as Uniroyal.

Judge Barrington Parker agreed to hear arguments in the case on May 4, less than 24 hours before the URW planned to strike Uniroyal, the "target" company in the union's current round of bargaining with the industry.

Laurence Gold, special counsel for the AFL-CIO, said that the strike order would be called off if the temporary restraining order that the union seeks is granted.

"There would be no strike on a day-to-day basis" if the order were issued, he said. The Rubber Workers represent some 8,200 employees at Uniroyal, the nation's third largest tire producer.

In a telegram to President Carter, Rubber Workers President Peter Bommarito accused the Administration of pressuring Uniroyal to go back on an already negotiated agreement with the union or face government sanctions in the form of lost federal contracts.

"That government interference has stalled finalization of this contract," Bommarito told Carter. "It is truly regrettable that, in a democratic society such as ours, coercive pressures and outright threats by the government, in defiance of the law, would force a company to renege on an agreement after the contract had been negotiated.

"We ask you to remove the hypocrisy from your 'voluntary'

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Family Living Costs Rise 8.9% Over Year

The average American city family of four last year needed an income of $18,622 to maintain a moderate standard of living, an 8.9 percent increase from the year before, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

For families living on a lower, "austere" budget, an $11,546 annual income was required while a family on a higher budget allowing some luxuries would have had to have $27,420. The figures are contained in BLS's latest annual report on three hypothetical family budgets.

Each year, the government estimates the change in prices of various goods and services that a typical-urban family might buy. The price changes are calculated at three different levels from autumn to autumn. Almost three-fourths of all Americans live in urban centers.

Last year's cost-of-living increases were the largest recorded by the government since 1974. The lower budget rose 10.2 percent from autumn 1977 to autumn 1978; the higher budget jumped 8.8 percent.

If brought up to date to reflect price and tax increases since last fall, the average city family maintaining an intermediate standard of living would need $19,303, the AFL-CIO Dept. of Research estimates.

Updating the two other budgets,

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House Bolsters Budget For Food Stamps, Cities

The House voted to raise the federal budget ceiling on food stamps for the balance of this fiscal year and to allow additional funds to be appropriated for the "countercyclical" program of federal grants to cities with unemployment rates over 6.5 percent.

Both programs were targets of conservative attacks as the House made a final revision of the budget ceiling for fiscal year 1979, which runs through Sept. 30, 1979. Inflation-hit programs will run out of funds before then unless the budget ceilings adopted last September are modified.

Still to be voted on as the AFL-CIO News went to press was the first budget resolution setting ceilings for the 1980 fiscal year, which starts this October. The House Budget Committee has proposed a higher level of funding than the Senate voted for labor-supported "people programs" and the conservative coalition will seek deep cuts.

On the other side of the coin, the AFL-CIO was supporting a "human needs" amendment adding close to $1.5 billion in outlays for various social programs and back-

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Senate Votes Separate Dept. Of Education

The Senate voted 72-21 for an Administration plan to establish a separate Dept. of Education despite objections by the AFL-CIO and the American Federation of Teachers that education programs are better served under the present Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

Before sending the bill to the House, the Senate soundly defeated an attempt to add a "right-to-work" amendment prohibiting any agency shop or union shop for teachers, even if allowed by state law.

The amendment, proposed by Sen. Roger W. Jepsen (R-Iowa), was ruled out of order because its subject matter did not come under the jurisdiction of the committee that handled the Dept. of Education bill. Jepsen appealed the ruling, but a 68-24 majority of the Senate blocked the anti-union amendment by tabling the appeal.

On creation of a new Cabinet department, the House is more closely divided than the Senate and the legislation barely squeaked through the House Government Operations Committee, 20-19.

The AFL-CIO viewpoint, Legislative Director Kenneth Young wrote senators before the vote, is that another Cabinet department "will do nothing to improve the education opportunities for children."

First Quarter Profits Show Sharp Gains

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or $3.03 a share, in the first quarter of 1978.

Ford's profits rose to $594.8 million, or $4.97 a share, from $466.2 million, or $3.93 a share, a year earlier.

Steel makers, reporting the strongest demand for steel products in almost five years, turned in especially good performances. Some of the improvements were "spectacular," the Journal said. U.S. Steel reported a profit of $42 million; against a loss of $58.7 million a year before, and earnings of Bethlehem Steel surged to $59.2 million from $1.1 million.

"The industry's bulging order books indicate that operations will stay strong throughout the second quarter, and most steel companies anticipate further profit gains in the period," the Journal said.

Rubber companies experienced very strong demand for their products, continuing a trend established in the fourth quarter. Most of the industry's raw materials are petroleum-based, and their prices—along with those for natural rubber—have been soaring. Profits at B. F. Goodrich Co., for example, were up 68 percent on a 21 percent increase in sales.

Most of the nation's big banks also had an excellent first quarter, paced by earnings increases of 78 percent at Chase Manhattan and 44 percent at Bankers Trust New York.

Earnings generally rose strongly for electrical equipment companies, machine tool firms, forest products companies, and in the chemicals industry.

The airlines generally sustained a decline in earnings, the result of high fuel costs and the United Airlines strike.





CAPITOL HILL news conference marked formation of a broad-based Committee Against a Separate Dept. of Education, to oppose breakup of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. Meeting the press are, from left, Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to the president of the AFL-CIO; Albert F. Unger, governmental relations director of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association; Teachers President Albert Shanker; Sen. S.I. Hayakawa (R-Calif.) and Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.).

Rubber Workers Seek Court Ban on Meddling

(Continued from Page 1)

wage-price program. If controls are necessary to curb inflation — and the latest statistics underscore that they are—then seek the congressional authority to make them mandatory and applicable to all sectors of the economy."

The latest court action is part of the AFL-CIO's overall suit to have the court declare the President's wage-price guidelines unlawful because they impose mandatory restraints specifically prohibited by Congress. The original suit was filed by the federation and affiliated unions in the same court in March.

In an affidavit accompanying the latest court action, Bommarito recited the developments in the talks that led to a tentative agreement with Uniroyal on Apr. 18. A day later, he said, he was informed by Leo Kramer, a Uniroyal labor consultant, that "all hell was breaking loose; the government is coming down hard on us." Kramer told Bommarito that the government had threatened not to buy tires from any rubber company that exceeded the Administration's wage guidelines, the URW head said.

"Based on my day-to-day involvement in the 1979 rubber industry negotiations, and my 18 years of experience negotiating national contracts in that industry, I am convinced that but for the government interference in collective bargaining . . . new URW contracts with Uniroyal, Firestone and B.F. Goodrich would be signed and in force today, and that this would have been accomplished through peaceful collective bargaining," Bommarito said.

Throughout the union's negotiations with the industry, Bommarito has insisted that the URW would negotiate as if the Administration's 7 percent limit on yearly wage increases did not exist.

"Presently, the government has no authority to compel obedience to the guidelines," Bommarito wired the President, "so your Administration is illegally meddling in collective bargaining." He added that URW members deserve a contract with guaranteed inflation protection, and concluded:

"Therefore, we urge you to order your representatives to obey the law, withdraw their illegal threats to Uniroyal and allow the free flow of collective bargaining to work, thus avoiding a strike no one wants and which will damage the already battered economy."

Uniroyal is the lead company in this year's bargaining with the industry's Big Four firms, which employ 55,000 URW members. The outcome of the talks would set a pattern for negotiations with Goodyear, Firestone and Goodrich.

Senate Kills Bid to Ban Teachers' Union Shop

An anti-union "right-to-work" amendment was proposed by Sen. Roger W. Jepsen (R-Iowa) to the bill to establish a Cabinet Dept. of Education. It would have outlawed any agency shop or union shop contract covering teachers.

The labor-opposed amendment was blocked by a 68-24 procedural vote on Apr. 30.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 49

Baucus (Mont.)	Ford (Ky.)	Moynihan (N.Y.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Glenn (Ohio)	Nelson (Wis.)
Biden (Del.)	Hart (Colo.)	Nunn (Ga.)
Boren (Okla.)	Heflin (Ala.)	Pell (R.I.)
Bradley (N.J.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Pryor (Ark.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Jackson (Wash.)	Randolph (W. Va.)
Byrd, R. (W.Va.)	Johnston (La.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Leahy (Vt.)	Riegle (Mich.)
Chiles (Fla.)	Levin (Mich.)	Sarbanes (Md.)
Church (Ida.)	Long (La.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Culver (Iowa)	Matsunaga (Hawaii)	Talmadge (Ga.)
DeConcini (Ariz.)	McGovern (S.C.)	Tsongas (Mass.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	Melcher (Mont.)	Williams (N.J.)
Exon (Neb.)	Metzenbaum (Ohio)	Zorinsky (Neb.)
	Morgan (N.C.)	

Republicans 19

Bellmon (Okla.)	Domenici (N.M.)	Packwood (Ore.)
Boschwitz (Minn.)	Durenberger (Minn.)	Percy (Ill.)
Chafee (R.I.)	Hatfield (Ore.)	Pressler (S.D.)
Cochran (Miss.)	Heinz (Pa.)	Roth (Del.)
Cohen (Me.)	Javits (N.Y.)	Schweiker (Pa.)
Danforth (Mo.)	Kassebaum (Kan.)	Weicker (Conn.)
	Mathias (Md.)	

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 3

Byrd, H. (Va.)	Stewart (Ala.)	Stone (Fla.)

Republicans 21

Armstrong (Colo.)	Helms (N.C.)	Simpson (Wyo.)
Baker (Tenn.)	Humphrey (N.H.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Dole (Kan.)	Jepsen (Iowa)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Garn (Utah)	Laxalt (Nev.)	Tower (Tex.)
Goldwater (Ariz.)	Lugar (Ind.)	Wallop (Wyo.)
Hatch (Utah)	McClure (Ida.)	Warner (Va.)
Hayakawa (Calif.)	Schmitt (N.M.)	Young (N.D.)

Absent: Bayh (D-Ind.), Durkin (D-N.H.), Gravel (D-Alaska), Inouye (D-Hawaii), Kennedy (D-Mass.), Muskie (D-Me.), Sasser (D-Tenn.), Stafford (R-Vt.).

Three Spending Levels:

Costs Rise Steeply In Family Budgets

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the federation's economists found that city families at the lower consumption level would require $11,966 while those at the higher level would need $28,525.

BLS said that the lower budget rose more than the intermediate and higher budgets because of larger increases in housing and income taxes. Food costs increased about 12 percent in all three budgets but, since they represent a larger proportion of total living costs at the lower budget level, the higher food prices had a bigger effect on total consumption costs at that level.

The budgets do not represent how families actually do or should spend their money, BLS stresses in its report. They simply reflect assumptions about the manner of living at each of three different standards of living.

In 1977, the total cost of the lower budget was up 4.4 percent from the previous year while the higher and intermediate budget levels were 6.1 and 5.4 percent above the 1976 estimates, respectively.

Steadily rising inflation has been the cause of the increases in the government's hypothetical budgets. From a 4.8 percent rate of climb in 1976, the annual inflation rate hit 6.8 percent in 1977 and 9 percent in 1978. In the first three months of this year, consumer prices soared at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 13.9 percent.

The Census Bureau recently reported that the median income of all families with one wage earner in the United States in 1977—the most recent year for which figures are available—was $13,148, considerably short of the $18,622 which BLS estimates an urban family needed to maintain moderate living standards between autumn 1977 and autumn 1978.

The income level below which an urban family of four was considered poor last year was $6,200 a year. The government's official poverty level guideline rose last month to $6,700.

Housing costs rose 7.2 percent in the lower budget but only 4.1 percent in the intermediate and 4.3 percent in the higher budgets. That is because BLS assumes that families living at the lower budget level are renters rather than home owners.

Medical care costs rose approximately 8.7 percent at all three budget levels. Transportation charges increased 6.5 percent at the low level, 6.8 percent at the intermediate and higher levels. Clothing prices went up about 2.3 percent at all levels while personal care costs rose 6.7 percent at the lower budget level, 6.9 percent at the intermediate level, and 6.5 percent at the higher level.

Federal and state income taxes rose nearly 30 percent for low-budget families, compared with 17 percent for intermediate budget families, and 15 percent for higher-budget families, BLS said.

The relatively sharp percentage increase in taxes at the lower budget level resulted from the heavier impact of income taxes on higher earnings at that level.

While the government does not prepare budgets for families living in rural areas, it does compare differences between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas.

For the lower budget, costs were 7 percent higher in the metropolitan area than in the non-metropolitan areas. The metro-nonmetro differences were 11.6 percent for the intermediate budget and 17.4 percent for the higher. Total budgets were lowest in small cities in the South.

John J. Hauck, Cement Mason Leader, Dies

Bethesda, Md.—John J. Hauck, secretary-treasurer emeritus of the Plasterers & Cement Masons, died May 2 following a long illness. He was 76.

Hauck had been a member of the union since 1919 when he joined Local 592 in Philadelphia as an apprentice cement mason. He was elected a local officer in 1929, serving as recording secretary, financial secretary and business agent.

In 1941, Hauck was elected a vice president of the international and a member of the union's executive board. He was the first international officer elected to that position from the ranks of the cement masons.

Hauck was appointed first vice president in 1943, a post he held for 11 years. He became secretary-treasurer in 1954 and served the union in that capacity until his retirement in April 1978.

Services were held in Bethesda May 4. Burial was at Rockville, Md.

BLS Report:

1st Quarter Pay Gain Held Artificially Low

The average size of first-year wage boosts in major contract settlements during the first three months of this year was less than in 1978, but the amount reflected "unusual developments" that influenced the manner in which the figure was derived, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

In the lightest bargaining activity in more than 10 years, first-year pay raises provided by contracts negotiated between January and March averaged 4.8 percent, BLS said.

That figure is artificially low, however, because of BLS's methodology in calculating first-year wage changes for some 125,000 railroad workers whose negotiators settled in January after protracted bargaining.

The rail settlement was retroactive to January 1978, when the old agreement expired, but the workers were not actually paid a wage increase until this year. Following an established practice, BLS therefore did not record a first-year increase for these workers. A similar development affected 2,400 workers in the airline industry, BLS said.

For the 135,000 other workers covered by major agreements negotiated in this year's first quarter, the first-year increase averaged 9.3 percent. In 1978, the average first-year wage boost was 7.6 percent.

The settlement data relate to workers in 63 nonfarm bargaining units, each covering 1,000 workers or more. Nearly half the 262,000 workers were in the railroad industry with the others in the oil, construction, retail food stores, and paper industries.

Total wage increases over the life of contracts concluded in the 1979 first quarter—unaffected by the railroad negotiations—averaged 6.6 percent a year, compared with 6.4 percent in 1978, BLS said. Other highlights of the government report:

● Pay increases in contracts containing cost-of-living escalator provisions averaged 5.2 percent a year over the life of the agreements, compared with 8.3 percent for pacts without such clauses.

● During the first quarter of this year, cost-of-living clauses triggered wage increases that averaged 2 percent for workers actually receiving them. The average COL increase returned about 62 percent of the rise in the consumer price index during the January-March period, BLS said.

● Key contracts, those covering units with 5,000 workers or more, provided first-year wage and benefit increases averaging 2.5 percent. The figure is distorted, however, by the rail settlements. For the 43,000 workers actually receiving first-year increases, the average gain was 9.6 percent.

● Contracts negotiated in the first quarter had an average duration of 31.8 months, compared with 30.5 months when the same parties previously negotiated. The length of the settlements averaged 19.8 months in manufacturing, 26.8 months in construction, and 37.7 months in other industries.

More than half the workers affected by the first-quarter settlements were covered by cost-of-living escalator clauses, BLS said. COL clauses now cover about 5.5 million, or 59 percent, of the 9.4 million workers in major bargaining units, the government said.

During the first three months of the year 3.5 million workers under major agreements received wage increases averaging 3.7 percent, BLS reported. Some of the gains resulted from 1979 settlements while others were deferred increases paid under contracts negotiated in prior years or increases under COL clauses.



UNION CONTINGENTS were among the 100,000 New Yorkers who paraded down Fifth Ave. for a Solidarity Day rally planned to support Soviet Jews that turned into a warm, demonstrative welcome to newly-freed Soviet dissidents.

Town Officials Ordered To Stop Spying on Union

Milledgeville, Ga.—The mayor, police chief, and other officials of Milledgeville, along with the manager of the local Holiday Inn, agreed in a consent order from a federal court to stop spying on representatives of the Clothing & Textile Workers during their organizing campaign at the J. P. Stevens & Co. plant here.

All were named in a lawsuit filed by the union on Apr. 19 calling for immediate injunctive relief and over $600,000 in damages for violating the federal Civil Rights Act of 1866, the National Labor Relations Act and Georgia state law. The action was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia.

In admitting the court's jurisdiction in the case, the defendants agreed to cease and desist from:

● Conducting surveillance of union representatives and persons meeting with them in or out of Milledgeville.

● Recording any identifying information about persons meeting with the union representatives.

● Making use of the Police Dept. computer to obtain information from other law enforcement agencies about the union representatives or individuals associating with them.

● Conveying any information about the union representatives or those with whom they associated to employers in the town, including Stevens, Concord Fabrics, Griffin Pipe Products, Grumman Aerospace Corp., Meadows Industries, and Walton Mfg.

In addition, the Holiday Inn manager was enjoined from making rooms available to local police or any other law enforcement or government agency for the purpose of spying on the union and its staff members.

In its lawsuit, ACTWU charged that Milledgeville Mayor Robert Rice used the city's police department to spy on union activities to obtain the identities of workers who associated with union representatives. The union said the names of workers were learned by running license numbers through a computer tied to the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System.

The police gave lists of names to the mayor, who in turn supplied them to the employers in the community, the suit charged. Representatives of the National Labor Relations Board were also kept under surveillance, the union said.

J. P. Stevens Barred As California Bidder

Sacramento, Calif.—Labor's consumer boycott of J. P. Stevens products gained strong impetus from the state of California's decision to refrain from purchasing the company's products.

"Information brought to our attention concerning the record of J. P. Stevens & Co. Inc., in the area of labor relations practices, and collective bargaining in particular, has led us to conclude that your company should not and cannot be considered a responsible bidder or vendor," David E. Janssen, director of California's Dept. of General Services wrote Stevens headquarters in New York.

Citing "numerous labor disputes which have resulted in adverse rulings" against the firm, Janssen said his action was taken following consultation with, and a legal review by, the state's Dept. of Industrial Relations.

N.Y. Apartment Building Workers Win Key Gains After 8-Day Strike

New York—Twenty-five thousand apartment building workers here won a $46 wage increase, stronger job security and other substantial gains in a new three-year contract reached with the Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations after an eight-day strike.

The settlement, announced by President John J. Sweeney of Service Employees Local 32B-32J, provides for increases of $15 a week in the first year, $16 in the second year and $15 in the third year, plus additional differentials for handymen and working superintendents.

The strike, which affected 3,000 buildings, started Apr. 24 after around-the-clock efforts by the union and employers to reach agreement on a new contract failed.

"This is one of the most gratifying victories in the 44-year history of our local," Sweeney said. "In the face of many obstacles, including give-backs asked by the employers, rent control and layoffs in jobs that have taken place since our last agreement was concluded, we consider this a smashing victory."

Anticipating the possibility of a lengthy work stoppage, the union had distributed notices and report forms to tenants advising them that they had the right to deduct a portion of their rent as a result of curtailment of services. The precedent for this was a New York state supreme court decision handed down in May 1976 against Park West Village, a complex of buildings on Manhattan's West Side, supporting the right of tenants to deduct 10 percent of their rent because of reduction in services. (The case is on appeal in the state appellate division.)

One of the main objectives of the union was to write stronger job security provisions into the contract. The new agreement calls for more detailed procedures protecting employees with longer seniority when reduction of force is announced by employers.

Additional gains in the new contract include:

● A cost-of-living increase when the consumer price index exceeds 8.5 percent for the calendar year ending February 1980 and 8 percent for the calendar year ending February 1981.

● An increase in the maximum pension to $250 for employees who retire after 25 years of service at age 65.

● A $5 per month cost-of-living increase in pension benefits for all retired members. (The union has over 9,000 retired members.)

● Maximum major medical insurance increased from $25,000 to $100,000.

● Life insurance is raised from the present $5,000 to $6,000 and moving expenses for working superintendents is increased from $300 to $450.

● Provision for a basic dental plan for members and their immediate families.

Throughout the city tenants exhibited substantial support for the striking service workers. Many took up collections to tide pickets over until the strike ended.

Florida Faculties Okay State Pact

Tallahassee, Fla.—Faculty and professional employees at Florida's nine state universities ratified a new salary agreement negotiated between the United Faculty of Florida and the Board of Regents.

UFF President Ken Megill said that the pact was approved by a ratio of about 4 to 1 of those voting. Some 5,400 employees of the State University System are covered by the agreement.

Meany Scores Energy Rises

(Continued from Page 1)

instance, led to sharp drops in fresh vegetable prices for the second consecutive month. There were also encouraging reductions in prices for poultry, pork, roasted coffee, and eggs.

Beef and veal prices continued to climb but less than in March. On the other hand, prices rose more than in March for milled rice, bakery products, and fresh fruits. Prices for vegetable oil end products and fish turned up after falling the previous month.

Prices for consumer non-durables other than foods rose faster in April than in any other month since July 1974, rising 1.1 percent over the month. Besides the steep rises in energy prices, BLS reported sharp increases in prices for apparel, over-the-counter drugs, consumer plastics, rubber footwear, and bicycles.

Florida Kills State Wage Standard Law

Tallahassee, Fla. — Florida repealed its "little Davis-Bacon" prevailing wage law, wiping out labor standards protection that had been in effect for more than 30 years.

House and Senate leaders accommodated the state's anti-union contractors with a legislative blitz that put the repeal bill on the governor's desk just days after it had been introduced. Gov. Robert Graham (D) allowed it to become law without his signature although he had previously indicated his support of the prevailing wage concept on state and local projects.

The steamroller operation began with the bill's referral to a joint House-Senate Commerce Committee for a quickie one-day hearing.

It was rushed through the House the following day and approved by the Senate just one day later.

Florida had narrowed the scope of its prevailing wage law in 1974, eliminating school construction from coverage. The total repeal of the law was the first full success for the anti-union groups that have mounted a major attack on the federal Davis-Bacon Act and on the prevailing wage laws that 42 other states still have in effect.

The Utah legislature passed a prevailing wage repealer earlier this year, but Gov. Scott Matheson (D) vetoed it as a "misguided effort to cut costs" by reducing "working people's earnings."

The First Step

THE DAVIS-BACON ACT is one of three basic laws ensuring certain standards of fair play for American workers employed on government contracts. These three laws were designed to ensure that competition for government contracts neither depressed nor inflated area or industry wages. Thus, each of the three principal laws in this area—the Davis-Bacon Act, Walsh-Healey Act, and Service Contract Act—were designed to rely on a prevailing conditions concept, and at the same time recognize that community working conditions would not be static. These three laws were intended to ensure that the impact of government contracting be neutral, not affecting wages or working conditions in either direction.

Similar prevailing wage principles apply to the salaries and wages paid federal employees. When the government does not perform the job directly, it is only appropriate that employees working on government contracts should be paid wages equivalent to prevailing conditions in the communities where they work and live.

It is not surprising to see the Chamber of Commerce, Associated General Contractors, and others seeking the repeal of Davis-Bacon, the Service Contract Act, and other forms of social legislation. They have fought the improvement of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Civil Rights Act and almost every other progressive form of social legislation. This attack has nothing to do with inflation or government red tape. For some, repeal is simply the avenue to higher profits; but the real—most dangerous—threat comes from those who knowingly seek to change our nation's basic philosophy of government.

Repeal or emasculation of Davis-Bacon would put Congress on the first step down the road of dismantling 50 years of fair labor and human rights legislation.

—From AFL-CIO testimony.

Political Chameleons

CHAMELEONS ARE SMALL lizards that change color according to their surroundings. Today a number of U.S. senators are wondering whether to turn themselves into political chameleons.

These men were elected as moderates or progressives. They have generally progressive records in the Senate. Now they face re-election campaigns in 1980. They've heard that voters are turning conservative—so they're tempted to switch colors themselves. They hope to be chameleon conservatives. We think that idea is harmful and self-destructive.

Most Americans today are not really buying right-wing nostrums. They're not ready to give up or squeeze down the social gains of the past 45 years—such as social security, railroad retirement, unemployment insurance, medicare, medicaid, help for the handicapped, aid for schools, food stamps for the needy, and environmental protection.

Nor do most Americans accept the idea of fighting inflation by shoving the economy into recession, or fighting the OPEC oil cartel by multiplying the oil companies' profits. There are progressive answers to these and other national problems.

We have some advice for any Senate progressives tempted to turn themselves into political chameleons: Take heart! Move forward, not back! Work and vote for what you really believe in!

—From an editorial in Labor, May 2, 1979.

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Congress of Industrial Organizations

GEORGE MEANY, *President*

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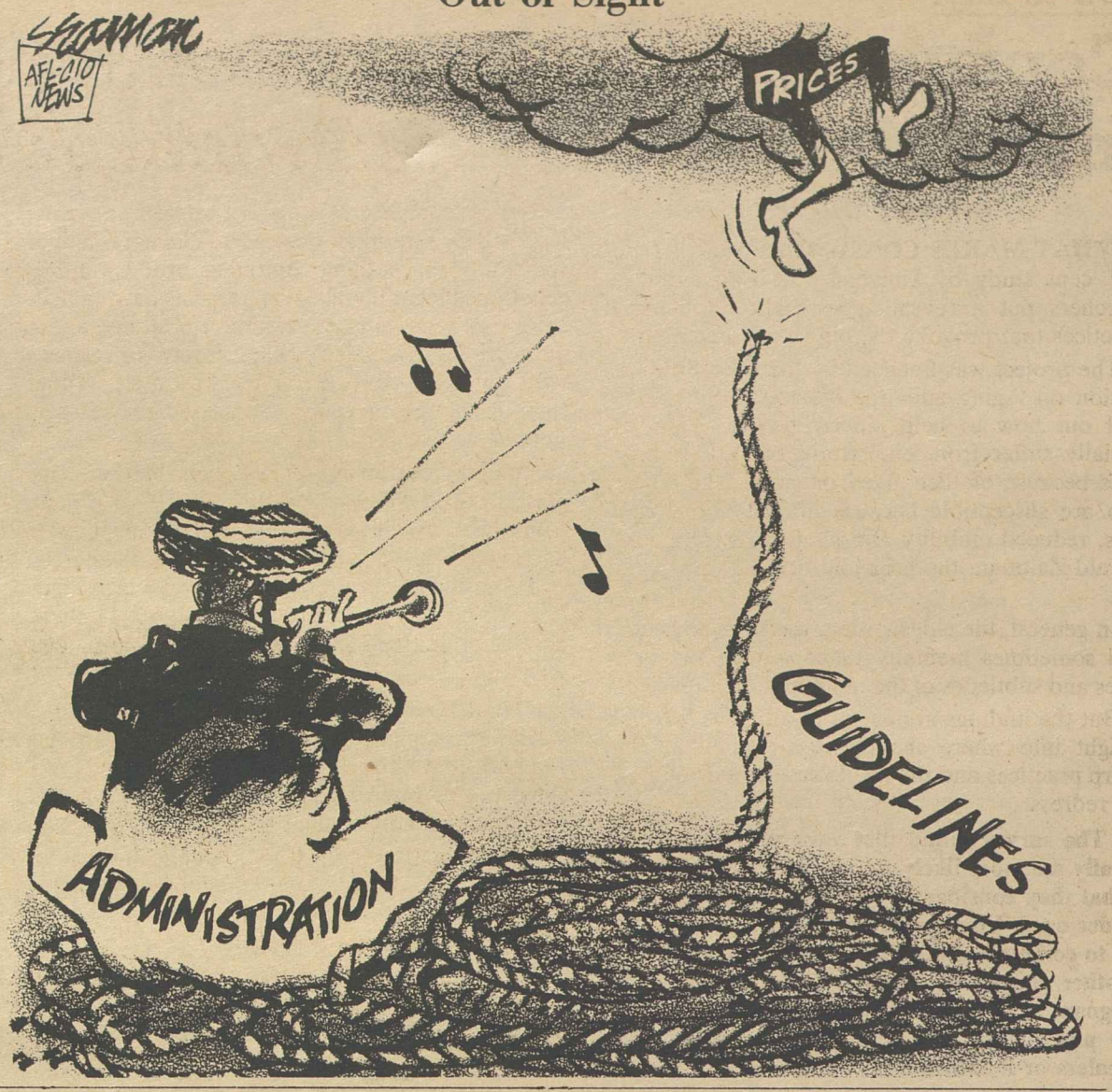
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Out of Sight



Profits, Dividends Explode:

Corporations, Coupon-Clippers Make Gains Despite Inflation

By Gus Tyler

INFLATION DOES NOT HURT everybody. For a select few, higher prices mean higher income and a higher standard of living.

If your main income is from corporate stocks, then—on the average—you did very well last year. Payments of dividends are up, well beyond the rate of inflation.

Last year, corporations paid out $50 billion in dividends, a sum that is twice as much as was paid out in 1972 and six times as much as was paid out in the early 1950s.

If prices are running away, then dividend payments are flying away. As the Wall Street Journal reports: "In relative terms, the dividend flow easily exceeds the torrid rise of inflation. While dividends have doubled since 1972, the consumer price index climbed just over 60 percent."

The Journal refers to the "dividend explosion" and notes that it has served "to push up sharply the average yield to shareowners." Which, in plain language, means that if you were one of the fortunate few who lives primarily on your dividends, you end up ahead of the game: inflation did not hurt you; it helped.

Although dividends have been rising, the "explosion" actually conceals the "super-explosion" of profits in corporate America. The percentage of profit that corporations paid out in 1978 was actually well below the historic percentage it used to pay out.

In the years 1976-1978, corporations have been paying out only 42 percent of their after-tax profits. In previous years, the rate rarely fell below 45 percent and in a good year, like 1970, the rate rose to 62 percent.

"Corporate earnings have recently risen sharply, even more sharply than dividend payments," adds the Journal.

So profits are obviously outpacing both the cost of living and dividend payments. If dividends are flying away then profits are out of sight.

So corporations, too, are not suffering from inflation. They are doing much better than consumers and even better than shareholders.

Even if the economy goes sour, it seems that dividends will stay sweet. "If a recession does develop in the months ahead," records the Journal, "experience teaches that dividends will keep climbing. In 1974, a year of deepening recession, dividend payments amounted to $31 billion. This was a record—up from $27.8 billion in 1973, a year in which overall economic activity rose at a relatvely brisk rate of 5.4 percent."

This means that in good times and in bad, corporate profits continue upward.

Doesn't that suggest that corporate profits are a major reason for inflation, a cause for bloated prices whether the economy is up or down? And, if so, isn't the taxing of such super-profits or a mandatory price ceiling on commodities to curb such profiteering the simple most important priority in battling inflation?

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Guidelines Seen Adding to Inflation

The Administration's price guidelines have contributed to inflation and its wage guidelines have precipitated strikes that would not otherwise have occurred. That's the assessment of Albert Rees, who was director of the Council on Wage & Price Stability during the Ford Administration. Rees, now an economics professor at Princeton University, had this to say:

"Without the guidelines, manufacturers would have been more concerned about consumer resistance to high prices and might have delayed their price increases until they were absolutely necessary."

He suggested that firms rushed to put through the maximum price increases allowed under the guidelines for fear that mandatory controls might follow which would make it more difficult to raise prices later.

As for wages, Rees termed the 7 percent guideline "absurd" in the face of a 13 percent inflation rate. "There is no way the standard will hold," he said. "What the wage guidelines have given us is three-way bargaining," Rees said. After the union and the employer reach agreement, they have to bargain with the wage-price officials.

Rees predicted that there will be more strikes in the months ahead because companies are being pressured to hold to unrealistic wage guidelines under threat of loss of government contracts.

How to Buy:

Consumer Survey Gives Insight Into Shoddy Business Practices

By Sidney Margolius

WHAT MAKES CONSUMERS angry? A recent study by University of Pittsburgh researchers put a revealing spotlight on business practices that provoke the public's indignation.

The project was financed by the U.S. Administration on Aging and was intended primarily to find out how to help elderly people. They especially suffer from exploitative or unfair practices because of their fixed incomes. The elderly also are susceptible because of isolation, loneliness, reduced mobility and similar reasons, Prof. Gerald Zaltman, the principal investigator, points out.

In general, the elderly seem less able physically and sometimes mentally to cope with the pressures and subtleties of the modern marketplace.

But the findings are useful to all of us for their insight into where shoppers generally may find sharp practices and the available methods of seeking redress.

The survey found that younger people generally are more likely to become indignant over what they consider to be unfair treatment than older ones. Younger people also are more likely to complain. But of the various practices that bother consumers, what makes them most indignant at any age is being pressured or forced to pay for repairs or services that they feel dealers or manufacturers really are responsible for.

Repairs in all cases turned out to be the most disturbing issue. Besides anger over being forced to pay for repairs or services that they felt others were responsible for, consumers expressed resentment at being pressured or forced to pay for repairs or services within a limited time or from a particular firm and at extra charges for repairs on weekends.

Other practices that irked large numbers of people questioned by the survey takers were companies that change names or locations often, and being required to pay in advance or make a large downpayment.

While younger consumers in general are both more aware of unfair practices and are more assertive, the elderly were noticeably more irritated over going-out-of-business sales, product sales that support the handicapped or children overseas, and sales parties in a home. Sales parties bothered the youngest consumers, 25-34, least of all.

Among advertising and selling practices, pressures to buy a product or service other than the one advertised or wanted irked customers in general most. Among others objected to, in order, were unavailability in stores of advertised items; hard sell by salesmen; unclear ad claims; offers of something for nothing; non-vital product differentiations that still make comparisons hard; make-believe phone surveys asking questions about interests before a sales talk; giveaways or contests used to sell products or services; form letters that look as though they were addressed to you personally.

Younger consumers fight back harder. One reason, Fred Waddell, author of "The Elderly Consumer," believes is that the younger ones have grown up in an atmosphere of consumerism and consumer education. Older people have been less affected by consumerism, are more fatalistic about unfair treatment and sometimes even fear reprisal.

THE FIGHT-BACK METHOD most used is asking for replacement or refund. Many others complained to family or friends and merely decided not to buy that product or service or deal with that company again.

Very few complained to a public agency or official. This kind of intervention apparently could be used more often. Some aggrieved buyers also complained to newspapers.

Only about one out of ten of those with complaints considered taking legal action and about one in 20 really did consult a lawyer.

Dealers themselves didn't necessarily resent complaints. They sometimes felt complainants exaggerated. But there also was an interesting tendency among some dealers to perceive complaints as an opportunity for "feedback" on products and services.

How would you classify yourself as a consumer? The Pittsburgh researchers after initial surveys themselves listed several types of consumers:

Information avoidant type: Rarely talks with friends and family before making purchase decisions; rarely comparison shops.

Salesperson-oriented type: Tends to buy from door-to-door sales people; high tendency to yield to sales pressure.

Cautious consumer: Tends to call Better Business Bureau for information, to pay cash and use a lawyer or consultant to interpret contracts.

Risk aversion type: Tends to deal with known brands or companies, avoid cheapest products and items on sale.

The uninhibited consumer: Rarely sticks to shopping lists or a budget, but reads the fine print on warranties and contracts.

(Copyright by Sidney Margolius 1979)

In Lettuce Dispute:

Growers Accused of Campaign To Wreck Farm Workers Union

MAJOR LETTUCE producers have combined violence and strikebreaking in a drive to destroy the union that represents their harvest and processing employees, President Cesar Chavez of the Farm Workers charged on Labor News Conference.

Chavez scored the widespread use of illegal aliens by the 11 shipper-grower companies where the UFW was forced to strike when the growers refused to negotiate beyond a 7 percent wage increase, claiming they were bound by the Carter guidelines. He said that repeated appeals to the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service have failed to end "clear-cut violation of the law," noting that the immigration agency "traditionally, has not been willing to enforce the law when a strike is in progress."

Chavez said that the struck growers have enlisted "the criminal element that specializes in the contraband of human beings," to put together a "sophisticated professional strikebreaking operation." He said that the illegal aliens are brought from the southern part of Mexico to labor camps in Arizona and California, where the employers use them as strikebreakers.

Chavez made a national appeal for a boycott of Chiquita Bananas to help persuade the largest lettuce grower, Sun Harvest, to return to the bargaining table for realistic negotiations, because Sun Harvest is owned by United Brands, which also owns Chiquita Bananas—an easily identified product.

In the union's view, Chavez said, the parent United Brands is mainly responsible for the position that Sun Harvest has taken in the bargaining. He also noted that lettuce accounts for only about 3 percent of the corporation's sales, while bananas account for almost 30 percent.

Chavez said that the company's guidelines argument raises a false issue, because neither the industry nor the union is covered by the Administration program. He said that the union's push for a substantial wage increase is critical, pointing out that the current wage is very low, $3.70 an hour, and that the workers have averaged only 4 percent per year increases over the last three years.

Reporters questioning Chavez were Drew Von Bergen of United Press International and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM is "sound" and "in good financial shape for the next 50 years."

That recent pronouncement by the Commissioner of Social Security is a stunning reversal of the impressions rampant just a few years ago.

At that time, even responsible business publications joined conservative critics in casting doubts on the soundness of the social security system.

The late Sen. Hubert Humphrey called hearings in 1976 to investigate "continuing allegations that the social security system is tottering on the verge of bankruptcy."

Former Commissioner Robert Ball appeared before Humphrey's Joint Economic Committee and put it on the line: "An erosion of public confidence is taking place, and unnecessarily."

Indeed, older workers and the elderly were growing fearful about the security of their benefits and the young seemed to become more cynical about the future of the system and the promises of the government.

What almost all the alarmist stories neglected to mention was that social security would go broke only if Congress did nothing. And that was unlikely.

Ball testified that "there is no truth to the notion that Congress has been willing to vote benefits, but not financing. Congress has been very responsible about social security financing."

Ball pointed out the source of the trouble. When Congress provided automatic cost-of-living increases for the system in 1972, the system was thought to be financially sound.

But then the severe recession and surge of inflation in subsequent years changed the picture.

While high-level unemployment sharply reduced employer-employee contributions into the system, inflation boosted the benefits paid out. Outgo exceeded income.

When Congress finally did act in December 1977, it provided for increases in the payroll tax and wage base designed to restore social security to a sound financial basis for the next quarter century or more.

And that is what Congress was assured of recently in the 1979 annual report of Social Security Commissioner Stanford Ross and his three fellow trustees—Treasury Sec. W. Michael Blumenthal, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall and Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Joseph Califano.

According to Ross, the congressional action would maintain the old-age and disability trust funds in sound condition for the next 50 years, assuming the economy grows at a moderate pace over that period.

A serious problem envisioned by the trustees is that "a severe or prolonged economic downturn (this year and into 1980) could jeopardize the short-range actuarial soundness of the OASI program."

A bad recession would cause cash-flow problems, hampering the system's ability to pay benefits on time from 1983 to 1992. To guard against this possible problem, the trustees asked Congress to permit the shifting of disability insurance trust funds to the OASI trust fund.

Another problem raised once again by the trustees is that Medicare hospital insurance funds will be exhausted between 1988 and 1998 because of runaway hospital costs. One remedy suggested was passage of President Carter's proposed hospital cost containment bill. Another and more basic remedy, of course, would be eventual passage of a comprehensive and universal national health insurance program.

So, all in all, the social security system seems to be on the road back to soundness. Nearly 35 million persons receive monthly benefits and an estimated 110 million Americans made tax contributions to the system during 1978. As the government program that touches more people than any other, its integrity must be protected.



STRIKEBREAKING and violence are the core of a drive by lettuce growers to destroy the union that represents their employees, President Cesar Chavez, center, of the Farm Workers charged on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Drew Von Bergen, left, of United Press International and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers.

Index Shows Further Lag In Economy

The government's composite index of leading economic indicators fell in March for the third month in a row, the Commerce Dept. reported.

The index, regarded as a barometer of future economic trends, dropped five-tenths of 1 percent following declines of four-tenths of 1 percent in February and three-tenths of 1 percent in January.

Some economists view three straight declines in the index as a signal that a recession is ahead but this is disputed by others. The last time the leading indicators index fell for three consecutive months—in May, June, and July 1977—a recession did not ensue.

Meanwhile, in other economic developments, the Agriculture Dept. reported that prices of raw farm products fell 1 percent in April, the first monthly decline since last November.

Despite the drop, farm prices were 17 percent higher than they were a year ago. Farm prices had risen steadily beginning in December, breaking records for four consecutive months.

Another government agency, the Labor Dept., reported that productivity in the nation's private business sector fell 4.5 percent at a seasonally adjusted annual rate during the first three months of the year. The drop matched the decline of a year earlier, and was in part weather-related.

In the manufacturing sector, the decline in productivity over the quarter was 2.8 percent. The figure reflected a 5.2 percent rise in output and an 8.3 percent gain in hours.

On a year-to-year basis, however, manufacturing productivity showed a gain of 4.3 percent.

Productivity fluctuates in the course of a year. In 1978, for example, after a 4.5 percent first-quarter decline, productivity rose 1.2 percent in the second quarter, by 3.5 percent in the third, and 1.7 percent in the final period.

On the up side, the Commerce Dept. reported that new factory orders in March rose a healthy 1.8 percent while construction spending climbed 2.9 percent over the month, the largest increase since last May.

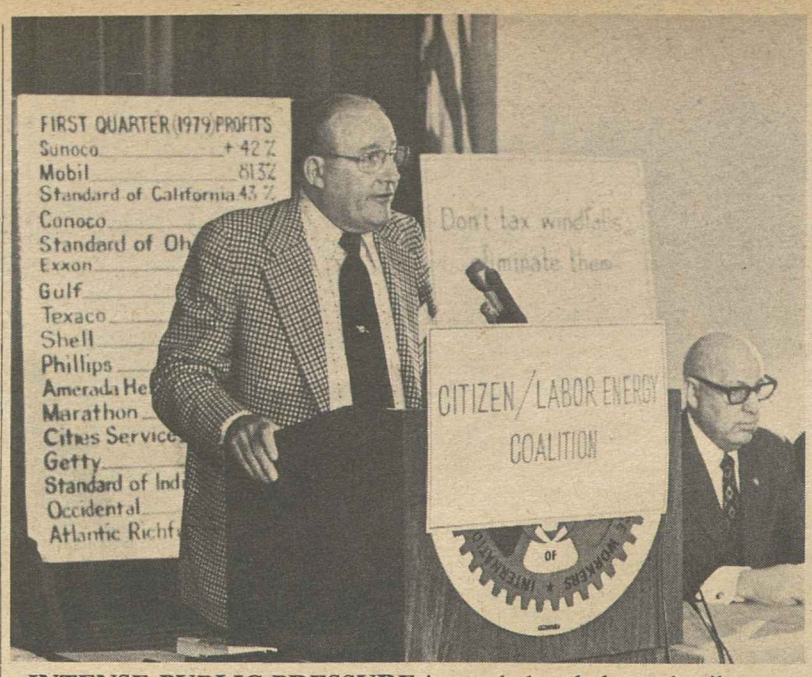
N.H. Supports Convention on Budget Limit

Concord, N.H. — The New Hampshire legislature adopted a resolution calling for a constitutional convention to act on a proposed amendment requiring a balanced federal budget.

It is the 30th state to do so, but several of the state actions have been challenged as invalid. Under the Constitution, amendments can be initiated either by a two-thirds vote of Congress or by a constitutional convention called by 34 states, which is two-thirds of the 50 states.

The AFL-CIO has opposed both the mandatory balanced budget proposal and the attempt to force the convening of a constitutional convention whose powers have never been spelled out.

The bulk of the votes in the New Hampshire legislature came from Republicans, but Democratic politics got into the battle with California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., telephoning legislators urging support of the convention call at a time when President Carter, who opposes it, was in the state.



INTENSE PUBLIC PRESSURE is needed to help curb oil company profiteering and abuses, Machinists President William W. Winpisinger said in opening a Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition press conference. George Hardy, president of the Service Employees, is at right.

Energy Coalition Spurs Pressure on Oil Firms

The Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition is rallying public pressure against major oil companies, charging that both President Carter and Congress have failed to crack down on the profiteering and abuses of the petroleum industry.

Coalition President William W. Winpisinger accused Carter of giving in to the oil companies by decontrolling the price of crude oil.

"And he is now misleading the American people on the effectiveness of his windfall profits tax, which in reality will tax away little more than 10 percent of the $85 billion windfall they receive between now and 1985," Winpisinger charged at a Washington press conference.

He said Congress caved in to the energy companies when it approved price hikes last fall for natural gas and "won't stop oil price increases unless forced to do so."

On Capitol Hill, a labor-supported move to postpone decontrol of crude oil prices resulted in a tie vote in the House Commerce Committee and its supporters are planning to press for an endorsement by the House Democratic caucus in a new effort to bring it to the floor.

The measure, introduced by Rep. Toby Moffett (D-Conn.), would continue existing controls through 1980. It would block President Carter's order for a phased decontrol of prices, starting in June. While the 21-21 tie vote in committee defeated the resolution, Democrats voted 18-9 to restore controls and House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., said he personally supports controls.

Earlier, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) had clashed with President Carter over the Administration's proposed "windfall profits tax." The tax would apply to the added revenue that the already profit-laden oil companies would obtain through selling domestic oil at the same artificially high price that the OPEC cartel charges.

At a news conference, Carter reacted angrily to Kennedy's charge that the much-touted tax amounted to no more than a mere token. But the President added that he would "gladly" support a higher tax if Congress were to enact one.

Participating organizations in the coalition include union, public interest, church, senior citizen and minority groups that represent some 20 million Americans.

The immediate goals of the coalition's campaign are to roll back gasoline price increases of the past year, end the "outrageous profiteering" of the oil companies and expose the "phony shortages" that Winpisinger said the industry is using as blackmail to further jack up prices.

"The oil companies must open their books and meet with the people so we can get to the bottom of the biggest swindle in American history," declared Winpisinger, who also is president of the Machinists.

He said the coalition was launching its campaign by sending a message to Mobil with a demonstration at the corporation's stockholders meeting in Kansas City.

The campaign will continue in June and July to focus on Mobil, "whose actions are examples of greedy oil industry profiteering," Winpisinger declared. He pointed out that Mobil rolled up an 82 percent increase in profits for the first quarter of 1979.

Other oil companies, including some that posted first-quarter profit increases of more than 300 percent, will be targeted later, Winpisinger said.

"Our position is simple and just," he said, "don't tax windfall profits, eliminate them."

Also at the press conference, President George Hardy of the Service Employees, an executive committee member of the coalition, labeled Carter's windfall profits proposal "a sham."

For its long-range objectives, the coalition cites the need for instituting more public control of energy policy to curb industry abuses. These goals include efforts to:

- Create a federal purchasing agency for imported oil to cut the ties between the industry and OPEC nations.
- Establish a publicly-owned oil and gas company as Canada has done to compete with private producers and to serve as a yardstick for judging their actions.
- Enact and enforce stringent anti-trust and divestiture laws to break up oil monopolies and further spur competition.
- Launch a massive conservation and weatherization program to create jobs and cut energy usage.
- Speed up the commercialization of solar and other renewable sources of energy.

Unions represented in the leadership of the coalition in addition to the IAM and SEIU are the Sheet Metal Workers, Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, Steelworkers, Clothing & Textile Workers, State, County & Municipal Employees, the UAW and the Mine Workers.

At Senate Hearing:

Chavez Scores Aid To Struck Growers

Salinas, Calif. — Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez denounced the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service at a Senate committee hearing here and charged that a "grower-dominated system of justice" had allowed the killers of a farm worker to go free.

In testimony before the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee chaired by Sen. Harrison A. Williams (D-N.J.), Chavez said that major California lettuce growers have been able to resist the UFW's 15-week-old strike against them through use of illegal aliens as strikebreakers.

Despite UFW reports on where to find the illegal aliens, he charged, INS officials have refused to seek them out for deportation under the law.

Chavez appealed for a new nationwide lettuce boycott to help his union win its battle against the growers. At a press conference following three hours of testimony, Chavez said the boycott would apply to lettuce harvested by 18 firms with UFW contracts that have not yet been struck as well as the 11 firms already struck.

Growers in the Salinas Valley, which produces four-fifths of the country's summer crop of iceberg lettuce, were invited to testify at the hearing, but only two appeared. Williams called their refusal to testify "irresponsible and most unfortunate," and said he would subpoena growers to testify at further hearings in Washington some time after May 15.

The union is seeking a major boost in farm worker wages, from $3.70 to $5.20 an hour. The growers' best offer to date has been $4.12, the wage currently paid to strikebreakers.

Chavez expressed deep concern about the decision of an El Centro judge to dismiss murder charges against three grower employees accused of killing UFW picket Rufino Contreras in the Imperial Valley on Feb. 10.

"By his action, Judge (William) Lenhardt has told the world that in the eyes of the law the lives of farm workers are somehow worth less than the lives of other men and women in this country," Chavez said.

Over 1,000 UFW supporters packed the college auditorium where the hearings convened. Among others to testify, President Albin J. Gruhn of the California AFL-CIO charged that anti-labor growers are continuing to frustrate the state's 1975 Agricultural Labor Relations Act. He said the law's legal guarantees of basic human rights were being thwarted "through disruptive tactics in the fields and prolonged litigation in the courts."

Gruhn said that, although the UFW has been successful in winning representation in 74 percent of the certified elections, "unfair labor practices, refusal to bargain in good faith, and unceasing legal harassment by the growers have prevented many of the elections from being certified and contracts from being signed."

The growers have never accepted the UFW or the Agricultural Labor Relations Act, he said. Ever since the law's enactment, he observed, "they have sought to cripple both the union and the Agricultural Labor Relations Board through destructive legislative proposals."

Gruhn called the employment of illegal aliens as strikebreakers during the lettuce strike "a reprehensible act which should not and must not be tolerated in any community." He cited the AFL-CIO's action at its 1977 convention urging legislation to make it a crime for an employer knowingly to hire an illegal alien.

Wage Gains Set In UPI Contract

New York—The United Telegraph Workers approved a new two-year contract with United Press International by a margin of almost 2 to 1.

The agreement, ratified by the union's Division 47, increases operators' weekly pay by $38 over the term of the contract. Technicians' pay over the same period will rise by $41.

The pact with the wire service is retroactive to Feb. 1 of this year, when an initial raise of $14 a week becomes effective for operators, $15 for technicians.

Operators will receive additional weekly pay hikes of $5 on Oct 1, $14 on Feb. 1, 1980, and $5 on Oct. 1, 1980. Technicians are scheduled for further pay boosts of $5 on Oct. 1, $16 next Feb. 1, and $5 on Oct. 1, 1980.

Convention Additions

Following are additions to the list of conventions scheduled for 1979 by AFL-CIO national and international affiliates and state central bodies.

DATE	ORGANIZATION	PLACE
May 9-11	Arizona	Tucson
May 21	Plate Printers	Philadelphia
June 4-6	Arkansas	Hot Springs
June 11	Transportation Union	Miami Beach
June 25-28	Musicians	Phoenix
July 16	Longshoremen	Bal Harbour, Fla.
Aug. 7-9	School Administrators	Kiamesha Lake, N.Y.
Aug. 19-22	Maryland-D.C.	Washington
Aug. 22-24	Iowa	Waterloo
Aug. 22-24	Utah	Salt Lake City
Aug. 23-25	North Dakota	Minot
Aug. 31-Sept. 1	Siderographers	Philadelphia
Sept. 12-14	Connecticut	New Haven
Sept. 13-15	South Carolina	Columbia
Sept. 14-15	Nevada	Carson City
Sept. 15-19	Tennessee	Nashville
Sept. 20-21	Colorado	Pueblo
Sept. 25-28	Massachusetts	Boston
Sept. 26-28	Kansas	Topeka
Nov. 8-9	Metal Trades Dept.	Washington

To Make Case for Repeal:

Crafts Accuse GAO Of Contriving Study

The AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. charged the General Accounting Office with manipulating statistics and ignoring contrary evidence to make a case for repeal of the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law.

In a detailed 20-page rebuttal to the GAO report, the building trades made these points:

Contrary to the GAO claim that the law has outlived its time, the goal of protecting living standards of construction workers, providing equal opportunity for all contractors to bid on government work, and preventing undermining of local standards remains as valid today as when the law was passed 48 years ago.

Further, "the construction industry has all of the basic ingredients for cutthroat competition based on wage cutting." Unemployment is high and contractors have little control over non-wage costs such as land, materials and interest rates.

The GAO report ignored "the fundamental principle which is the justification for all prevailing wage legislation . . . that the price of labor should not become an element in the competition for government construction contracts."

Assertions by the GAO that the Labor Dept. has not properly administered the act are based on a sampling "far too small to justify the report's sweeping conclusions."

The GAO repeats "a favorite myth" of the law's critics by assuming that all wage determinations not based on an actual area survey must be based on union wage scales. But the fact is that the Labor Dept. uses local collective bargaining agreements only when it has determined that union rates actually are the prevailing pattern in a locality. "Approximately 57 percent of its wage determinations reflect wages other than those bargained for by local building trades unions."

To the GAO complaint that the Labor Dept. applies wages from outside the area, the building trades note that this is done only when there has been no comparable project in the immediate location on which prevailing wages could be based.

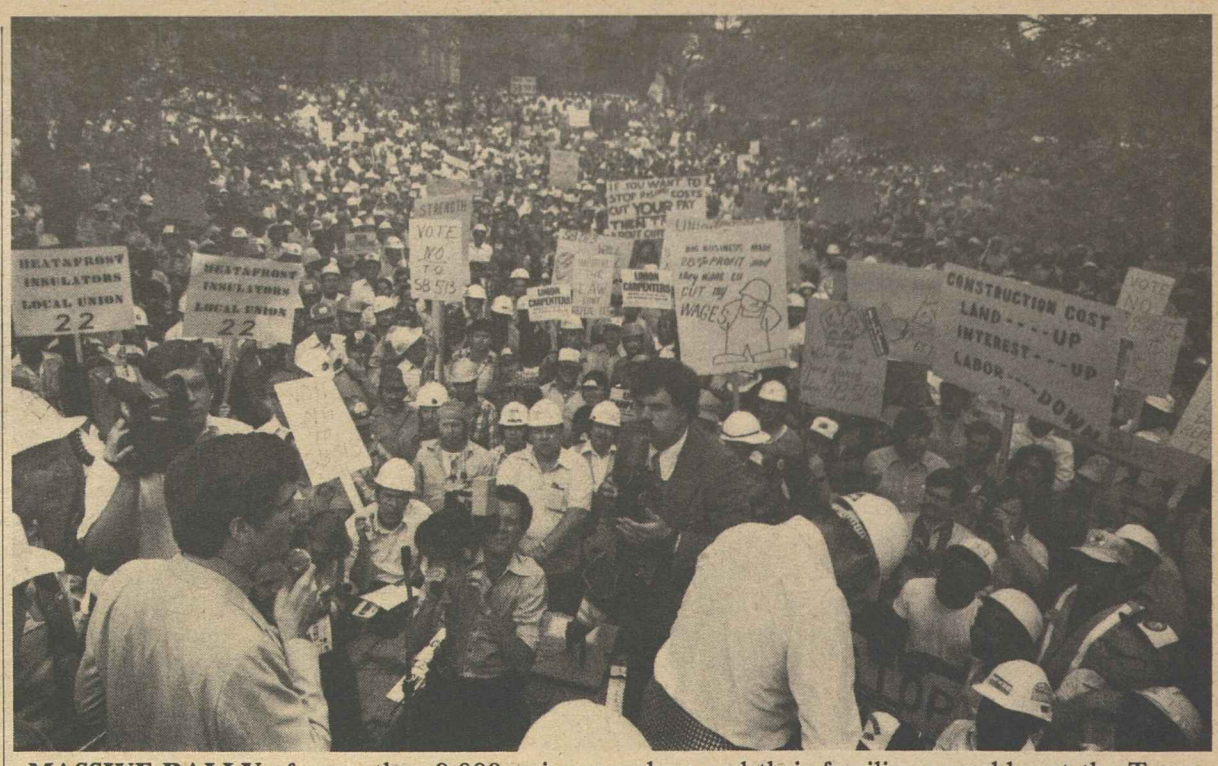
As for the procedures for setting wage rates when there is no single scale applicable to a majority of the workers in the craft involved, the Labor Dept. formula is a compromise adopted in 1935 which is fully consistent with the intent of the law. It is based on the area rate paid to the largest number of workers in each classification, provided they make up at least 30 percent of the total so employed. If there is no rate received by at least 30 percent, then the figure is based on the average pay rate.

On the GAO's repeated disagreements with Labor Dept. procedures, "it is not too difficult by trimming a fact here, by emphasizing a point there, to make it appear that a particular decision is totally inconsistent with the intent of the statute or with the public interest."

To justify its claim that the Davis-Bacon Act substantially increases the cost of federally-funded construction, the GAO used its own wage assumptions which are "inconsistent with the intent" of the law. The agency also ignored productivity factors related to skill and even then found pay rates too high in only 12 of 30 wage determinations sampled. It then fudged by saying that "if these projects are representative," industry costs "may" have been increased by $500 million.

As for its claim that Davis-Bacon reporting and record-keeping requirements add $200 million to the annual cost of construction, the estimate is based on a self-serving 1972 survey conducted by an employer's association.

The building trades rebuttal concludes that "the hidden economic and social costs of repeal more than outweigh GAO's speculative savings."



MASSIVE RALLY of more than 9,000 union members and their families assembles at the Texas capitol in Austin to protest attempts in the legislature to repeal the state's prevailing wage law. The House has defeated a repeal bill by a seven-vote margin, but anti-labor forces are now attempting to bring up a similar measure in the state Senate. The Texas AFL-CIO said the demonstration was the largest labor rally in Texas history.

Basic Worker Protection at Stake In Battle Over Davis-Bacon Law

(Continued from Page 1)

crowded hearing room during a day of sometimes bitter confrontation over what the labor movement sees as an attempt to steer governmen contracts to employers paying the lowest wages and the least benefits.

Foes of Davis-Bacon found their ammunition in a report by the General Accounting Office that parrots employer arguments. Comptroller General Elmer B. Staats, head of the independent agency, defended the GAO report in the face of sharp questioning from Subcommittee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), who supports the prevailing wage law.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, a former college professor, had previously termed the GAO report so riddled with errors that he would have flunked any student who turned it in. But Staats was soothed by Sen. John Tower (R-Tex.), who said the GAO report "pretty well" backs up his view that the Davis-Bacon Act is an "outdated, inflationary-prone economic dinosaur."

Both Marshall and Housing & Urban Development Sec. Patricia Roberts Harris strongly defended Davis-Bacon and the prevailing wage concept in an unusual joint appearance by two Cabinet members.

Harris told the panel that a HUD survey found that the Davis-Bacon Act has had only "a marginal impact" on costs of federally-funded housing, that it has made possible innovative training programs that have helped minorities move into apprenticeships in the building trades, and that fair wage requirements have paid off in quality construction that holds down future repair and maintenance costs.

Marshall said the Davis-Bacon Act is as necessary today as it was in 1931 to protect workers "in one of the country's most unstable and complex industries."

He said construction wages have risen slower than the national average in recent years and said "oppressive wage-busting" isn't the way to control inflation.

As for the GAO's estimate of the additional cost levied by the Davis-Bacon Act, Marshall charged that the agency's "grossly inflated estimate" was based largely on employer-collected data.

Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., challenged the "favorite myth" of Davis-Bacon critics that the law "results in union wages being imposed on just about all federally-financed construction."

In 57 percent of counties covered by Davis-Bacon wage determinations, Georgine testified, the prevailing wages are below the union scale for comparable work. The union percentage is considerably less in the small amount of residential construction covered by Davis-Bacon, he added.

Georgine charged that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce was sacrificing principle by allowing Davis-Bacon to become "an ideological football."

Repeal of Davis-Bacon, he warned, would "force honest contractors to choose between cutting workers' wages or lose out to unfair competitors who would not hesitate to use the federal government's construction . . . as the means to drive them out of business and monopolize the market."

A panel of employer association officials saw the issue in somewhat different terms.

An official of the open-shop Associated Builders & Contractors reported "an increasing number of workers" who would be willing to accept what he termed "reasonable wages" if Davis-Bacon were repealed.

Sen. Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah), a chief sponsor of legislation to exempt housing and urban programs from Davis-Bacon requirements, complained that the law compels overuse of skilled labor and negates the savings that should be possible when a contract is given to what he termed a "merit shop" firm. That's the phrase non-union contractors have adopted to describe their operations.

Economic Harm Seen In Oil Price Decontrol

Decontrol of domestic oil prices "will worsen inflation and increase the possibility of recession," building trades unions warned.

A statement adopted by the executive council of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. and the presidents of its affiliated unions said decontrol will take money from those "least able to afford it" and add to the already "tremendous profits" of the oil industry.

If decontrol is unavoidable, the resolution said, Congress should pass an excess profits tax higher than the President has proposed and use the revenue to help low-income Americans pay the higher energy costs, improve mass transportation and "stimulate development of new and unconventional energy sources for a national energy program."

Other statements adopted by the building trades leaders included:

- Support for a bill introduced by Rep. Phillip Burton (D-Calif.) designed to improve administration and enforcement of the Davis-Bacon Act.
- A proposal for a separate occupational safety and health program for the construction industry.
- Opposition to legislation that would impose new obligations on union pension plans based through regulations applied to sales of stocks and bonds. A separate statement expressed concern that termination insurance costs are overburdening multiemployer pension plans.

HRDI Aide Honored For Virginia Service

Vincent Moretti, a representative with the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute, was one of three Virginians presented the state's distinguished service award for their work with the governor's manpower council.

Moretti was honored for his work in the Norfolk, Va., area prior to joining the HRDI staff. The other honorees were Dr. Thomas L. McKeon of the Virginia Employment Commission and Curtis J. Johnson of the Virginia Community Action Agencies.

Labor Studies Center Lists Schedule for May

A three-day exchange of ideas on international affairs between the government and leaders of the AFL-CIO will highlight activities at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies, Silver Spring, Md., during May. The program is set for May 14 to 17.

Invited are the members of the AFL-CIO International Affairs Committee, presidents and international affairs representatives of AFL-CIO affiliates and officials of the State Dept.'s Office of Labor Affairs, the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of International Labor Affairs and the International Communication Agency.

Other studies center programs in May include:

Carpenters—A training seminar for newly elected business representatives, May 6-12.

State, County & Municipal Employees—A seminar for international and council staff on public sector bargaining, May 6-11.

American Institute for Free Labor Development—Two seminars for Latin American trade unionists, May 6-25 and May 28-July 6.

AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services—Two seminars for fulltime community services representatives, May 13-18 and May 20-25.

AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation—A conference for legislative representatives of AFL-CIO unions, May 29-30.

The Tripartite Program for Apprenticeship and Associate Degree in Labor Studies will conduct its first instructors' training workshop May 20-23.

Information about these and other labor studies programs may be obtained from Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., director, George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903.

IUE Leads Off:

Coordinated Talks Opened with GE

New York — Contract negotiations opened here between the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and General Electric Co. with a call from IUE President David J. Fitzmaurice urging the company to join in resisting "the possible interference of the Carter Administration" in the bargaining.

Fitzmaurice stressed in his opening remarks that the union negotiators intend to fulfill their responsibility to IUE members, "which means to negotiate to meet their needs."

Participating in the talks are representatives of the Coordinated Bargaining Committee of GE and Westinghouse Unions. The 13 unions in the CBC represent some 150,000 workers at GE and Westinghouse.

IUE's three-year contract with GE covering 70,000 workers expires June 30. The union will open negotiations with Westinghouse May 14, two months before the current contract expires.

Pointing out that GE and IUE were able to reach settlements in 1973 and 1976 without government intervention, Fitzmaurice said he believed both sides could do it again this year.

"Solely on the basis of company prosperity, it's a good time to be negotiating a contract," Fitzmaurice said, citing GE's spectacular earnings of the past two years, as well as record first quarter profits this year.

The contract goals as outlined by the IUE president include:

- A catchup wage increase that reflects improved productivity.
- Full cost-of-living adjustments without a ceiling or corridor.
- A non-contributory pension plan providing full benefits after 30 years of service and benefit improvements for current retirees.
- Improvements in health insurance coverage and a comprehensive dental plan.

Citing membership concern for job security, Fitzmaurice said the union would also seek contract assurances that plants and jobs are not moved to other parts of the country or overseas.

"IUE looks upon the shifting of factories and jobs as an attack on the members it represents," he stressed. "Such transfers are almost invariably to unorganized locations. Whatever the explanation management may give for the move, runaways are an anti-union practice."

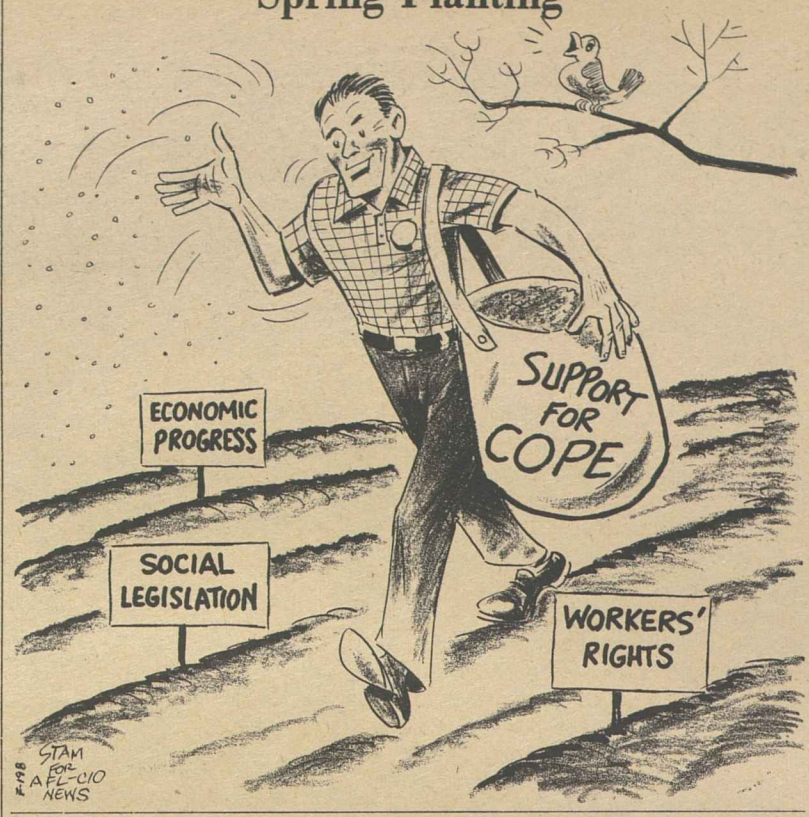
He said contract language for a union shop was vital to the IUE, but also pledged the union's cooperation in developing joint programs to increase productivity. "IUE considers GE's ability to compete as a matter of legitimate concern," he added.

In noting the role that the Administration's Council on Wage & Price Stability has played in other negotiations, Fitzmaurice said he recognized "the danger of outside interference" in the GE talks.

"It will not help either party, however well intentioned intervention may be on the part of the Carter Administration. IUE members are not naive, and they will not be hoodwinked into believing they have a just settlement if an attempt is made to ram an inadequate one down their throats," he warned.

Unions taking part in the coordinated bargaining in addition to the IUE are the Machinists, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Firemen & Oilers, Flint Glass Workers, Allied Industrial Workers, Carpenters, Sheet Metal Workers, Steelworkers, and Plumbers & Pipe Fitters and the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers, UAW and the Teamsters.

Spring Planting



Food Stamp Budget Bolstered by House

(Continued from Page 1)

ing an effort to lift the 5.5 percent ceiling on government worker pay raises.

Additions voted by the House to the 1979 budget must still be reconciled with Senate actions and then Congress will have to actually provide the extra money in separate legislation.

House Budget Committee Chairman Robert N. Giaimo (D-Conn.) told his colleagues that inflation has pushed up the cost of food, and failure to lift the spending ceiling would mean that allotments would have to be slashed early this summer.

The House rejected by a 276-146 vote an amendment to delete $515 million from the food stamp budget ceiling.

The battle over aid to cities with high unemployment was closer, and the program's future still depends on further action by Congress.

On the second day of the budget debate, the House voted 212-198 to cut from the fiscal 1979 budget the $250 million the Administration had requested for countercyclical aid. About 15 percent of the funds would have gone to New York City and a number of representatives of less populous communities indicated unhappiness with the allocation.

But with a strong assist from the House leadership, a compromise amendment was adopted the next day that put back $200 million for the city aid program and added another $25 million for disaster relief programs. It was adopted, 224-197.

In a letter to House members dealing with the fiscal 1980 budget, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young expressed labor's concern at the retrenchment mood in Congress.

He warned that Budget Committee cuts in public service jobs and summer youth employment opportunities and slashes in aid to cities and states "inevitably will lead to even higher unemployment."

The letter urged support of measures to partially restore needed funds and asked the House to defeat proposals for further cuts.

"Drastic efforts to reduce federal spending and cut the deficit will not curb our nation's present inflation," Young stressed. "As the Congressional Budget Office has pointed out, each $10 billion in budget cuts will reduce inflation by only one-tenth of 1 percent. Thus, if inflation continues while unemployment climbs, the federal deficit will increase through the loss of revenues and mounting social costs."

When the House completes action on the budget resolution, a House-Senate conference will then seek to reconcile the two sets of figures for completion of congressional action by a May 15 deadline.

A second budget resolution, more detailed in its ceiling on specific programs, will be acted on in September just before the start of the new fiscal year.

Eastern Airline Accord Won By Machinists

The Machinists ratified a new three-year agreement with Eastern Airlines providing substantial wage and fringe-benefit increases for 11,500 workers. The pact was accepted by a margin of better than 3 to 1.

The contract calls for six semi-annual pay increases, raising wages from $10.23 an hour to $13.15 for top-rated mechanics, the union said.

In addition, a cost-of-living escalator provision calls for annual adjustments each October of one cent an hour for every increase of three-tenths of a point in the consumer price index, with 12-cent maximums.

Monthly pension benefits were raised from $21.75 per year of service to $24.50 in the first year of the contract, $25.50 the second, and $27 the third. The contract also provides major improvements in insurance coverage and corrects work rule inequities.

The agreement is retroactive to Jan. 1, a month after the old contract expired. An earlier agreement was rejected by IAM's Eastern members in March. That settlement patterned after an agreement negotiated with Trans World Airlines last fall, also was turned down by the union's members at United Airlines.

Further talks with United meanwhile, broke down for a second time as the union's strike against the carrier entered its second month. Some 18,600 IAM mechanics are affected by the dispute.

Grover Wrenn Heads New OSHA Office

Assistant Labor Sec. Eula Bingham has appointed Grover Wrenn to the new post of director of federal compliance and state programs in the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

Wrenn, who has headed health standards development since joining OSHA in 1974, will continue to serve as acting director of that branch, Bingham said.

Social Security Benefits Set for 9.9 Percent Rise

Nearly 39 million persons receiving social security benefits or supplemental security income payments will get a 9.9 percent cost-of-living increase in their July checks.

The automatic benefit increase was announced by Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Joseph Califano on the basis of the rise in the consumer price index from the first-quarter average of 1978 to the same period this year. It was the highest annual rise since the CPI escalator was added to social security. Previous increases were 6.5 percent in 1978, 5.9 percent in 1977, 6.4 percent in 1976 and 8 percent in 1975.

Califano said the action taken by Congress two years ago to shore up the financing of the social security system has made it possible to meet the extra cost "within available resources."

The adjustment means that the average retired worker without dependents will receive a $25 increase —from a current average of $258 to $283. An individual at the maximum benefit of $503 will go to $553, and a couple with benefits totaling $429 will go to $482 a month. The average for a widowed mother with two children will rise from $614 to $674.

Those low-income elderly, blind and disabled persons receiving supplemental payments under the SSI program will also receive increases, bringing the maximum payment to an individual from $189.40 to $208.20 a month. A couple receiving the SSI benefit of $284.10 will get $312.30.

Added payments to the nearly 35 million persons receiving regular social security benefits will total $10.2 billion over a full year and the increased SSI payments to nearly 4 million persons, which are paid out of general revenues, will cost about $415 million.

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

5/5/79

Meany to Receive United Way Award

Dallas — AFL-CIO President George Meany has been selected by the United Way of America as the 1979 winner of its Alexis de Tocqueville Society award for voluntarism.

The UWA noted that the federation's Community Services operations, which work closely with United Way organizations, provide valuable assistance to workers.

Presentation of the award will be made in November at the AFL-CIO convention in Washington.

Bill Supported to Curb Conglomerates' Power

The AFL-CIO urged a Senate Antitrust subcommittee to approve legislation to curb the concentration of economic power in a few giant conglomerates.

Repeated waves of mergers threaten to vest immense decision-making power "in a small corporate elite," AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young warned. The "unacceptable social costs" of such power are even more important than the impact on the marketplace, he said.

Sponsors of the labor-backed bill include Judiciary Committee Chairman Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Subcommittee Chairman Howard M. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio).

The measure would flatly prohibit the very largest corporations from taking over additional companies and go beyond existing antitrust laws in restricting acquisitions or mergers by the next largest category.

Young told the subcommittee that hugely wealthy conglomerates have financed "an increasingly sophisticated effort to dominate public debate, set the social agenda and shape the way Americans live."

He charged that corporate power has been regularly used "to fight fair labor standard laws, anti-discrimination laws, government job training programs, worker health and safety protections, environmental controls and an equitable tax code."

Under the bill being considered by the subcommittee, firms with assets or annual sales over $2 billion would be barred from acquiring any additional companies.

A corporation with sales or assets over $350 million but below $2 billion could merge or acquire another company only if, in addition to the existing antitrust standards, it could affirmatively demonstrate that the consolidation would enhance competition or substantially increase efficiency. Without such a showing, it would have to divest itself of business units of equal or greater value than the company it acquires.

Young said the AFL-CIO acknowledges that some corporate mergers are desirable and helpful to the economy as a whole. Unless a multibillion-dollar corporation were involved, he noted, the Kennedy-Metzenbaum bill would allow such consolidations to take place.

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Council Scores Guidelines As Unfair, Irrational, 'Flop'

Uniroyal Is Struck As Talks Stall

Akron, Ohio—The Rubber Workers, at an impasse with Uniroyal Inc., struck the nation's third largest tiremaker as it sought greater protection against inflation for its members.

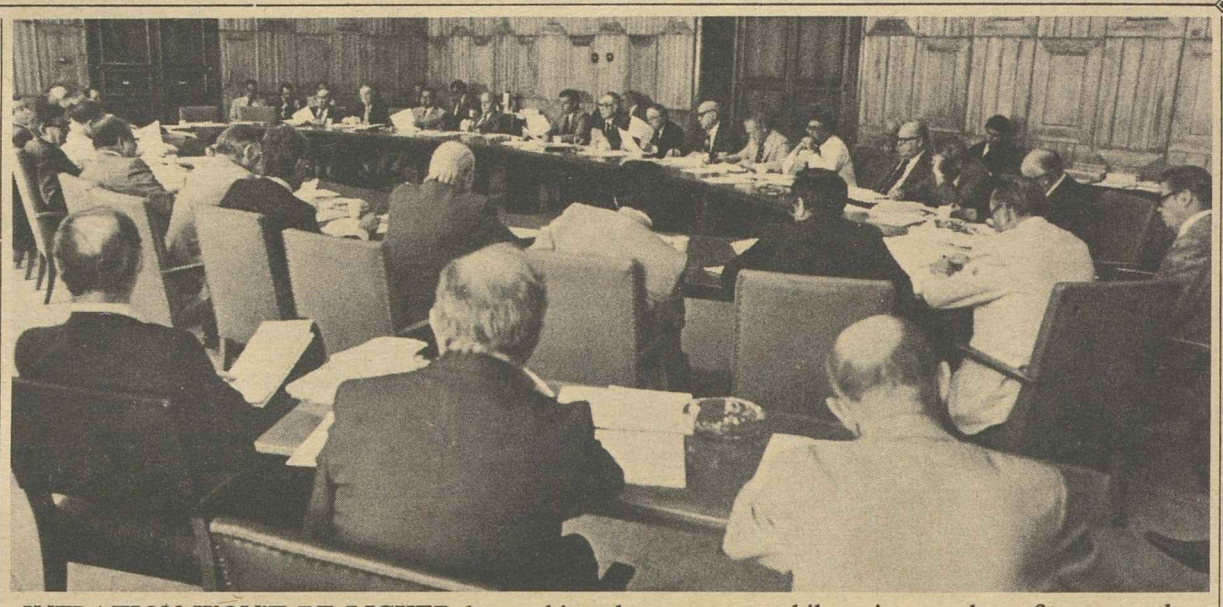
URW President Peter Bommarito returned here, the site of the union's headquarters, after two days of fruitless talks with Uniroyal negotiators in New York City. No new negotiations were scheduled.

The walkout, which began at noon on May 9, affects about 8,200 employees at 12 Uniroyal plants around the country. Nearly 6,100 work at the company's four domestic tire plants, in Chicopee Falls, Mass.; Eau Claire, Wis.; Opelika, Ala., and Detroit.

Uniroyal was selected as the lead target in this year's bargaining between the URW and the industry. Any settlement reached with the company would set a pattern for talks with Goodrich, Goodyear and Firestone. URW master contracts covering some 55,000 workers employed by the Big Four expired on Apr. 20. Union members have worked on a day-to-day basis since then.

Job security, as well as wages, is a major goal of the URW. The union's policy committee earlier this year said that negotiators would seek better pensions and supplemental unemployment bene-

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INFLATION WON'T BE LICKED by pushing down wages while prices and profits soar, the AFL-CIO Executive Council warned. The council's spring session, held at AFL-CIO headquarters, dealt with a broad range of economic and legislative issues.

Living Costs Rate Double Pay Ceiling

By Saul Miller

The Administration's anti-inflation program is an "absolute flop" and there is no basis for a 7 percent wage standard in a period of soaring prices and profits, the AFL-CIO declared.

The only effective way to stem inflation is to adopt a program based on equality of sacrifice covering the price of everything and the income of everybody, the Executive Council said.

The experience of the last six months "has verified our fears" about the inability of the Carter program to protect workers and consumers, the council said. The wage guideline assumed an inflation rate of 6 percent, the rate now is "more than double the projections," the council pointed out, and continuing the 7 percent guideline is "unfair and irrational."

The inflation statement highlighted the council's one-day spring meeting in Washington. The session spoke out strongly against oil decontrol and the attack on Davis-Bacon, supported the Farm Workers' boycott of iceberg lettuce and dealt with legislative problems involving trade, communications, pensions, regulatory reform and OSHA.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland presided at the meeting in the absence of President George Meany who was recovering from a knee injury sustained during a golfing vacation. AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Albert J. Zack told reporters at a press briefing that

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Council Pledges Fight:

Davis-Bacon Tests Underscore Threat

A series of close votes in congressional committees added urgency to a warning by the AFL-CIO Executive Council that right-wing and anti-labor groups are trying to destroy Davis-Bacon Act protections under the guise of fighting inflation.

The Davis-Bacon Act, which dates from the Hoover Administration, requires contractors on federally-funded construction to pay wages and benefits based on the prevailing pattern in that locality. These sometimes, but not always, prove to be union-negotiated rates.

Repeal of Davis-Bacon would touch off "an orgy of wage-cutting" that would bring the nation closer to recession without denting inflation, the Executive Council said.

The council pledged the AFL-CIO to resist attempts to whittle away at Davis-Bacon coverage by piecemeal exclusions of various programs, as well as to fight outright repeal of the law.

A meeting of the Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs Committee the day after the Executive Council meeting pointed up the closeness of the battle. The committee had before it a Housing & Community Development bill that two Republican senators sought to use as a vehicle to undermine Davis-Bacon protection.

The broadest threat was an amendment by Sen. John Tower (R-Tex.) that would have eliminated all construction covered by the bill from Davis-Bacon requirements. It was beaten, 8-6, with seven Democrats plus Republican John Heinz (Pa.) voting against and five Republicans plus Democrat Robert Morgan (N.C.) supporting it.

By a 7-6 vote, with Heinz absent, the committee rejected an amendment by Sen. Jake Garn (R-Utah) that would have eliminated any restriction on the ratio of apprentices or trainees to journeymen on neighborhood rehabilitation projects.

The rehabilitation issue, which conservatives see as the most likely wedge to cut into Davis-Bacon coverage, also resulted in a hairs-

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Labor Force Drop Limits Jobless Rate

Employment plunged sharply in April but the size of the labor force also plummeted, producing only a slight rise in the jobless rate, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Unemployment edged up to 5.8 percent of the work force, from 5.7 percent in each of the two preceding months, while the number of Americans holding jobs fell by 668,000 to a seasonally adjusted 96.2 million. The civilian labor force, which includes both jobholders and job-seekers, declined by 603,000 to 102.1 million over the month.

The nation's jobless rate has hovered around the 5.8 percent mark for the past nine months. The decline in total employment followed eight months of strong

(Continued on Page 2)

House Turns Back GOP Budget Slash

By David L. Perlman

The House rejected a pair of Republican amendments to the fiscal 1980 budget that would have forced cutbacks in nearly all non-military programs and moved into a second week of debate over spending targets.

While it voted down the worst of the budget-cutting proposals, the House also defeated a labor-supported "human needs amendment" by a 276-130 margin. The amendment, by Rep. Parren J. Mitchell (D-Md.) would have added about $1.5 billion in outlays to the $532.7 billion proposed by the Budget Committee for the year starting Oct. 1, 1979. The added spending would have been largely offset by an assumption that Congress would close various tax loopholes to increase revenues.

But the House did take a strong bipartisan stand against one of the more glaring tax loopholes—the foreign tax credit that enables oil companies to avoid virtually all U.S. taxes on their overseas profits.

Oil companies are allowed to count royalties paid to foreign countries as dollar-for-dollar credits against taxes owed to the United States rather than as just another business expense that merely reduces the amount of income subject to taxation.

If Congress follows through with the necessary legislation—which is far from certain, despite the House

(Continued on Page 7)

Congress Urged to Keep Lid on Crude Oil Prices

The AFL-CIO appealed to Congress to keep realistic price ceilings on crude oil produced in the United States and stamp out a new flareup of inflation that would quickly spread throughout the economy.

President Carter has ordered a phased decontrol of domestic oil prices, starting June 1, and the AFL-CIO Executive Council said the decision doesn't make sense.

The council said decontrol would add at least $16 billion a year to crude oil prices—and to already "bloated" oil company profits. The ripple effect would increase consumer prices "many more billions," with the burden falling heaviest on low-income families, the council statement said.

In energy prices alone, the estimated cost to a family of four would come to more than $500 a year.

The council asked "maximum support" for efforts being made in the House and Senate to reverse the President's action and block decontrol.

A bill to extend present price ceilings has been stalled by a 21-21 tie vote in the House Commerce Committee, but its sponsors are pushing for an endorsement by the

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Jobless Rate Edges Up to 5.8 Percent

(Continued from Page 1)

growth, with average monthly gains of 300,000 during the period.

The BLS said that the reasons for the sudden reversal in jobs growth "are not entirely clear but may relate, in part, to adverse weather conditions, school and religious holiday effects, and the trucking strike/lockout." The April jobs survey was carried out during a week that included the Teamsters' contract dispute, Good Friday, Passover, and adverse weather in many areas of the country.

As a result of these "special factors," as the BLS described them, Janet Norwood, the bureau's acting commissioner, said that she "would be very reluctant" to suggest that the employment dropoff signals a downturn in the economy.

"We're going to need a couple of more months of data" before such a determination can be made, she told a congressional Joint Economic Committee hearing.

April job levels were down for adult men, women, and teenagers, as well as for both whites and blacks, BLS observed. The employment declines were heavily concentrated among blue-collar operatives and farm workers.

The government's sampling problems also apparently distorted figures on hours worked. The average workweek of nonfarm production workers dropped half an hour to 35.4 hours in April, a record low. Among factory workers, the workweek was shortened by 1.7 hours to 39.1 hours over the month.

On the unemployment side, teenagers experienced the sharpest losses, as their jobless rate rose a full percentage point to 16.5 percent. White teenagers had an unemployment rate of 13.9 percent, compared to 13.6 percent in March. The rate for black teenagers rose from 31.5 to 34.5 percent over the month.



PRICE WATCH poster issued as part of the AFL-CIO Community Services program is examined by three Executive Council members whose inflation watchers hear every day from the public about rising prices. From left, Meat Cutters President Harry Poole; Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store President Alvin Heaps and Hotel & Restaurant Employees President Edward Hanley.

Labor Scores Revisions In Communications Law

The AFL-CIO voiced its opposition to a series of bills designed to revise the nation's basic communications laws declaring that they would not serve the public interest.

The Executive Council adopted a statement detailing its opposition to a House and two Senate bills but added that organized labor is committed to the need for revision of communication laws and will work to develop amendments or if necessary alternative legislation.

The council said that any legislation in the field must be evaluated in terms of whether it promotes access to and the expression of diverse viewpoints by means of electronic mass media. In the case of common carrier telecommunications the test is whether the public would be better served.

The House bill, the council said, would eliminate the public interest as the basis for granting broadcast licenses and judging the performance of licensees; would immediately end all regulation of radio broadcasting and cable television which would mean killing the fairness doctrine; terminate the regulation of television broadcasting at the end of 10 years and permit public (non-commercial) broadcasting to carry commercial advertising.

The legislation does not provide for adequate management of the national telephone network, would abolish national telephone rate averaging and makes inadequate provision for supporting the national telephone network by interchange carriers, the council said.

The Senate bills cover some of the same ground but are more modest in scope, the council noted.

McBride Asks Bargaining:

Steelworkers Win Ruling at Shipyard

Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride called on the Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Co. to bargain immediately with the USWA now that the firm's challenge to the union's 15-month-old representation election victory has been thrown out.

McBride urged the company to live up to its past public declaration that it would abide by the decision of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which had remanded the question of alleged voting irregularities to the National Labor Relations Board.

Noting that the original election, NLRB certification, federal court challenge, rehearing before the board, and the decision of the NLRB judge have consumed 15 months, McBride called on the shipyard's management to accept the findings of the courts and the NLRB.

"We urge that representatives of the shipyard immediately meet with the members of our negotiating committee," McBride said.

"The difficulties and hardships imposed upon the workers and their families at Newport News over these months and the disruption caused in the community require an affirmation of the democratic process made so clearly by the majority of the workers in the yard."

Last March, the federal appeals court rejected all company challenges to the Jan. 31, 1978, election, except for the limited issue of "chain voting," which it sent back to the NLRB. The May 2 decision by NLRB Administrative Law Judge Melvin J. Welles reaffirmed the board's previous conclusion that the USWA had been properly certified.

The Steelworkers won the election by a substantial margin, 9,090 votes to 7,545 for the company union, the Peninsula Shipbuilders Association. The firm, a subsidiary of Tenneco, Inc., refused to bargain, even in the face of an NLRB order to do so last September.

The yard's refusal to bargain with the union provoked a strike on the anniversary of the election. The Steelworkers called off the strike on Apr. 22 pending the outcome of the NLRB proceedings.

In ruling that there was "no reasonable likelihood" that chain balloting occurred during the election, Judge Welles observed:

"The entire setup of the plant, the polling places, the logistics and schedule and procedures used in voting at this election make the likelihood that chain voting resulted from the presence of unmarked ballots in voting booths virtually non-existent."

In chain voting, a voter enters a polling place with a pre-marked ballot, then takes a blank ballot from the booth to be marked for another voter.

USWA District 35 Director Bruce Thrasher in Atlanta, whose southeastern region includes Virginia, said that if the company does not come to the bargaining table it would be playing "a dangerous game for which they will be held accountable."

Uniroyal Plants Struck As Rubber Talks Stall

(Continued from Page 1)

fits for workers displaced by plant closings, higher severance pay, hiring preference at other company plants, and liberal relocation expenses.

Bommarito said at that time the union would not be bound by the 7 percent limit on annual pay under the Administration's wage guideline but would bargain realistically in light of rapidly rising prices.

Prior to the action against Uniroyal, Bommarito charged that if a walkout occurred it could be called "Carter's strike" because of the government's "unlawful interference" in the rubber industry negotiations.

"That interference has thwarted a peaceful, mutually acceptable settlement, created a stalemate, and brought us to the brink of a strike no one in the union wants," Bommarito said then. He charged that the Administration's 7 percent wage standard is unfair in the light of double-digit inflation.

The union and the AFL-CIO have challenged the legality of the Carter wage-price controls program on the ground that the Administration does not have the authority it claims to deny federal contracts to companies that do not comply with the standards. A hearing on the union's motion for summary judgment in the case is set for May 17.

Judge Barrington Parker, in setting the date, said that the arguments in the case appeared to "weigh heavily in favor of the plaintiffs" but added he was concerned about the impact of a restraining order on the government's anti-inflation program.

Bommarito said that he was certain that "if we win our suit, collective bargaining will work." He delayed calling a strike while making a renewed attempt to reach a settlement with Uniroyal officials in New York.

Bommarito contends that the company reneged on a tentative agreement on Apr. 18 after Administration officials pressured its negotiators to stay within the 7 percent wage guideline. He accused the government of threatening to cancel scheduled major tire purchases from the company.

Uniroyal has conceded that the Administration did bring pressure to bear, but denies that it ever reached a final agreement with the union.

Curtis Sims Dies at 71, Retired Bakers' Leader

Rossville, Ga.—Services were held here for Curtis R. Sims, secretary-treasurer emeritus of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers, who died May 4 in Palmetto, Fla. He was 71.

Sims served the old Bakery & Confectionery Workers and the American Bakery & Confectionery Workers for 36 years in a number of capacities, including vice president and organizing director. He held the post of secretary-treasurer of the ABC from 1957 until he resigned in 1969.

Pitfalls Cited in Plans For Regulatory Reform

The AFL-CIO supports the concept of regulatory reform but warned against the creation of rules that "would place dollar costs above social values" and increase court challenges.

The labor movement is committed to the view that the "Executive Branch and the independent administrative agencies have an obligation to implement statutory mandates vigorously and sensibly," the Executive Council said.

The council expressed labor's support for sound legislation to achieve that goal.

There are, however, three principal concerns, the council said, that should be applied to regulatory reform proposals. It urged Congress to recognize that each regulatory problem is distinct and there should not be one standard, but several tailored to particular situations.

A major concern is that a rigid rule would be imposed requiring a computation for costs and benefits, a stroke that would place dollar costs above social values by prohibiting the issuance of any rule that cannot be justified on such a computation. "The result would be to undermine the enforcement of most health, safety and environmental protection legislation," the council said.

A second concern is that new regulations not provide new grounds for litigation with its attendant costs and delays. "The AFL-CIO cannot support legislation that adds to, rather than decreases, the grounds on which a regulation may be challenged in court," the council said.

Thirdly, it continued, procedures for selecting administrative law judges should minimize the role of political influence and recognize that specialized agencies are best served by a corps of ALJs with specialized knowledge in the same field.

Steps Asked to Bolster Pension Protection Law

The AFL-CIO has called on Congress to move quickly to strengthen the pension protection law by improving termination insurance for workers covered by multiemployer plans.

An Executive Council statement noted that since passage of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act in 1974, Congress has recognized that the termination insurance provision designed for single-employer plans fails to work properly when applied to multiemployer plans.

The council warned that unless ERISA provisions governing multiemployer plans are overhauled, a number of them may be terminated. It urged speedy action on ERISA amendments that would:

- Restructure termination requirements for multiemployer plans and provide an incentive for their continuation while undergoing reorganization.
- Ease the threat of contingent liability for employers who retain collective bargaining relationships and fulfill their contractual obligations to contribute to the plans while assessing liability on employers who withdraw from the plans.
- Enable ERISA's Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. (PBGC) to provide loans and assistance to plans in dying industries.

The council noted that PBGC is preparing legislation that addresses the objectives of the AFL-CIO proposals.

"Although all of its details are not yet known, the AFL-CIO believes its efforts in this area—as applied to multiemployer plans—generally are meritorious and deserve support," the statement said.

The earliest possible action by Congress on the amendments would "remove the cloud of uncertainty which now exists over these plans and the retirement security of union members," the council stressed.

Asks Full Controls:

Council Condemns Guidelines as 'Flop'

(Continued from Page 1)

Meany was doing well and expected to be discharged from the hospital in a few days.

The council's statement on inflation pointed out that during the first three months of 1979 the pace of inflation has accelerated with consumer prices rising at an annual rate of 13.9 percent, nearly double the 7 percent wage guideline. (Text, Page 5.)

The steepest increases, the council stressed, have been for the items that constitute nearly 60 percent of the average family budget—food, housing, energy, medical care.

Union-won wage improvements have not accelerated even when cost-of-living escalator clauses, deferred increases and newly negotiated contracts are taken into account, the council said. Wage increases in the first quarter were at the same level as last year, the Executive Council noted.

The council also stressed that the use of government procurement policy to enforce controls is without legal authority and in violation of present statutes.

In other areas, the council received reports from subcommittees on the campaign against management consultants and the status of "right-to-work" proposals in a number of states, approved the recent merger of the Shoe Workers and the Clothing & Textile Workers and heard a report by Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride on the Newport News shipyard strike.

Contributions were voted to the A. Philip Randolph Institute, the Jewish Labor Committee and the Histadrut Afro-Asian Institute. The council adopted a special resolution marking the 90th birthday of former Vice President A. Philip Randolph.

The council also approved a budget of $2,181,833 for the George Meany Center for Labor Studies for the year starting July 1, 1979.

The next meeting of the council was set for Aug. 6 in Chicago.

Drive Pledged To Turn Back OSHA Foes

The entire labor movement must join in a unified campaign to defend the integrity and effectiveness of the nation's job safety laws, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

It urged the federation, its departments and all affiliates to redouble their defense of the Occupational Safety & Health Act and the Mine Safety & Health Act against attacks.

"At this time, the integrity and even the existence of OSHA is in greater peril from its enemies in business, the Congress and the far right than any time in its history," the council warned.

It noted that attempts to emasculate or destroy programs to protect American workers from job hazards are being stepped up despite the strong commitment of Labor Sec. Ray Marshall and Assistant Labor Sec. Eula Bingham to OSHA.

The council statement pointed out that organized labor kept the 1970 OSHA law intact in its early years despite efforts to have it politicized and weakened through inadequate administration.

In the face of the new attacks on OSHA and MSHA, the council said, "we strongly oppose any such effort or proposal to weaken these acts, legislatively, administratively or in the courts."





POLICY RESOLUTIONS are discussed around the AFL-CIO Executive Council table during the council's spring meeting in Washington. In the top photo, from left, are AFL-CIO Vice Presidents Glenn E. Watts, George Hardy, William H. Wynn, Fred J. Kroll and S. Frank Raftery. At right, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland makes a point while presiding at the council meeting in the absence of federation President George Meany, who was hospitalized for treatment of a knee injury. Council discussions focused on the inequities in Carter Administration's wage-price guidelines, dangers of oil price decontrol and other key issues affecting workers.

Close Vote Underscores Threat to Davis-Bacon

(Continued from Page 1)

breadth-close vote in the House Banking Committee.

The House panel rejected an attempt to eliminate Davis-Bacon coverage from rehabilitation projects sponsored by non-profit organizations by a scant 19-18 vote.

Actually, as the AFL-CIO had pointed out in earlier statements to congressional committees, building trades unions in a number of cities have worked with community groups to use rehabilitation projects as training programs for inner-city residents.

Examples included "sweat equity" programs in New York, pre-apprenticeship youth training in Milwaukee and Oklahoma City projects, and programs such as the rehabilitation of a vacant 32-unit building in Minneapolis by 39 inner-city young people supervised by nine union journeymen. The project has already led to 18 apprenticeships, including two to young women.

By contrast, the Davis-Bacon exclusion amendments would invite use of less-skilled workers as a wage-cutting rather than work-training device.

An even bigger inroad on Davis-Bacon coverage was averted during consideration of a military construction bill by the House Armed Services Committee.

The committee voted 20-17 against an amendment that would have excluded all defense construction from Davis-Bacon compliance. Earlier the anti-labor amendment had been defeated in subcommittee by a single-vote margin.

In all these cases, anti-labor conservatives are expected to renew their attacks on the Davis-Bacon Act when the bills come to the floor of the House and Senate.

The same anti-labor groups have been pressing in state legislatures for repeal of "little Davis-Bacon" laws.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council urged Congress to "strengthen the ability of the Dept. of Labor to enforce the law" instead of weakening its protections. The council joined the federation's building trades unions in endorsing a bill introduced by Rep. Phillip Burton D-Calif.) to simplify procedures for determining prevailing rates.

The council said the AFL-CIO will continue to insist that federal contracts must not become a "vehicle for destroying working standards in any area of the country."

Randolph Honored On 90th Birthday

The AFL-CIO Executive Council paid tribute to A. Philip Randolph, president-emeritus of the Sleeping Car Porters and a former AFL-CIO vice president, on a "lifetime of dedication" to organized labor.

Randolph, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday, remains "an active and articulate spokesman for the labor and civil rights movements" even in his retirement years, the council observed in a statement.

"Brother Randolph's long years of service, integrity, and activism continue to inspire all of us who hope to build a society marked by racial equality, justice, and peace," the council said.

Congress Urged to Keep Lid on Crude Oil Prices

(Continued from Page 1)

House Democratic Caucus at a May 16 meeting to tilt support to the legislation.

Opposition to the President's decontrol plan has grown both in and out of Congress with reports of huge increases in oil company profits despite price ceilings and with revelations that the Administration's touted windfall profits tax would recoup only a small portion of the added earnings.

Under a 1975 law, price controls on various categories of oil would not expire until Oct. 1, 1981, but the President was given authority to lift them anytime after June 1, 1979. It was under this authority that he ordered the phased decontrol and asked Congress to enact a windfall profits tax that he said would recoup half the extra income that oil companies would obtain.

In fact, an analysis by the House Democratic Study Group showed, the Administration's windfall profits tax would recover only 11 percent of the additional oil company profits by 1982 and only 8 percent of windfall earnings through the year 1985.

As the public perception of the impact of decontrol has expanded, opinion polls have swung to disapproval. A joint poll by the Associated Press and the National Broadcasting Co. found only 37 percent supporting Carter's decontrol order, 50 percent opposed and the remainder uncertain.

The Administration has argued that decontrol will encourage additional oil production and that higher prices will spur oil conservation.

Profits are already high enough to give oil companies all the incentive they need, the AFL-CIO has countered. And the Executive Council statement said counting on high prices to reduce consumption amounts to "rationing by price—the most unfair system that could be devised."

The wholesale price of gasoline has shot up nearly 10 percent in just the past three months, and heating oil prices have risen almost 13 percent, the council noted. It warned that decontrol will bring even steeper rises.

At a time when the Administration is bringing pressure to hold wage increases to a 7 percent ceiling, there can be "no justification for sanctioning exorbitant oil price increases," the AFL-CIO declared.

Cornelius Price Dies, Paperworkers' Leader

San Francisco — Paperworkers Vice President Cornelius Price, who was Area II director for the union, died Apr. 17 in a San Francisco hospital following a long illness. Price was elected vice president of Paperworkers at the union's 1965 convention and held the post until his death.

UFW Lettuce Boycott Pledged Full Support

The AFL-CIO gave its full support to the Farm Workers' boycott of non-union iceberg lettuce and urged all segments of the labor movement to provide financial support to the UFW strike.

The federation's Executive Council reviewed the strike in the lettuce fields of California and declared that the trade union movement will not allow the growers to destroy the Farm Workers union.

The growers have refused to engage in good-faith collective bargaining and have insisted upon applying the Administration wage guidelines even though the low-paid farm workers are exempt from wage controls, the council said.

It noted that the growers are importing illegal aliens to try to break the strike, a development that has been strongly protested by AFL-CIO officials.

Responding to a UFW request the council said: "The AFL-CIO endorses this boycott (of non-union iceberg lettuce) and calls upon its affiliated unions, state and local central bodies and the labor press to embark on an immediate campaign in support of this boycott."

The council set up a special committee to discuss with the UFW its plans to boycott Chiquita bananas owned by United Brands, which also owns a major lettuce grower—Sun Harvest. The council did not act on the Chiquita banana boycott.

The committee is composed of AFL-CIO Vice Presidents Paul Hall, William H. Wynn and Fred J. Kroll.

Rationing by Price

THE PRESIDENT'S decision to start decontrolling crude oil prices on June 1, 1979, is based neither on economic logic nor compassion for the needs of the people. Decontrol must be stopped.

Crude oil prices will rise by at least $16 billion a year plus inflation if the President's decision is not reversed. Other energy price increases, following the lead of oil, will match or exceed that figure. As the effect ripples through the economy, many more billions of dollars will be added to the cost of producing goods and the prices consumers must pay.

In the past three months alone, the wholesale price of gasoline has increased nearly 10 percent and heating oil prices have gone up almost 13 percent. Decontrol will accentuate the already steep rise in oil prices and their products, with similar increases in other energy prices.

At a time when the Administration professes to be fighting inflation—at least by holding wages to 7 percent—there is no justification for sanctioning exorbitant oil price increases that will further pad bloated oil company profits.

The Administration contends that decontrol will encourage conservation through higher prices. CBO estimates this, at best, to be a savings of less than 2 percent by 1985.

This is "rationing-by-price," the most unfair system of rationing that could be devised.

The burden of decontrol will fall most heavily on low-income families. A larger share of their income will have to be set aside for energy costs. On a conservative estimate, a family of four will have increased energy costs of more than $500 a year.

The AFL-CIO urges that maximum support be given to House and Senate efforts to reverse the President's decision to decontrol oil prices and to maintain the current system of oil price control.

—AFL-CIO Executive Council, May 8, 1979, Washington, D.C.

Protecting OSHA

SINCE THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & Health Act became effective in 1971, only the strong, unified and abiding resolution of organized labor has kept it intact and moving forward in the face of continuous attacks and, during its early years, politicized, inadequate and unenthusiastic administration.

At this time, the integrity and even the existence of OSHA is in greater peril from its enemies in business, the Congress and the far right than at any time in its history, even with a Secretary of Labor and his Assistant Secretary for OSHA strongly committed to the act.

Maintenance and reinvigoration of the solidarity of organized labor is needed as never before, if we are successfully to defend OSHA against the mounting efforts to emasculate or destroy it.

Therefore, the AFL-CIO, its departments and affiliated unions will redouble their unified efforts to defend the integrity and effectiveness of OSHA and of the Mine Safety & Health Act against these assaults by the enemies of the program and of workers' safety. Accordingly, we strongly oppose any such effort or proposal to weaken these Acts, legislatively, administratively or in the courts.

—AFL-CIO Executive Council, May 8, 1979, Washington, D.C.

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'Turn It On!'



Quack Medicine:

Higher Interest Rates Make Nation's Sick Economy Sicker

By Gus Tyler

HERE WE GO AGAIN: the interest rates are up once more.

It happened much quicker than anyone thought. For a while, the word was that Chairman G. William Miller of the Federal Reserve Board was resisting pressure from W. Michael Blumenthal, Secretary of the Treasury, with President Carter standing in the wings with his ears alert for telltale signals. This sort of impasse suggested delay in raising interest rates.

But then the news came that inflation was running at about 13 percent, and Miller hurried to do what is considered to be the right thing to do: he raised interest rates.

In doing so, Miller and Blumenthal and whoever else is in on the act are dispensing quack medicine whose evils have been well established.

Our present inflationary spiral was set in motion way back in 1970—before OPEC and all that. Nixon raised the interest rates to check inflation that was then running at the very tolerable rate of about 4 percent. Within a matter of months, the rate of inflation doubled—and so did the rate of unemployment.

It was clear that the medicine was contributing to the malady. But that did not stop the dogmatic doctors of the economy. They prescribed the same old medicine over and over, raising interest rates to the present levels—a historic high. And now that inflationary fever is with us again, they tell the patient to take the same old poisonous pill.

High interest rates are inflationary for very discernible reasons. Interest rates, for one, are the cost of money. Since money in our economy is the universal ingredient in the making of all goods and in the dispensing of all services, a rise in the cost of money—even more than a rise in the cost of fuel—must jack up the price of everything.

In housing, high interest rates are triply inflationary. The builder who borrows passes on the higher charge for money to the buyer; the buyer must pay more for mortgage money; if there are—as a result of tight money—fewer dwellings, the buyer or renter must pay more.

In manufacture, the same thing happens—with several added evils. The small businessman is driven out of existence by high interest rates while the big corporation flourishes, either because it is self-financed or because it is close to finance. As a result, industrial ownership becomes concentrated, causing monopoly pricing.

If the high interest rates bring on a recession, as they are supposed to do, then heavily capitalized manufacture will have much unusued plant and machinery. This idle overhead must, as it always does, force up the unit price of the manufactured item.

In a recession, productivity always falls. When the economy goes slack, productivity goes slack. In some of the monthly fluctuations in business, productivity can rise and fall by as much as 11 and 12 percent.

But if productivity declines, then prices rise, causing additional inflation.

In short, a high interest rate is one of those quack cures that, if taken long enough, can kill the patient.

Opening Up Jobs For the Handicapped

It has been the long-standing policy of the AFL-CIO that every practical means be used to insure equal opportunity in the employment of qualified handicapped workers.

More than a half a century ago the trade union movement fought for and won the first industrial safety laws. Today it has taken the lead in securing the enactment of workers' compensation legislation to protect the worker who suffers injury in employment.

Labor also plays a leading role in the development of other social insurance programs that protect all workers and their families, and is currently advocating a national health plan for all Americans.

Organized labor strives to increase employment opportunities for the handicapped through collective bargaining agreements and union-management cooperation by seeking continued employment in suitable new jobs for employees who may become handicapped and also to provide employment for other handicapped persons applying for work.

—President Charles Pillard of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers at AFL-CIO Ability Counts luncheon, May 3.

Fears Confirmed:

Unfair Controls Clamp Wages But Fail to Stem Price Surge

Statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Washington, D.C., May 8, 1979.

WHILE PRICES AND PROFITS continue to soar despite the Administration's anti-inflation program, the buying power of workers' wages is being eroded by wage controls. The loophole-ridden, flexible price and profit "guidelines" are in stark contrast to the rigid wage control figure imposed on workers and enforced through extra-legal government actions.

Wholesale and consumer price increases have exceeded double digits in the period since the program has been in effect—the period the Administration said would prove its effectiveness. The past six months prove the program is one-sided and an absolute flop.

Wholesale prices have increased at an annual rate of 12.2 percent and retail prices by 11.6 percent since October. During the first three months of this year the pace of inflation has accelerated, with consumer prices increasing at an annual rate of 13.9 percent—nearly double the 7 percent wage guideline.

The steepest consumer price rises have been those items essential for every family—food, up at an annual rate of 16 percent; housing 15 percent; energy 17 percent, and medical care, 9 percent. None of these primary sources of inflation is significantly affected by wage increases. They are not realistically controlled or monitored by the government and constitute nearly 60 percent of the average family budget.

Price inflation is further compounded by corporate greed for profits. In the last quarter of 1978, profits rose 9.5 percent and were 26.1 percent higher than a year earlier. Preliminary reports for the first three months of 1979 show profits becoming even more bloated, with the Wall Street Journal projecting profit increases of 37 percent.

Since October the real spendable earnings of the average worker in private industry have dropped by four-tenths of a percent and are now 2 percent below last year's levels.

Union-won wage improvements have not accelerated, even when cost-of-living escalator clauses, deferred increases, and newly negotiated contracts are taken into account. Wage increases in the first quarter of this year were at the same level as last year, in spite of the sharp rise in prices and profits.

The wage guideline devised by the President's advisers assumed an inflation rate of 6 percent, when in fact the rate of inflation is more than double the projections. Continuation of a 7 percent wage guideline in the face of the reality of double-digit inflation is unfair and irrational and the methods used by the government to enforce it are illegal. The use of government procurement policy to enforce controls is not only without legal authority, it is in violation of present statutes. It is an attempt to make wage controls mandatory upon workers, while there is no realistic attempt to limit either prices or profits.

SUCH AN UNREALISTIC wage standard is without precedent in any previous period of guidelines or controls. During both the World War II and Korean controls periods, wages were allowed to keep pace with the rate of inflation. During the Kennedy era the wage guideline of 3.2 percent came at a time when the rate of inflation was 0.7 percent. During the Nixon control period, the wage guideline was set at 5.5 percent, excluding fringe benefits, while inflation was 4 percent.

In light of the current inflation, there is absolutely no basis for a 7 percent wage standard, and there is no justification for a wage control program, when prices and profits are allowed to soar without restraint.

Last October the AFL-CIO noted that the design of this so-called voluntary anti-inflation program was unfair and inequitable and would not protect consumers from price increases in the necessities of life. Unfortunately, the experience of the last six months has verified our fears.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council called in October for a fair and effective anti-inflation program based on equality of sacrifice. We renew that call today. Inflation must be halted. The major inflationary forces—price increases, profits and high interest rates—must be addressed directly. In short, an effective legislative program, spelled out by the Congress, is needed, covering the price of everything and the income of everybody.

Price Guidelines Fail:

Profit-Push Inflation Stirs Fear Of Economic Sag, Hard Times

THE NATION FACES a "grim period of austerity" as inflation runs at a double-digit pace while chances of an economic downturn later this year continue to mount, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald warned on Labor News Conference.

President Carter's guidelines program is clearly a "failure," Oswald declared, stressing that the program does nothing at all to check prices in the severe problem areas such as food, energy, interest rates and medical care. He said that policy announcements, without follow-through enforcement, simply won't make a controls program work.

Since these areas of necessities—where the inflation rate has been the highest—are largely outside the guidelines, Oswald said there must be specific policy approaches to ease the mounting pressures.

Noting that despite the Carter anti-inflation program, many corporations are rolling up record profits, the AFL-CIO economist pointed out that some companies in the energy field report profit increases of over 300 percent.

He said it's clear that "corporations are raising their prices—trying to get as high a profit as possible—in order to have the best of all possible worlds, should there ever be mandatory controls." He said that the price guidelines are so vague that even the government can't monitor them effectively.

The best measure of guideline violations is in the big profit increases that the country's large corporations have posted during the past half-year, Oswald said.

He cited corporate profit surveys by the Wall Street Journal which showed that major firms had profit gains averaging 26 percent in the last three months of 1978, topped by a 37 percent hike in the first quarter of 1979.

"They want to assure their own best interests, rather than the nation's best interests," Oswald commented.

Oswald renewed the AFL-CIO's call for expansion of the food supply, rather than acreage set-asides in times of shortages; lowered interest rates and credit allocation to put the money that is available into housing and needed investments, rather than into company mergers and speculation; hospital cost containment and similar review of medical care charges, and controlled gasoline and oil prices, rather than allowing windfall profits to drive up prices even further.

Reporters questioning Oswald on the AFL-CIO public affairs program were Philip Shabecoff of the New York Times and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

MANY AMERICANS were shocked a dozen years ago when a surge of private studies and congressional investigations revealed a side of the nation that few had thought possible: millions of people were starving in the United States.

"Wherever we went and wherever we looked," a group of physicians reported to Congress in 1967, "we saw children in significant numbers who were hungry and sick, children for whom hunger is a daily fact of life, and sickness in many forms, an inevitability.

"They were hungry, weak and apathetic. Their lives are being shortened. They are visibly and predictably losing their health, their energy, their spirits. They are suffering from hunger and disease, and directly or indirectly, they are dying from them—which is exactly what 'starvation' means."

Those words, in a report by a Field Foundation medical team, were to become one wave in an ocean of understanding about the very real problem of hunger in America.

A congressional subcommittee spurred by then Senators Robert Kennedy (D-N.Y.) and Joseph Clark (D-Pa.) dug into the issue. A distinguished citizens committee issued a shocking report on "Hunger USA." Sen. George McGovern's Senate Select Committee on Nutrition uncovered horror stories of starvation and deprivation. The media also joined in by reporting on a grim reality the majority of Americans had not believed possible.

Uncovered by all this was the cold, hard fact that 10 million to 15 million Americans suffered from hunger and malnutrition.

Government responded, launching the food stamp program and introducing free and reduced price breakfast and lunch programs for children. Soon to follow were supplemental foods programs for women, infants and children and a separate food aid program for the elderly.

Today, as a direct result of the revelations of the 1960s, the federal government spends more than $9 billion annually on food programs for America's needy. According to a new report by the Field Foundation, these food aid programs "may represent one of the unsung yet more effective anti-poverty efforts of the last 15 years."

But, worries the foundation, whose investigation 12 years ago helped put the nation on the road towards feeding its hungry, these successful programs still are failing to reach many of those for whom they were designed.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, in the view of the foundation and other nutrition and anti-poverty advocates, the programs themselves are encountering opposition that threatens their effectiveness. Spending limits on the programs—especially the food stamp program—threaten to turn back the clock for 16 million Americans who have come to count on the stamps to provide sufficient and healthful diets.

In 1977 legislation that expanded the program, Congress placed a spending ceiling of $6.2 billion on the Food Stamp Program for Fiscal 1980, the year beginning Oct. 1. This "cap" was placed on the program based on Congressional Budget Office estimates that food prices, as indexed to 1976 levels, would rise by 13 percent in 1979 and by 17 percent in 1980.

The CBO now projects a 26 percent increase for this year and 36 percent for next. This means the food stamp program will exceed the spending cap by nearly $1 billion for Fiscal 1980. And this, in turn, means that either the cap must be raised or eliminated, or benefits to recipients must be cut by as much as 20 percent.

"It is incongruous for Congress to reform the Food Stamp Act to allow greater participation by the most needy" as it did in 1977, declares the Field Foundation, "and then not to allow sufficient funds to ensure the needy an adequate diet."

Congress, as it juggles its priorities and strives to make the most of taxpayer dollars, owes it to the poor of this nation to keep in mind these recent words from the Field Foundation:

"The entitlement of all needy Americans to an adequate diet is a goal that is within our capability. If we will only reach for it."



AMERICANS FACE a grim period of austerity as inflation runs at a double-digit pace while chances of an economic downturn later this year mount, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, center, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Philip Shabecoff, left, of the New York Times and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News.

Panel Named To Seek Pact In Rail Dispute

The Train Dispatchers' contract dispute with the nation's major railroads was turned over to a presidential emergency board, thus blocking a possible strike.

The union, which has about 3,000 members, is the only one of 13 railroad unions that has been so far unable to reach a settlement in the latest round of bargaining with the National Railway Labor Conference, the industry's bargaining arm.

The three-member emergency panel was recommended by the National Mediation Board, which declared an impasse in the negotiations last month. The union became free to call a strike at 12:01 a.m. on May 10.

Under provisions of the Railway Labor Act, the emergency board will investigate the dispute and make recommendations to President Carter by June 8. After that report, the two sides would have another 30 days to negotiate on the basis of the panel's recommendations. The union would then be allowed to strike unless Congress stepped in and imposed a legislated settlement.

B. C. Hilbert, president of the Illinois-based union, said the dispute is primarily over work rules. Basic wage and fringe-benefit improvements have been informally agreed to and generally follow the pattern accepted by the other rail unions in their 39-month agreements. The pattern settlement provided for increases of about 35 percent over the life of the contracts, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1978.

James J. Reynolds, former Under Sec. of Labor during the Johnson Administration, was named chairman of the factfinding panel. The other members are Ida Klaus, a New York City labor arbitrator, and Nicholas Zumas, a Washington arbitrator.



NEW PRESIDENT of the Transport Workers, William G. Lindner, right, accepts gavel from retiring TWU President Matthew Guinan in New York. Lindner, a TWU vice president since 1948 and executive vice president for the past year, assumed the union's top position May 1. Guinan continues as a vice president of the AFL-CIO.

Savings Seen Spurring Union Support of HMOs

St. Paul, Minn.—Union members are getting deeply involved in the development and growth of pre-paid group health plans on the basis of simple economics, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman said.

Addressing the annual meeting of Group Health, Inc., which serves the Twin Cities area, Seidman noted that workers are discovering they can get better coverage for their health care dollar from health maintenance organizations (HMOs) than from fee-for-service practitioners.

"Most people make judgments on the basis of dollars and cents whether it is the family's groceries, a used car, or medical service," he observed.

"So it's important for HMOs to keep their premiums as low as they can. It's also important in their approach to workers to get across the point that when both premiums and out-of-pocket expenses are taken into account, membership in an HMO is always a better buy than coverage under the Blues or commercial insurance."

Seidman said that the effectiveness of HMOs is further enhanced by consumer input to help guide the management of the pre-paid health plans in providing needed services for members.

"While as consumers we don't know much about clinical medicine, we do have a legitimate interest in having a voice as to how, when and where medical services are provided," he noted.

HMOs have experienced a spectacular growth in the 1970s, he noted, increasing from 33 eight years ago to 211 today, which now serve nearly 8 million Americans. The prospect of a continued expansion of HMOs is brighter than ever before, he said.

Seidman said the labor movement is encouraged by this rapid expansion because it looks to HMOs as the centerpiece of the universal and comprehensive national health insurance program the AFL-CIO is supporting.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's Health Care for All Americans Act would result in a vast expansion of HMOs he pointed out, because it emphasizes the kind of programs they provide.

"Preventive care, prompt attention to symptoms, early diagnosis and treatment reduce costly hospitalization and acute illness and therefore save money," Seidman said. "For this reason, full coverage for outpatient services without cost sharing, such as HMOs provide, would make them highly competitive in the medical marketplace in comparison with traditional fee-for-service medicine."

Seidman said that President Carter's proposal for a phased-in national health insurance program would not improve health care for most people.

"The inherent danger in the Administration's approach is that a piecemeal, misdirected first step would be a roadblock to achieving a truly comprehensive national health plan," he warned.

TV Levies Uncollected:

Suit Seeks Action On Dumping Duties

Officials of the Treasury Dept. and the Customs Service were accused in federal court of failing to collect $600 million in "dumping" duties against importers of Japanese television sets during the past 11 years.

The suit, filed by a union-industry group in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, names Treasury Sec. W. Michael Blumenthal and nine other government officials.

The court action follows up 1968 anti-dumping cases and a 1971 Treasury Dept. finding that Japanese manufacturers were selling TV sets in the United States well below prices they charge in their home market.

President Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. said in briefing the press on the suit that more than 30,000 American jobs have been wiped out in the 1970s because of Japanese TV dumping.

Clayman is co-chairman of COMPACT, the union-industry Committee to Preserve American Color Television, which along with the Electronics Industries Association brought the court action. COMPACT is composed of several U.S. TV manufacturers, the IUD and 10 unions.

Clayman was joined at the press briefing by Henry F. Frailey, vice president of Corning Glass Works, who charged that the Customs Service has collected only a token $6 million in duties even though more than $2.5 billion worth of Japanese sets had been dumped in the United States since 1971.

The suit asks the court to order the Customs Service to complete duty liquidations totaling $400 million for sets imported before Apr. 11, 1977, and to keep future duties, assessments and collections up to date.

Clayman said that a 1977 U.S.-Japanese orderly marketing agreement to limit TV imports to 1.75 million sets hasn't stemmed job losses in the American color TV industry.

"It is obvious that if our dumping laws had been properly enforced, most of those lost jobs would still remain and the traumatic experiences that thousands of workers and their families have gone through would have been avoided," Clayman declared.

He also cited the adverse economic impact on a number of communities resulting from the closing of TV manufacturing plants triggered by the unfair import competition.

In describing an example of dumping, Frailey noted that a 25-inch Japanese color TV which is priced from $700 to $800 in the U.S. market sells for up to $2,100 in Tokyo.

"Although some $2.5 billion in Japanese color TV sets have been dumped in the United States," Frailey said, "virtually no American-made sets have been permitted to be sold in Japan.

Frailey also cited reports that the Treasury Dept. may cut a $46 million assessment proposed last year against Japanese TV imports to $12 million as a clear indication that U.S. trade laws are not being properly enforced.

A year ago, the General Accounting Office concluded in a study for the Senate that the Treasury's assessment of dumping penalties "is seldom done in a timely manner," with delays averaging more than three years.

Airline Unions Ask Law To Ban Loaded Guns

Chicago—An Air Line Employees Association campaign to bar the packing of loaded guns in airline luggage picked up momentum as the Air Line Pilots added its support to the drive.

The unions seek enactment of a bill introduced in Congress by Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) that would make the practice a federal crime and impose criminal penalties.

The measure also has the support of the Flight Attendants, plus strong backing from congressmen and governors of 21 states served by Frontier Airlines.

Current Federal Aviation Administration rules provide for a fine of up to $1,000 for packing loaded firearms in checked luggage but they have had little effect, ALEA President Victor J. Herbert observed.

Colorado passed a law banning loaded weapons from aircraft within its borders in 1977, but the action has had little or no effect on luggage brought in from other states, he said.

"A federal law is needed now, before the hunting season opens," Herbert said. "Airline passenger service employees have enough to do without worrying about getting shot every time they handle a bag."

An ALEA member employed by Frontier Airlines was killed three years ago when a loaded revolver in a duffel bag accidentally discharged at Denver. The tragedy prompted the Colorado legislature to enact its law.

In a letter to Herbert, ALPA President John J. O'Donnell said that the fatal accident in Denver is but one illustration why such legislation is needed. He noted that a provision similar to the Schroeder proposal is contained in a bill before the Aviation subcommittee of the House Public Works & Transportation Committee to combat international terrorism.

Herbert reported that the problem of loaded weapons in checked luggage is increasing. A spot check during a six-week period last fall at Denver turned up more than one loaded gun for every 100 bags inspected, he said.

In addition, the FAA reported several gun-handling accidents last year, he said.

Film Catalog Out In New Edition

A new edition of Films for Labor has been produced by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education containing information on 139 films available from the federation's Film Division.

The new publication contains both a title and subject index. The films are listed under eight separate categories dealing with various issues, training and labor history.

Copies of Films for Labor, Publication No. 22, are available from the AFL-CIO Pamphlet Division, 815 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. A single copy is free. For additional copies the price is 60¢ each or $45 for 100.

Major Job Gains Seen In Shift to Solar Energy

The nation could have a net gain of nearly 3 million jobs in the next decade through a major shift to solar energy systems while instituting an aggressive program to conserve traditional fuels, a congressional study concludes.

The study, Employment Impact of the Solar Transition, was prepared by Leonard S. Rodberg for the Energy subcommittee of the Congressional Joint Economic Committee.

In releasing the study, subcommittee Chairman Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) said that by moving to an energy-efficient economy, the nation could expect a substantial employment payoff.

"If we begin now to invest in increasing our energy productivity and developing our renewable resources of energy, and as we cut the outflow of oil import payments, we will also create millions of new jobs," Kennedy said.

Rodberg, director of the community energy project for the Public Resource Center, bases his conclusions on a Labor Dept. projection of a $65.6 billion investment in solar-conservation programs by 1990.

Through the conservation effort, Rodberg foresees a cut in the consumption of petroleum, natural gas, coal and nuclear fuel by nearly 45 quadrillion BTUs, adding up to a reduction in spending of $118.8 billion for the nonrenewable fuels.

Although this also would result in a loss of more than 1 million jobs in the fuel-producing and electric generating industries, employment gains in alternate energy efforts would bring a net gain of 2.9 million jobs by 1990, the study predicted. It said offsetting gains would include 1.65 million new jobs in solar energy, 521,000 in conservation and another 1.87 million jobs through spinoffs.

"These jobs will tend to be dispersed widely across the country and can especially contribute to solving the chronic employment problem facing our urban areas," the study asserted. "The emphasis on conservation and solar energy will also cause shifts in housing and land use patterns, inducing more compact communities and low-rise buildings."

Obstacles facing a national program of converting to wider use of solar energy and emphasis on conservation of fossil fuels are primarily institutional, not technical or economic, Rodberg pointed out.

For residential and commercial uses, the study foresees the introduction of rigorous insulation measures, improved equipment efficiency, as well as solar water and space heating. For industrial energy users, it stresses more efficient energy practices, solar collectors and solar-powered heat engines. For transportation, the emphasis is on increased automotive efficiency and the wider use of mass transportation.

Attack on Programs:

House Turns Back GOP Budget Slash

(Continued from Page 1)

vote—tax revenues would rise about $1.2 billion and the budget deficit would be reduced by that amount. The House voted 355-66 to adjust the budget estimates to reflect that assumption.

In other important votes, the House refused to cut funding authority for the food stamp program and backed the position taken by its Budget Committee in denying funds for revenue-sharing grants to the states.

Several key votes were pending as the AFL-CIO News went to press, and there was no absolute certainty that a majority could be mustered for a proposed budget that conservatives found too costly and many liberals considered too parsimonious.

If the House ends up close to the recommendations of the Budget Committee, it would provide more money for people-oriented programs than the Administration had sought and the Senate had voted, but less for national defense outlays.

The House and Senate budget figures would then have to be reconciled in conference and given final approval. A second and more detailed budget resolution will be adopted in mid-September, just before the start of the fiscal year.

Republicans sought to use the politically attractive lure of a balanced budget to win Democratic votes for a multi-billion dollar spending cut, but they fell short on two tries.

The most serious challenge came from a substitute proposed by Rep. Marjorie S. Holt (R-Md.) and Rep. Ralph S. Regula (R-Ohio) to slash $6 billion from non-defense outlays while proposing a tax cut of $15 billion. By using a different set of economic assumptions, it ended up with a projected budget deficit of only $18.7 billion as compared with the $25 billion deficit projection of the House Budget Committee.

Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-Mass.) wrote Democratic members before the vote that the Holt-Regula substitute would hurt the economy and "emasculate traditional Democratic programs."

It was beaten, 218-198. Earlier, the House rejected by 228-191 an even deeper cut proposed by Rep. Delbert L. Latta (R-Ohio). The Latta proposal was designated the official Republican alternative, but conservatives were counting on the Holt-Regula substitute to pick up the Democratic votes needed.

A 195-190 vote rejecting an amendment to restore $2.3 billion in revenue-sharing funds to the budget reflected in part a backlash against a wave of state legislature resolutions petitioning for a constitutional convention to adopt a mandatory balanced budget requirement.

Some continued revenue-sharing is likely since the Senate budget provides funds for no-strings grants to the states. But House Budget Committee Chairman Robert N. Giaimo (D-Conn.), who opposed the revenue-sharing amendment, told the House that the states in effect were sending this message to Congress: "Get your financial house in order, you profligate federal government. P.S.—Send us our revenue sharing."

Among the amendments still to be voted on at press time was a labor-supported effort to raise the 5.5 percent pay raise ceiling that the Administration wants to impose on federal workers.

Amtrak Slash Opposed as 'Ill-Conceived'

AFL-CIO President George Meany called on Congress to reject an "ill-conceived" Transportation Dept. proposal for a dramatic slash in railroad passenger service.

Unless either the House or Senate rejects the plan, some 43 percent of Amtrak mileage will be eliminated next fall.

A major cutback in passenger service "just does not make sense" in the face of fuel shortages and energy problems, Meany wrote members of Congress.

Railroads are the "most fuel-efficient form of transportation," Meany stressed.

Nor does it make sense to "eliminate 5,800 jobs, cripple the railroad retirement system and overtax the unemployment rolls" to achieve a "minimum saving in the national budget," he said.

Instead of abandoning rail service, Meany urged, the Amtrak passenger system should be helped through improved roadbeds, modern equipment, more frequent schedules and continued government support."



TOP WINNERS in the national "Ability Counts" essay contest promoting programs to hire the handicapped were honored at a luncheon as guests of the AFL-CIO. From left are Harold Russell, chairman of the President's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped; Jeff Lucas of Bismarck, N.D., first place winner; Carol Lynn Hostutler of Coatsville, Pa., second place; Clyde T. Ogata of Honolulu, third place, and AFL-CIO Vice President Charles H. Pillard.

Labor's Role Cited In Jobs for Disabled

The labor movement strives to increase employment opportunities for handicapped persons through collective bargaining agreements and the cooperation of employers, AFL-CIO Vice President Charles H. Pillard told finalists in the national "Ability Counts" essay contest for high school students.

Not only do unions seek to maintain suitable jobs for workers who may become disabled, he said, but they also are deeply involved in programs to provide employment for handicapped persons newly entering the workforce.

Pillard noted that much of this effort is coordinated by the federation's Human Resources Development Institute, which is currently sponsoring pilot jobs programs to assist the handicapped in a number of cities.

Pillard, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and vice chairman of the President's Committee for the Employment of the Handicapped, pointed out that meaningful jobs are essential in bringing dignity, self-respect and hope to the handicapped.

"And we must all realize that until we have reduced the unemployment rate to a point where there are jobs for all Americans, the fulfillment of our dreams for our less fortunate citizens cannot be accomplished," Pillard told the student essayists.

The students were guests of the AFL-CIO at a luncheon, and their trip to Washington was financed by the federation and its state central bodies.

Also addressing the luncheon was President Glenn E. Watts of the Communications Workers, who is chairman of the labor committee of the President's committee.

The luncheon was held during the annual meeting of the President's committee, which issued a comprehensive study on the health care needs of the handicapped.

The study, National Health Care Policies for the Handicapped, offers recommendations on medical insurance coverage, research and rehabilitation, programs to make the handicapped more independent, liberalized import-export rules on items to aid the handicapped, and efforts to increase the number of professionals in rehabilitation medicine.

Five of the top high school essayists shared $5,500 in prize money donated by the Disabled American Veterans. All finalists were presented a volume on the history of the American worker.

The $2,000 top prize went to Jeff Lucas of Bismarck, N.D. Other top winners were Carol Lynn Hostutler of Coatsville, Pa., $1,500; Clyde T. Ogata of Honolulu, $900; Douglas Keiser of Omaha, Neb., $600, and Rosemary Thigpen of Oklahoma City, $500.

3 Family Budget Levels Listed for 40 U.S. Cities

Annual costs of three family budget levels in 40 cities and metropolitan areas in the autumn of 1978, as compiled by the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics.

	Lower Budget	Intermediate Budget	Higher Budget
National Average	$11,546	$18,622	$27,420
Anchorage	19,030	26,329	38,406
Honolulu	14,870	23,099	35,602
San Francisco-Oakland	12,710	19,427	28,719
Seattle	12,506	18,671	26,567
Boston	12,501	22,117	33,596
Washington	12,398	20,105	29,584
Los Angeles	12,193	17,722	26,525
Champaign-Urbana, Ill.	12,117	19,076	27,874
New York	12,063	21,587	34,252
Hartford, Conn.	11,996	19,392	27,231
Philadelphia	11,903	19,416	28,291
Portland	11,902	19,186	27,193
Baltimore	11,899	18,699	27,492
Chicago	11,829	18,794	27,169
Milwaukee	11,733	20,025	29,476
San Diego	11,661	17,707	27,276
Detroit	11,596	19,145	28,172
Wichita, Kan.	11,574	17,783	25,783
Cleveland	11,532	18,987	27,281
Denver	11,475	18,565	27,089
Minneapolis-St. Paul	11,421	19,389	28,629
Kansas City	11,409	18,262	26,981
Buffalo	11,396	19,517	28,699
Bakersfield, Calif.	11,380	17,168	24,486
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	11,332	18,224	26,584
Pittsburgh	11,273	18,008	26,134
Cincinnati	11,244	18,354	25,882
Indianapolis	11,218	18,193	25,971
Durham, N.C.	11,172	18,074	25,923
St. Louis	11,150	17,897	25,847
Lancaster, Pa.	11,123	17,982	25,611
Green Bay, Wis.	11,108	18,490	27,772
Houston	10,906	17,114	24,787
Dayton, Ohio	10,888	17,430	25,717
Dallas	10,699	16,714	24,492
Baton Rouge, La.	10,590	16,806	24,891
Orlando, Fla.	10,582	16,334	23,926
Atlanta	10,495	16,897	24,666
Nashville	10,364	16,627	24,135
Austin	10,288	16,211	23,822

Clothing Union Sues Gimbel's Over Arrests

New York—The Clothing & Textile Workers, in a lawsuit stemming from the union's consumer boycott of J. P. Stevens products, charged that 22 boycott supporters were falsely arrested and deprived of their civil rights during a demonstration at Gimbel's department store here.

The action, filed in U.S. District Court, seeks over $7 million in damages from Gimbel Brothers, Inc. Named as defendants were Gimbel's President James Conley, two vice presidents, the store's manager, and eight persons employed by Gimbel's as security personnel.

The union charged that the arrests and harassment of ACTWU members and others sympathetic to its consumer boycott of Stevens textile goods occurred on four occasions last year. Charges of criminal trespassing and disorderly conduct against the boycott supporters were subsequently dismissed.

The union's complaint noted that after the first arrests last Sept. 5, Criminal Court Judge Alain Bourgeois dismissed the charges. Nevertheless, 20 more arrests were made in November, after which charges were again dismissed by two other Criminal Court judges.

The complaint asks that the court issue an immediate injunction enjoining Gimbel's and its employees "from continuing their unlawful acts in violation of the civil and constitutional rights of the union, its employees and members and the individual plaintiffs."

In dismissing charges against eight of the persons arrested, Judge Wright observed that "it appears that the defendants were treated as common shoplifters in being ordered to leave the premises. There is no allegation . . . that the order to leave was a lawful order," as required by law.

"The only charge is that the defendants were seen 'congregating with other persons around display racks of bed sheets manufactured by J. P. Stevens & Co.'"

The union also charged that Stevens gave Gimbel's "special allowances on merchandise and special allowances for advertising which are not, and have not been, generally available to other retailers." Federal law forbids one business to agree to procedures that would discriminate against another business in the freedom of trade.

Beyond White House Target:

Blumenthal Sees Inflation of 8.5%

An inflation rate of at least 8.5 percent was predicted for this year by Treasury Sec. W. Michael Blumenthal, who acknowledged to a Senate appropriations subcommittee that the Administration "screwed up" in forecasting a 7.4 percent rate in January.

"I would be surprised if we're below 8.5 percent," Blumenthal said. "I hope it's not too far above that. I think it is obviously not now possible to hit the kind of target we predicted. That's out."

Inflation, which averaged 9 percent in 1978, has been running at double-digit levels for several months. In the first quarter of 1979, the government's consumer price index rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 13.9 percent, the largest quarterly increase in the CPI in five years.

Last October, when President Carter unveiled his current anti-inflation program, the Administration's basic target for economy-wide price increases was set at 5.75 percent.

Meanwhile, a Washington-based research group reported that prices for the necessities of life—food, energy, housing, and medical care—rose at more than twice the rate of non-essentials during the first three months of the year.

Seasonally adjusted prices for necessities soared at an annual rate of 16.4 percent during the first quarter, while prices in all other sectors measured by the CPI rose at an annual rate of only 7.8 percent, the National Center for Economic Alternatives said.

Blumenthal told the Senate panel that any reduction in prices in the near future is just not in the cards.

Blumenthal, who said that "the President is right when he says we can look forward to bad inflation figures for several more months," added that straws in the wind clearly point to a slowdown. He said that the Administration expected the economy to grow by about 2 percent this year, after adjustment for inflation.

Another Administration spokesman, Barry Bosworth, warned of a possible recession and hard times for American workers. In a speech at the annual meeting of the Society of American Business and Economic Writers, Bosworth declared:

"As we look ahead for the next year or two, all we see is that the real income of the factory worker is likely to decline, whether he gets a 7, 14 or 21 percent wage increase. If he seeks higher income, prices will rise more." Bosworth also said that many American corporations were fattening their profits by excessive price increases.

In issuing its quarterly "basic necessity inflation index," the National Center for Economic Alternatives said that the first-quarter price spiral was the highest rate of necessity inflation of any quarter in over four years.

Energy prices rose at an annual rate of 24.9 percent in the first three months of the year, while food prices rose 21.6 percent, shelter costs 13.3 percent, and medical care costs 11.1 percent, the center said.

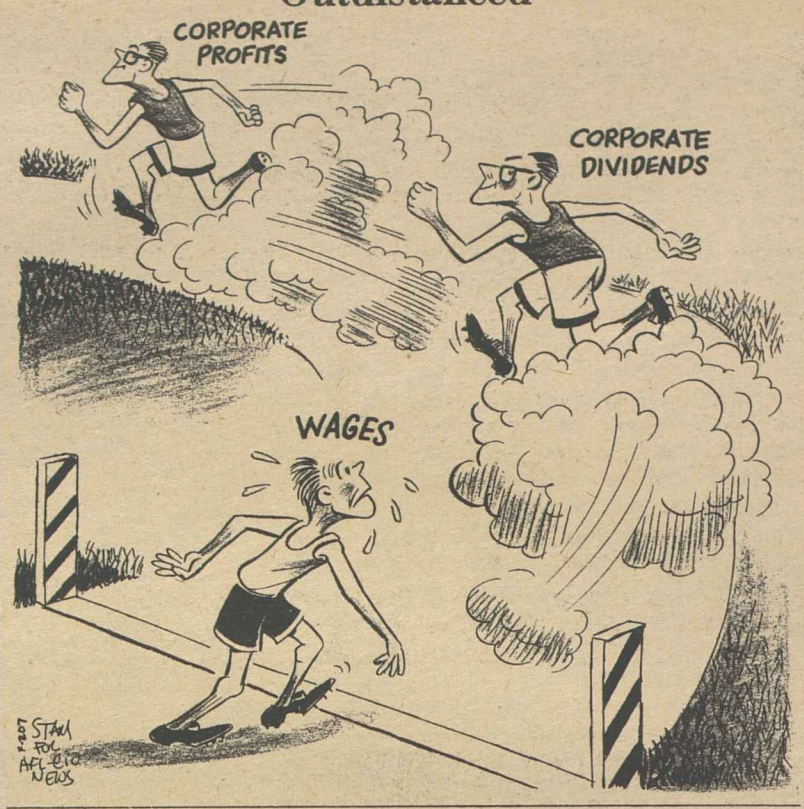
Necessity purchases make up nearly 70 percent of the budgets of four out of five American households, the center's co-directors, Gar Alperovitz and Jeff Faux, pointed out. Two basic conclusions can be drawn from the data, they added:

"First, inflation in the basic necessities is the heart of the problem. Second, self-evidently the figures confirm that current anti-inflation efforts are not working.

"A major reason is that the non-labor costs of energy, basic foodstuffs, interest rates, and land costs have been leading the inflation for some time, and are not covered by the (Administration's) price guidelines."

The two economists pointed out that President Carter's decision to decontrol domestic oil prices starting June 1 will have a deep impact on consumer prices. Unless the decision is postponed, they said, energy prices will continue to rise dramatically.

Outdistanced



Federal Aid Cuts Seen Widening Housing Gap

A slowdown in housing construction means more inflation, higher unemployment and a wider gap between supply and demand, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter testified at Senate hearings.

Schechter expressed concern that underfunding of government housing programs will add to the economic threat posed by a slackening of private construction.

The decline in housing starts is due at least in part to rising interest rates and home prices that most families can't afford, he noted. But the shortage of new housing will itself contribute to further inflation in home prices "while growing unemployment in construction and building materials production contributes to a general economic recession."

Schechter outlined a mix of federal housing programs that he urged be expanded above present budget targets, including an increase of one-third in direct public housing units.

Other needed ingredients include rehabilitation of existing units, temporary mortgage assistance payments, rent subsidies and urban development grants.

If the pipeline for future housing is allowed to run dry, Schechter warned, the nation could be a long time recovering.

Schechter urged that rental vacancy rates in various communities be considered when the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development decides whether to lease existing apartments for subsidized rentals or to fund new construction and rehabilitation of older housing.

Taking existing units out of an already tight rental market could merely force up rents and add to the costs of both private and subsidized housing, he warned.

In another area, Schechter reiterated the AFL-CIO's opposition to various mortgage gimmicks that end up increasing the eventual cost to the homebuyer.

A bill before the committee would allow such devices as a mortgage that would result in a bigger unpaid debt after three years than at the time of the purchase.

By assuming inflation, it feeds inflation, Schechter said.

Musicians Get Higher Scale On Public TV

New York—The Musicians have negotiated a new two-year agreement with the National Public Television network that provides two 7 percent wage increases as well as pension and health plan improvements.

AFM President Victor W. Fuentealba said the agreement is retroactive to Mar. 1, when the first of the two across-the-board wage increases takes effect.

The agreement also provides for an increase for radio simulcasts from $20 to $27 and raising the rates for theme music from $125.65 to $135 for a three-hour session, the union reported.

The public TV network will increase pension fund contributions from 8 percent to 9 percent and health plan contributions will be raised from $2.50 to $2.75 per day.

Fuentealba said that additional benefits were negotiated for symphony, opera and ballet orchestras.

If the musicians are required to remain after a concert for any purpose, such as a review of videotapes, they will receive a 50 percent premium payment.

Another key improvement in the agreement provides for an additional one-hour rehearsal rate fee when technical crews are setting up during rehearsals.

Teachers Win In Corpus Christi

Corpus Christi, Tex.—This city's 2,000-plus teachers picked the American Federation of Teachers as their representative over an affiliate of the National Education Association by a vote of 1,077 to 898.

The new AFT Local 3456 becomes the exclusive "consultative representative" for the teachers in discussions with school boards over the terms of their employment. Full-scale contract bargaining by teachers is prohibited by state law.

Lathers Schedule Vote On Joining Carpenters

The Lathers will hold a membership referendum in late July on an agreement to affiliate with the Carpenters that was worked out in lengthy negotiations between executive officers of both unions.

Under the agreement, the 11,000-member Lathers union will become the Lathing Subdivision of the Carpenters, which has 750,000 members in the United States and Canada. The two unions have been conducting affiliation discussions intermittently since 1974.

The agreement outlines steps for the affiliation of Lathers locals with the Carpenters and spells out procedures for the continuation of lathing training programs and for the creation of certain staffing positions in the lathing division.

Certain details for final affiliation are still to be worked out, the agreement notes, with any disputes to be presented to the AFL-CIO president's office for arbitration.

The signatories of the agreement included Carpenters President William Sidell, Lathers President Charles L. Brodeur and other top officers of both unions.

The Lathers were founded in December 1899 and received an AFL charter in January 1900. Both unions are headquartered in Washington.

The lathing craft largely covers the installation of framework and supports of metal, wire or gypsum board to hold plaster, stucco or concrete materials on walls and ceilings.

5/12/79

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

'Work' Proposals Defeated in Illinois

Springfield, Ill. — Anti-union forces suffered a major setback in the Illinois state legislature as seven "right-to-work" bills were killed by committee action—four in the Senate and three in the House.

The defeat of the measures adds up to a firm rebuff for the National Right to Work Committee, which had pulled out all stops in a lobbying campaign orchestrated by the committee's national headquarters in Virginia.

Anti-union forces are now attempting to push through the Senate a bill that would fine public employees $25 a day for participating in a strike, as well as their union $25 a day per member. There is no similar bill before the House.

Care Urged in Putting Trade Codes into Law

International agreements to eliminate non-tariff barriers to trade shouldn't result in a one-way stream of imports, the AFL-CIO Executive Council cautioned.

Congressional committees are now scrutinizing 10 "codes" agreed to in multilateral trade negotiations and are working with the Administration to shape the legislation that will be needed to implement them.

Once the legislation is formally submitted to Congress by the President, it can't be amended and must be voted up or down within 90 legislative days.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council said the no-amendment rule makes it especially important that all aspects of the trade codes be explored before the legislation is put into final form. And it urged that drafts of the bill be circulated with "sufficient time to allow full public participation in the development of the final legislation."

The council statement reiterated the AFL-CIO's belief that the Government Procurement Code and the Standards Code be sent back for renegotiation "so that U.S. interests will be protected."

Under the procurement code, in most cases government agencies wouldn't be able to give a preference to American-made goods in their purchases. The effect would be to nullify or weaken the various "Buy American" laws. The standards code is intended to assure that requirements for packaging, labeling or testing of products aren't used to exclude imports, but the AFL-CIO has expressed concern that the effect might be to undermine consumer protections.

At recent congressional hearings, the AFL-CIO proposed language to minimize any adverse effect on U.S. jobs and industry, and the Executive Council again urged such safeguards in any legislation.

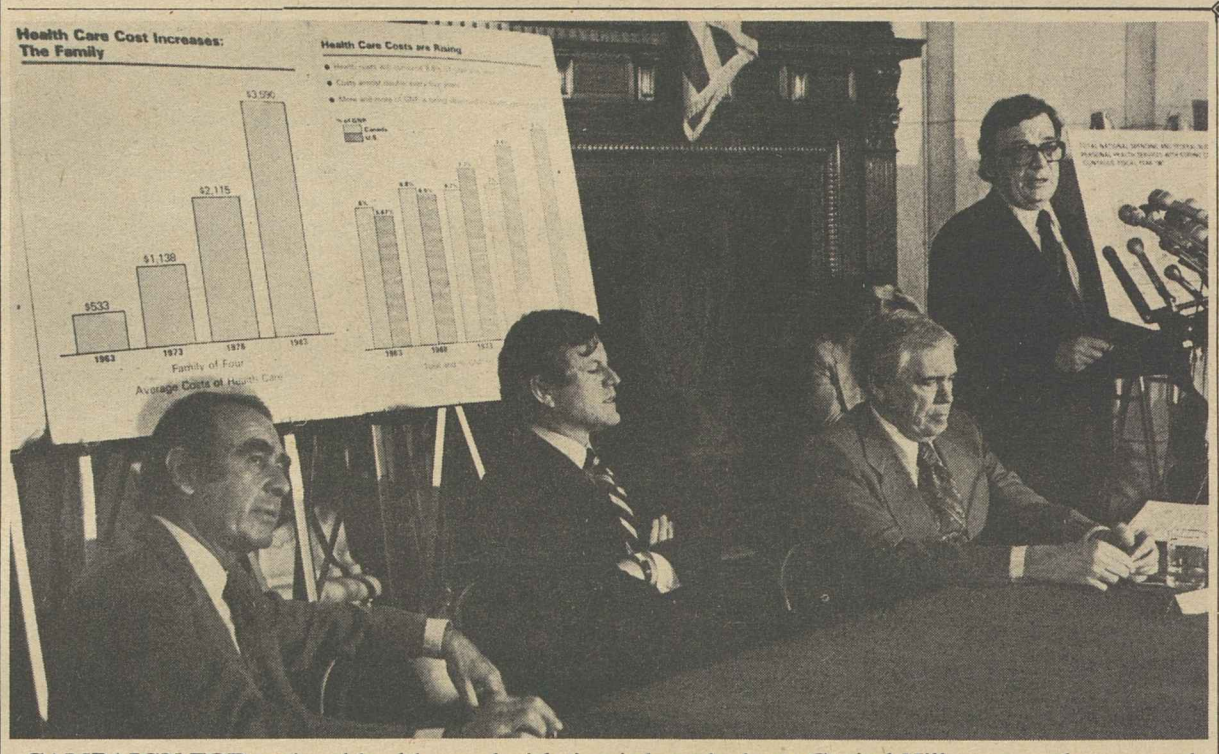
The council stressed that the legislation implementing the trade codes "goes far beyond the interests of importers and exporters" and will affect tax and consumer laws. It will also affect U.S. safeguards against "disruptive imports" and actions that might be necessary to offset U.S. trade deficits, the statement noted.

Careful scrutiny is also needed, the council said, because changes in U.S. law that will lead to increased imports will not necessarily result in a rise of U.S. exports. To achieve offsetting benefits for exports, "the U.S. must rely on the good faith of the signatory countries" to lift barriers that have kept out American-made goods, it pointed out.

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Wide Coalition Mobilized To Win Health Care Plan



CAMPAIGN FOR national health care legislation is launched at a Capitol Hill news conference and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland declares the federation's strong support. Seated from left: Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), a co-sponsor; Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), the principal Senate sponsor; and UAW President Douglas A. Fraser, who is chairman of the Committee for National Health Insurance. Kirkland is secretary of the committee.

Labor Joins New Drive By Kennedy

By David L. Perlman

A new drive for comprehensive national health insurance was launched on Capitol Hill with strong support from the AFL-CIO and other participants in a broad coalition representing tens of millions of Americans.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), who sponsored the earlier national health security proposal, will introduce the revised bill in the Senate with bipartisan sponsorship. Its chief House sponsor will be Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.), chairman of a subcommittee that will hold hearings later this year on the new Health Care for All Americans bill.

An array of House and Senate co-sponsors joined leaders of many of the 65 national organizations in the health care coalition to demonstrate support for the proposal at an overflow news conference that drew platoons of Washington reporters and television crews.

The health care plan has gone through several revisions in an effort to broaden support and stay within attainable levels of funding. But AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland stressed that the final version "meets the basic requirements of a comprehensive, universal program, with strong cost and quality controls, which the AFL-CIO believes are fundamental to genuine national health insurance."

Kirkland and UAW President Douglas A. Fraser spoke out sharply against the "catastrophic insurance" alternative that is being pushed by Senate Finance Committee Chairman Russell B. Long (D-La.). Fraser is chairman and Kirkland is secretary of the Committee for National Health Insurance, which has

(Continued on Page 7)

Wage-Hour Chiseling Hits Peak

The Labor Dept. reported that more wage chiseling was disclosed and more dollars returned to workers under the Fair Labor Standards Act during the first six months of the 1979 fiscal year than in any six-month period since the statute was enacted 40 years ago.

Illegal underpayments uncovered by the Labor Dept.'s Wage & Hour Division between last October and March totaled $79.2 million owed to 353,360 workers, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall said. This was 29 percent more than in the same period in 1978 when $61.2 million was found owed by employers to 319,929 workers.

During the first half of fiscal 1979, employers agreed to restore $48.6 million to workers—a 28 percent increase over $37.9 million recovered during the same period in fiscal 1978. In the 1979 fiscal half-year, 280,300 workers received back wages—a 6 percent increase over the 1978 half-year total of 265,477 workers.

"These significant findings represent an all-time record over any previous half-year enforcement period in the 40-year history of the Fair Labor Standards Act," Marshall said. "Enforcement will remain a top priority until all workers receive the wages they are entitled to by law."

The illegal underpayments and the number of workers cheated by employers represent only the tip of the iceberg, since the government's effort to uncover the cheating is limited by the number of investigators in the field.

Lamar Johnson, deputy administrator of the Wage & Hour Division, said that the record enforcement figures were the result of investigative work by over 1,000 wage and hour compliance officers across the country. The division administers and enforces the Fair Labor Standards Act.

As usual, the bulk of underpayments uncovered this year reflected violations of the law's minimum wage and overtime provisions. Minimum wage underpayments totaled $28.1 million owed to 217,405 workers, compared to $19.8 million owed to 179,957 workers in the same period a year earlier.

Overtime underpayments under the FLSA totaled $34.8 million owed to 142,920 workers, compared to $24.8 million owed to 140,624 workers in the same period of fiscal 1978.

In addition to wages owed under the FLSA during the first half of

(Continued on Page 3)

AFL-CIO Challenge:

Quick Ruling Due In Guidelines Suit

By James M. Shevis

A federal judge promised a quick ruling on whether the Carter Administration has the legal authority to deny federal contracts to companies that exceed its "voluntary" wage guideline.

"Our answer is no," AFL-CIO Special Counsel Laurence Gold said as he and Justice Dept. attorneys presented oral arguments in a court battle that could decide the fate of the government's seven-month-old wage and price standards.

In a suit filed in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in March, the AFL-CIO and nine of its affiliated unions argued that the threat of debarment amounts to mandatory—not voluntary—controls, and as such are not authorized under the 1974 Council on Wage & Price Stability Act.

The federation also maintained that the guidelines and the threat of debarment constitute government interference in the collective bargaining process in violation of the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act.

The AFL-CIO has asked the court to grant a summary judgment upholding its position and enjoining officials of COWPS and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy from enforcing the Administration's guidelines through contract debarment.

After hearing two hours of arguments from both sides on May 16, Judge Barrington Parker took the case under advisement and said that he would rule "as expeditiously as possible" on the AFL-CIO suit. He noted the probability of an appeal, whichever way he rules.

Parker did not indicate how he would rule in the case but in an exchange with the government's attorney appeared to question just how voluntary the Carter program is.

Rather than threatening with a

(Continued on Page 8)

In-Plant Food Prices Ruled Bargainable

The Supreme Court upheld the right of a union to bargain over food prices charged in plant cafeterias and vending food machine facilities, backing up a long-standing policy of the National Labor Relations Board on the matter.

"With all due respect to the courts of appeals that have held otherwise, we conclude that the board's consistent view that in-plant food prices and services are mandatory bargaining subjects is not an unreasonable or unprincipled construction of the National Labor Relations Act, and that it should be accepted and enforced," Justice Byron White declared in behalf of the court.

(Continued on Page 7)

Oil Tax Plan Called 'License to Profiteer'

The AFL-CIO called on Congress to tax all excess profits and to keep present controls on crude oil prices.

President Carter's decontrol directive will send "a massive inflationary shock" throughout the economy, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young warned a House Commerce subcommittee. It will push up the price of almost everything consumers buy apart from the direct impact on energy costs, he warned.

Earlier, at House Ways & Means Committee hearings, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald testified to the inadequacy of the Administration's windfall profits tax proposal and urged a special tax applied to all business "when they exceed a reasonable profit margin."

Oswald told the committee that labor considers it "imperative" that effective action be taken "to prevent a privileged few from reaping huge benefits" when the government is demanding economic sacrifices from ordinary Americans.

Unless Congress acts to block it, President Carter's phased oil decontrol will begin June 1, allowing crude oil prices to rise to the artifically high levels imposed by OPEC nations.

(Continued on Page 8)

Randolph Dead at 90, 'A Great and Good Man'

New York—A. Philip Randolph, whose vision and integrity nourished both the civil rights and trade union movements, died at the age of 90, mourned and honored by Americans in all walks of life.

He was a gentle man who fought fiercely for social justice and inspired others by his example.

To AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, Phil Randolph was "a great and good man," a friend who "can never be replaced."

He had served on the AFL-CIO Executive Council from the establishment of the federation in 1955 to his retirement in 1974. But he had been an increasingly influential voice within the labor movement and the black community for 30 years before the AFL-CIO's birth.

Randolph founded a tiny union of sleeping car porters in 1925. He nurtured it through the years when identification with the union meant automatic dismissal until he was able to bring the powerful Pullman Company to the bargaining table and achieve a first contract on Aug.

(Continued on Page 3)

Pilots Seeking Stronger Law On Terrorists

The Air Line Pilots expressed strong support for a Senate bill that would apply automatic sanctions against nations that supply and protect airline and airport terrorists.

In testimony before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, ALPA Sec. Thomas M. Ashwood declared that the United States "is overdue in telling the world it is serious about combatting terrorism."

Discretionary sanctions already authorized by law against nations supporting terrorists are not good enough, he said, pointing out that they have been available for almost five years but have never been applied.

"Sad to say, our experience is that the State Dept. can always find a reason why a sanction should not be applied."

The bill by Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.) being considered by the committee also contains airport security measures to thwart would-be hijackers. Ashwood said that ALPA's only reservation about these provisions is over the additional authorization of funds for the Federal Aviation Administration's Civil Aviation Security Service in carrying out its mission.

The additional annual authorization of $100,000 contained in the legislation, while helpful, will not give the FAA enough resources to carry out its responsibilities fully, he said. He asked that the panel consider an increase in the authorization.

Ashwood also urged the committee to consider legislation that would require an armed police officer to be present during passenger screening at U.S. airports. A recent change in FAA rules no longer requires an officer's presence.

"We believe this new rule seriously erodes the highly effective airport security system that passengers, pilots and flight attendants have come to rely on over the past six years," Ashwood said.

He also suggested an amendment to the Ribicoff bill to provide criminal penalties for anyone checking a loaded gun in airline baggage. A prohibition on loaded guns in airline baggage has been introduced in a House bill by Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.)

Welcome Mat



Jobless Tax Loophole Hurts Farm Workers

The AFL-CIO has urged the Congress to close a loophole in the unemployment tax laws that unfairly discriminates against U.S. farm workers and benefits employers of aliens at the expense of employers in other industries.

In a letter to Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.), chairman of the House Ways & Means Committee, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged rejection of legislation extending a provision of the Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1976 that exempts from UI taxes those agricultural employers who import temporary alien workers under contract.

By providing payroll savings of 2 to 4 percent for those who hire aliens, the provision encourages discrimination against 130,000 unemployed U.S. farm workers, Young said. Since growers also avoid paying the 6 percent social security tax, he pointed out, hiring alien workers gives employers a windfall of up to 10 percent of taxable payrolls.

Moreover, the exemption deprives the unemployment trust funds of needed revenue although nearly half of the state funds are deeply in debt, Young said. It allows favored employers to shirk responsibility to help maintain the UI system by transferring UI tax payments that should be their normal responsibility to other employers who hire U.S. workers.

Young pointed out that employers would be protected against disproportionate payments by experience rating systems that provide lower tax rates for employers of persons who are ineligible to receive unemployment benefits.

But such employers should not be wholly exempt, he said. Since the UI system is based on the "pooled insurance" concept, in which the burden of unemployment in one industry is shared by employers in all, Young pointed out, many employers routinely pay far more into UI funds than will be recovered by their own employees. Otherwise, the burden in some industries would be insupportable and the system would collapse, he noted.

Deteriorating Relations:

Westinghouse Talks Face Stormy Issues

Pittsburgh—Deteriorating labor-management relations at Westinghouse Corp. "could cause a serious rupture," President David J. Fitzmaurice of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers warned as national contract talks got under way here.

Fitzmaurice said in his opening remarks that despite two decades of labor peace, the situation has grown strained because of recent company actions and tactics. The word "strike" is being heard among Westinghouse workers, he added.

Workers are upset by plant closings, the company's hostility toward union organization, as well as by costly and fruitless legal battles involving IUE locals, Fitzmaurice asserted.

Joining the talks with IUE negotiators are members of the 13-union Coordinated Bargaining Committee, which represents about 150,000 workers at Westinghouse and General Electric Co.

The current three-year contract with Westinghouse expires July 16. IUE is also in negotiations with GE to replace the contract that expires June 30.

The union is disturbed by job losses of its members resulting from the relocation of Westinghouse plants to foreign countries, and the impact of the Carter Administration's economic guidelines on the negotiations.

"If a corporation is so unpatriotic as to export jobs from the United States, it should not cynically wrap itself in patriotism when it talks about wage guidelines," Fitzmaurice stressed.

The IUE's position, he noted, is that "as long as there is no control on spiraling price inflation, there is no valid control on wages."

Fitzmaurice said IUE negotiators are seeking a "substantial" wage settlement that reflects the corporation's 14.4 percent increase in operating profits per worker and record sales last year.

Also high on the list is an improved cost-of-living formula, protections for older workers threatened by plant closings, full pensions after 30 years of service regardless of age, higher benefits for current retirees and improved opportunities for younger workers.

Fitzmaurice said the IUE would cooperate with company efforts to spur productivity, but he called on management negotiators to reject "outside interference" from the Administration in the contract talks.

Unions taking part in the coordinated bargaining in addition to the IUE are the Machinists, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Firemen & Oilers, Flint Glass Workers, Allied Industrial Workers, Carpenters, Sheet Metal Workers, Steelworkers, and Plumbers & Pipe Fitters and the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers, UAW and the Teamsters.

Musicians Set Pact On Commercials

New York — The Musicians reached tentative agreement with major advertising agencies on a new contract covering musicians' services for radio and television commercials.

The two-year pact, which must be approved by AFM members, replaces a contract that expired on Apr. 30. AFM President Victor W. Fuentealba said that details of the agreement would not be announced until after the ratification process has been completed.

Results of the mail referendum will be made known in about four weeks, Fuentealba said. The bargaining was with the joint policy committee of the Association of National Advertisers/American Association of Advertising Agencies.

Senate Votes to Curb U.S. Visas To Puppet 'Labor Leaders,' PLO

The Senate voted overwhelmingly to curb propaganda visits to the United States by puppet "labor leaders" from totalitarian countries and by officials of the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization.

It adopted, 87-2, a labor-endorsed provision that partially repeals the "McGovern Amendment" that Congress enacted two years ago as a gesture toward international freedom of movement.

That amendment, introduced by Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.), had eliminated a previous requirement that foreign Communists and members of other proscribed organizations had to have a special waiver from the State Dept. and the Justice Dept. to be admitted to the United States.

Since adoption of the McGovern amendment, such visitors are routinely admitted unless the two departments certify they would represent a threat to national security.

In urging repeal or modification of the McGovern Amendment, the AFL-CIO made clear that it is not seeking to prevent visits to the United States by Communist officials as such or by union leaders from nations with free trade union movements who happen to be Communists. But the federation strongly objected to the effect of the McGovern Amendment in allowing propaganda tours of the United States by official representatives of self-styled unions, when these officials are in reality agents of a dictatorship whose job is to control workers, not fight for their interests.

The AFL-CIO's position, Legislative Director Kenneth Young recently told a commission established by Congress to monitor U.S. compliance with the Helsinki Accords, is that there must be "a clear distinction . . . between genuine unions that represent the interests of their workers and labor fronts that serve as instruments of totalitarian states, whether they be on the left or the right."

As the Senate prepared to debate a proposal to repeal the McGovern Amendment introduced by Sen. Howard Baker (R-Tenn.) and a bipartisan group of 10 co-sponsors, Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) proposed a more limited change that met labor's objections to the McGovern Amendment.

It specified that the virtually automatic granting of visas to enter the United States should not apply to:

- "Representatives of purported labor organizations in countries where such organizations are in fact instruments of a totalitarian state," or
- "Any alien who is a member, officer, official, representative or spokesman of the Palestine Liberation Organization."

Such persons could receive visas only if the Secretary of State and the Attorney General agreed to grant a special waiver.

The Javits proposal was acceptable to the sponsors of the repeal measure. McGovern told the Senate that he would prefer that it not be adopted but he would vote for it because it was "quite clear" that the alternative would be outright repeal of the 1977 McGovern Amendment. On the rollcall, only Senators William Armstrong (R-Colo.) and James A. McClure (R-Ida.) voted against the change.

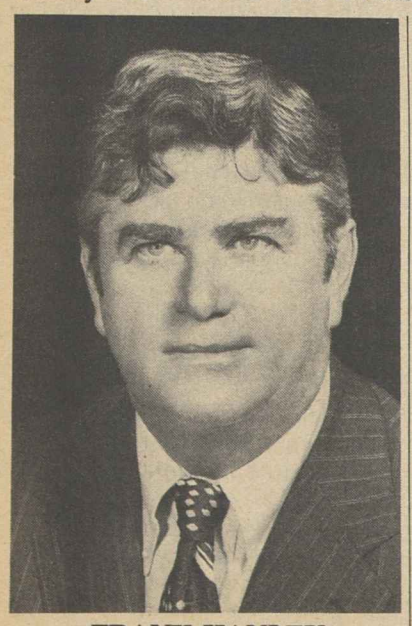
The change in visa policy was adopted by the Senate as part of a bill authorizing funds for the State Dept. and now goes to conference with the House.

Last month, the House adopted a less specific compromise that would make it easier to bar PLO representatives and allow denial of visas to persons from nations that are not in substantial accord with the human rights provisions of the Helsinki agreements.

Hanley Succeeds Conlon At Operating Engineers

President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers has announced the resignation of Sec.-Treas. Russell T. Conlon, who expressed the desire to retire, effective Aug. 15.

The union's executive board elected Fourth Vice President Frank Hanley to succeed Conlon for the remaining two years of his term as secretary-treasurer.



FRANK HANLEY

Born in New York City, Hanley has been a member of IUOE Local 15 since 1948. For the last 21 years he has served in Washington—as assistant to the IUOE president and, since 1975, as fourth vice president.

Hanley is a graduate of Notre Dame University. He served in the Marine Corps, spending 13 months in Korea.

Conlon retires after nearly 40 years in the union, his association with Local 302 of Seattle, Wash., beginning in 1941. He became a vice president in 1966 and came to Washington in 1973. He was elected secretary-treasurer in 1976. He has been especially active in labor and civic affairs in Alaska and the state of Washington, to which state he will retire.

Kroll Tells Convention:

Aftermath of N&W Strike Finds Rail Clerks Stronger

By John R. Oravec

Toronto—Recent hard-won gains by the Railway & Airline Clerks on picket lines and at bargaining tables are generating added strength for the union to meet new challenges, BRAC President Fred J. Kroll said in opening the union's 26th quadrennial convention.

Kroll told the 700 delegates that BRAC's victory in the 82-day strike against Norfolk & Western Railway not only derailed the industry's mutual aid pact, but it also opened new frontiers in bargaining.

He cited landmark court rulings that gave the union the go-ahead to picket other carriers that had been contributing payments of $800,000 a day to the N&W during the strike.

Kroll praised the determination of BRAC's N&W System members in the long struggle, the support of the union's entire membership in the United States and Canada, and the cooperation of other railroad unions.

The convention gave a one-minute standing ovation to the delegates representing the N&W members.

"This is a democratic union," Kroll stressed. "We have fought and will continue to fight for workers' rights, for civil rights, for women's rights, for housing, for decent years of retirement for our older workers."

In situations such as the N&W strike, he observed, members on both sides of the U.S.-Canadian border share in the agonies and the victories. BRAC has nearly a quarter-million members, including some 20,000 in Canada.

A highlight of the convention's opening day was the premiere showing of the BRAC-produced film, A Question of Dignity, which traces the growth of the union from its founding 80 years ago through its success in the N&W strike.

Kroll said that BRAC also achieved major gains in the national railroad agreement earlier this year by improving on the pattern agreement worked out by union-management negotiators despite wage guidelines pressure from the Carter Administration.

The momentum produced by these successes can be used by BRAC in other areas, Kroll stressed, including the widening of its role in the election of responsible candidates and helping push labor's programs through Congress.

He warned that a heavily financed coalition of right-wing extremists and big business is threatening the advances made by organized labor.

To counteract the campaign financing and lobbying of these anti-labor groups, Kroll called on BRAC members to provide the needed financial support for the Railway Clerks Political Action League (RCPL) and its Political Action Program (PEP).

Some immediate concerns of BRAC are the Administration's threatened cutbacks of Amtrak and Conrail service and the union's efforts to prod the Dept. of Transportation to provide emergency funds for the survival of Milwaukee Road, Kroll noted.

Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, told delegates that the Administration's wage-price guidelines are an utter failure.

Donahue recalled that last October when the guidelines were instituted the AFL-CIO received assurances from Administration officials that the success or failure of the anti-inflation program would be evident after six months.

With consumer prices surging over the past seven months nearly twice as fast as the inflexible 7 percent limit on wages, he noted the Administration's effort has to be termed "an absolute flop."

It's impossible to "run a wage control program with mirrors," he said, noting that the "voluntary" controls are directed primarily at wage earners, who—along with the poor and the elderly—are the chief victims of inflation.

Donahue cited the plight of the Rubber Workers who were forced to strike Uniroyal after the Administration pressured the company into reneging on a tentative agreement. The URW didn't "volunteer" for the 7 percent wage limit because its members need more to meet the inflationary price hikes, he said.

Paraphrasing congressional testimony of Treasury Sec. W. Michael Blumenthal, Donahue said it was not enough for Administration advisers to admit that "we screwed up" on the economic forecast.

He suggested the White House implement a "born again economic policy" that treats workers and consumers in the same manner it treats employers and banks.

Donahue also stressed the need for unions to review their political action policies and to take a close look at the performance of COPE-endorsed senators and representatives who forget their backers when crucial issues arise in Congress.

Citing last year's setback in the Senate on Labor Law Reform, he suggested the creation of a "special honor roll" for the five COPE-endorsed Democratic senators who refused to provide the one vote needed to break the filibuster on the bill.

He listed Dale Bumpers of Arkansas, Richard Stone and Lawton Chiles of Florida, Edward Zorinsky of Nebraska and Howard W. Cannon of Nevada.

In early convention action, delegates reaffirmed a $20 special assessment of BRAC members authorized by the union's executive board to assist the N&W strikers and authorized the holding of future conventions during the three summer months rather than in May.

The convention approved salary increases for BRAC officers effective July 1. The raises will boost the president's annual salary from $70,000 to $120,000; the secretary-treasurer's from $47,000 to $70,000; the 11 vice presidents from $42,500 to $60,000 and the three assistant vice presidents from $33,000 to $47,000.



NEW CHALLENGES facing the Railway & Airline Clerks will be met with the added strength the union has generated through recent hard-won gains, BRAC President Fred J. Kroll said in keynoting the union's quadrennial convention in Toronto.

Wage Floor Chiseling Hits All-Time High

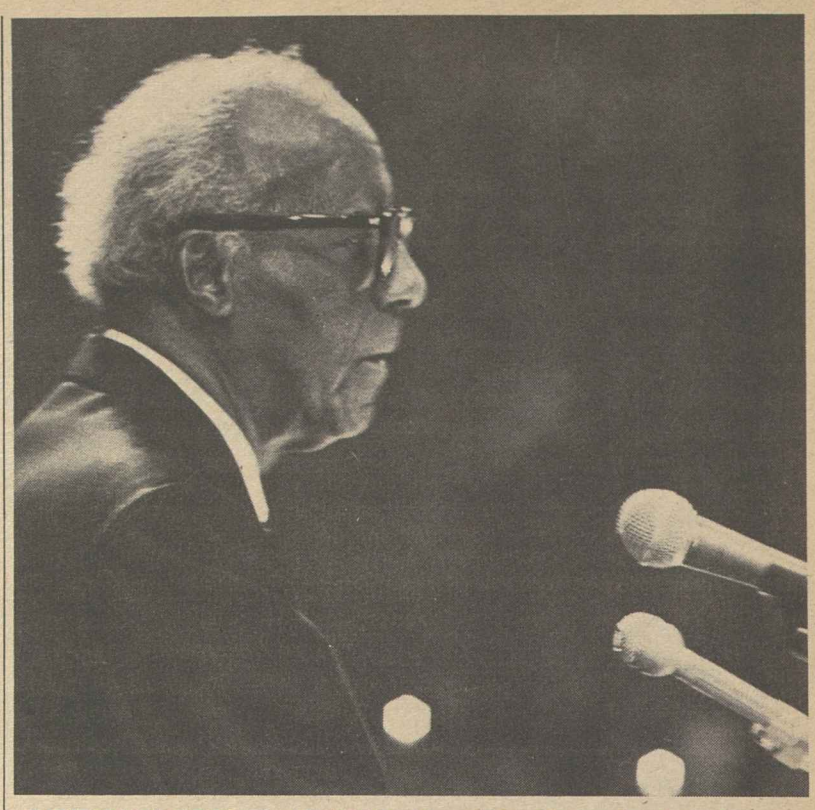
(Continued from Page 1)

fiscal 1979, minimum wage underpayments by firms under government contract totaled $5.1 million owed to 16,180 workers. Violations of the overtime provisions accounted for $638,344 due to 4,697 workers.

Compliance investigations under the Equal Pay Act, which requires equal pay for men and women doing substantially equal work in the same establishment, found $5.5 million due to 8,179 workers.

Damages discovered under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, which protects workers aged 40 to 70 from job discrimination because of their age, totaled almost $5 million owed to 1,678 workers.

The Labor Dept. noted that responsibility for the administration of these two laws will be transferred to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on July 1.



MURRAY-GREEN AWARD, the AFL-CIO's highest honor, was presented to A. Philip Randolph at this 1972 dinner. In his speech of response, he urged the labor movement to stay in the forefront of the fight for social change.

Randolph Dead at 90, 'A Great and Good Man'

(Continued from Page 1)

12, 1937, 12 years to the day from the creation of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

At conventions of the American Federation of Labor, his was at first almost a lone voice calling for an end to all segregation and color bars in unions. His voice was never stilled, and after the AFL-CIO merger he prodded for still faster action to stamp out all vestiges of racial barriers.

But never, even at his most critical, did he lose faith in the trade union movement as the vehicle for economic and social justice.

To civil rights historians, Randolph's leadership made possible the first great breakthrough in equal employment opportunities—the executive order issued by President Roosevelt in 1941 declaring that "there shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or government because of race, creed, color, or national origin" and establishing a temporary Fair Employment Practices Committee to enforce it.

The order was the price that Randolph demanded and received for calling off a March on Washington that he told FDR would bring 100,000 black persons to the nation's capital.

In 1963, Randolph along with the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., would address a peaceful, joyous civil rights march by a quarter-million black and white Americans that was inspired by his example and largely organized by Randolph's longtime associate, Bayard Rustin.

He believed in coalitions, and the Civil Rights Leadership Conference reflects his philosophy.

He was honored by presidents and by universities. And on his 80th birthday, a veritable "who's who" of prominent Americans sponsored a dinner to raise funds for the A. Philip Randolph Institute, which was established in 1965 with a grant from the AFL-CIO to carry on his principles.

Randolph died at his Manhattan apartment on May 16, just a month and a day after his 90th birthday and on the eve of the 25th anniversary of the historic Supreme Court desegregation system that moved the nation firmly on the path that he had envisioned.

He was a widower, with no close survivors except for generations of friends and admirers. He had been in failing health in recent years. After a private cremation, plans will be announced for a memorial service.

Meany and Kirkland suggested that "Phil Randolph would not want us to mourn, but rather to move on to the tasks that remain undone." His passing "summons all who believe in equality and human dignity to reaffirm their commitment to achieving civil rights and social and economic justice for all people."

But still, while "we shall try to follow his example and reach his goals . . . we shall miss him terribly."

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, messages of tribute were coming in from all parts of the world.

Unions in and out of the AFL-CIO issued statements of tribute.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall said Randolph's "immense contributions spread far beyond the bargaining table" and "his death diminishes us all."

To Bayard Rustin, his ally and friend, no American still living "has done more to seek justice for all the poor, the working classes and the minorities."

Vice President Walter F. Mondale spoke movingly of how Randolph "consistently called upon America to live up to its own ideals."

To Benjamin Hooks of the NAACP, Randolph was a "beacon of strength and hope for the entire black community." And Urban League Director Vernon Jordan termed him "symbolic of everything the civil rights movement is about."

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is now a division of the Railway & Airline Clerks, and some of Randolph's former comrades were among the delegates to BRAC's convention in Toronto. There were tears as well as tributes as delegates stood in silence and then adopted a memorial resolution as a special order of business.

Senate Backs Norwood As BLS Commissioner

The Senate confirmed President Carter's nomination of Janet Norwood to head the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Norwood, who has served as acting BLS commissioner since Julius Shiskin's illness and death last year, was scheduled to be sworn into office on May 18.

Windfall Tax Math

THE ADMINISTRATION'S 50 percent windfall profits tax is really not 50 percent; nor is it a tax on profits—windfall or otherwise. It is an excise tax based on the price paid by the consumer. It applies only to certain classes of oil.

Moreover, as proposed, the tax would be considered a deductible business expense for purposes of determining a company's regular income tax liability. This latter feature alone means that the effective tax rate is cut almost in half—(50 percent to 27 percent for companies with taxable incomes of over $100,000).

The Administration data clearly demonstrate the need to meet the issue of windfall profits through prevention as well as symptomatic relief—continued controls and an effective tax measure.

Over the seven-year 1979-1985 period consumers would be paying a total of $86.2 billion more for oil as a result of decontrol, and the windfall profits tax would recoup only $7 billion—8.1 percent. Without a windfall tax, oil companies' net profits—after deducting all expenses and all other taxes—would total $28 billion. With the proposed tax, companies would still net a windfall of $20.7 billion.

During the deep recession years of 1974 and 1975—when the price of oil quadrupled—the 21 major oil companies' after-tax profits averaged 87 percent above the pre-recession, pre-embargo levels of 1972. In contrast for all U.S. corporations, according to the Commerce Dept., net after-tax profits during 1974 and 1975 averaged 23 percent below 1972 levels.

RATES OF RETURN on equity also demonstrate the impact of price hikes on oil company treasuries. The 21 "majors'" rates of return during 1974 and 1975 were, respectively, 16.5 percent and 21.1 percent—a two-year average of 18.8 percent. For all other corporations, the average during those two years was 12.8 percent.

During the first quarter of 1979 when gasoline prices were rising at a 36.3 percent annual rate, oil company profits and rates of return skyrocketed once again. Profits of Conoco were up 343 percent; Standard Oil of Ohio, up 303 percent; Amerada Hess, up 279 percent and Occidental up 174 percent. In the first quarter of 1979, Standard Oil of Ohio and Amerada Hess had a 33 percent annualized rate of return on equity, Marathon 29 percent, Continental and Phillips 20 percent, Mobil 19.6 percent, and Standard of Indiana 19.5 percent.

The AFL-CIO is convinced that the nation's energy problem is a critical one. Adequate supplies, reasonable prices and reliable sources are fundamental to the economic health of the nation.

While prices of gasoline, heating oil, and other energy costs have risen dramatically, these costs would have risen to even higher levels without controls. The AFL-CIO is convinced there is no valid reason to discontinue controls.

We also caution that an economic policy based on the belief that Americans must be punished at the pump and in their furnace in order to reduce consumption ignores the fact that consumers will suffer a direct $86 billion cost and a ripple impact of an equal amount on their shelter, food, clothing and life-supporting needs over the next seven years.

—From AFL-CIO testimony.

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LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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Spoiling the Broth



Turning Bad into Worse:

Ceiling on Federal Spending Quick Formula for Depression

By Gus Tyler

THERE'S A MAD MIX-UP in the capital's high places and in the nation's low places about two hot proposals to amend the Constitution of the United States. One set of ideas talks about balancing the budget; the other about limiting spending. They are not at all the same, except in the somewhat foggy fantasies of sloppy rhetoricians.

To balance a budget, you do not need to cut spending. You can balance by raising taxes. Many fiscal conservatives know this—like Howard Jarvis, James J. Kilpatrick, and the economic guru of America's right wing, Milton Friedman—and so they shy away from pushing the balanced budget amendment. The alternate idea is to put a limit on spending.

But to put a ceiling on what Uncle Sam plans to spend in any one year is no easy matter. The obvious question is what shall the ceiling be: shall it be some absolute sum that would quickly lose all meaning as the country, its population, its wealth, and its price levels grow? Or should it be the same as last year? Or what?

The ever-burgeoning brain of Dr. Friedman has come up with a proposal: to permit an increase in spending that is, percentage-wise, no greater than the increase in the gross national product the previous year. If the GNP grows by 3 percent this year, then next year spending may grow by the same percent.

Sane and simple as the notion seems, its application could drive us into insane complexities. Here's why:

We make a decision to spend X number of dollars next year in line with the formula. But that year, inflation pushes up the cost of everything beyond anyone's expectations, just as it is doing to us right now. So Uncle Sam must pay more for everything: submarines and school lunches, paper and pencils, prisons and playgrounds. Whatever the original cost estimate was when the year began, it is wrong when the year ends.

Then there are the "entitlement programs" that say that a person in this country is "entitled" to certain benefits if he or she meets certain conditions. Social security, aid for dependent children, disability payments, veterans' benefits and the like are typical "entitlement" programs.

How much will go out in payments in these programs in any one year depends on dozens of unpredictable factors. That's why no one can firmly foretell how big these items will be.

More important, the Friedman formula is almost a built-in way of making sure that a recession will become a depression. If in any one year the economy stands still (no growth) or slips (a drop in the GNP) then the next year the federal government will not be permitted to step up its expenditures to stimulate the economy.

Then who will revive the sickly system? Workers can't do it with their purchases, because if they were spending money the economy would not be in trouble in the first place. Employers won't invest their money to expand production and hire people at a time when the market is falling. Why produce what you know you are not likely to sell?

But if the government, too, is not permitted to step up its spending to pump some adrenalin into the failing economy, then the GNP will slip still further and the year after that the federal government will have to spend even less and our miseries must multiply.

In sum, the Friedman formula is an impractical, unworkable contraption that, at its best, can only turn bad into worse.

America—the Only Open Marketplace

We believe in fair trade. We would like to see every country's goods in every marketplace, competing on equal terms. But that is not the way the world is working.

America's marketplace is wide open, and it's the only one that is. Free trade here and protectionism throughout the rest of the world is draining America of its capital, its technology and the jobs of its workers.

America cannot survive as a purely service economy with all of us standing in a circle, exchanging bits of paper, taking each other's pulse and shining each other's shoes.

—AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald at International Trade Conference, Washington, D.C., May 10, 1979.

On 25th Anniversary of Ruling:

Broader Focus Held Necessary In School Desegregation Efforts

By Bayard Rustin

AS WE MARK THE 25th ANNIVERSARY of the Supreme Court's decision in Brown vs. Board of Education, it is important to remember the revolutionary quality of the court's judgment. By decisively repudiating the archaic "separate but equal" doctrine, Brown shook the legal and moral foundations of the entire racial caste system in America. Moreover, it initiated a creative and long overdue discussion about the very concept of equality, most importantly the concept of equality of educational opportunity.

Today, after 25 years of sometimes bitter debate, the concept of equal educational opportunity still remains controversial and confusing as school boards and communities continue to wrestle with the slippery problem of racial imbalances. Despite good intentions and many valiant desegregation plans, I think it is quite fair to conclude that educational inequality has not yet disappeared, and that American society has not even settled on a clear, widely-accepted, workable definition of what equality of educational opportunity really means. These two conclusions, however, do not warrant undue pessimism or charges of ill will and total failure. They are, I think, candid and simple statements of fact.

To illustrate the persistence of educational inequality, I think it is worth noting some recent developments in several of the school districts originally involved in the Brown case. In Topeka, for instance, arbitrary racial segregation has disappeared, yet racial imbalances still exist and charges of racial discrimination frequently arise. Developments in two other Brown districts—New Castle County, Del., and Clarendon County, S.C. —are also cause for serious concern, since they serve as graphic examples of two relatively new and inter-related problems: the dramatic re-emergence of de facto segregation as the result of urban/suburban population shifts and the vexing phenomenon known as "white flight."

While desegregation experiences in the Brown districts have been rather disappointing, overall trends in school integration and black educational advancement are generally more encouraging. The following points, I think, deserve special note: white opposition to integrated schools has dropped considerably; the black/white gap in achievement shows hopeful signs of disappearing; black drop-out rates, once enormously higher than white rates, have fallen; and the proportion of black youngsters attending college has risen tremendously.

TAKEN TOGETHER, these contradictory indications remind us again that desegregation is a complex process that must adopt to changing economic and political circumstances. Consequently, our efforts toward full desegregation need a broader focus.

As I see it, we need this new focus for two reasons: first, unless we begin to think of educational equality in a more socially comprehensive and class-oriented manner, we will be continually distracted by an on-going racial "numbers game" which will divert us from our real goal, quality education for all. And second, if the drive toward educational equality continues to be mistakenly perceived as a racial matter, we risk losing the political and community support which are absolutely essential for the success of any desegregation program, and for the continued survival of any integrated public school system.

In concrete terms, then, I am suggesting that we begin to look more closely at proposals and ideas like a major equality-oriented restructuring of school finances, a more rational and regionalized approach to drawing school district lines, greater use of magnet schools, and a more careful and more future-oriented approach to educational planning.

CLUW President Says:

Growth of Female Workforce Intensifies Need for Organizing

THE SURGE OF WOMEN into the workforce over the last decade has intensified the need to organize female workers into unions and give them a better chance to escape from the lower-paid "female job ghettos," President Joyce Miller of the Coalition of Labor Union Women declared.

Noting that some 32 million women in the labor force today have no union to represent them, Miller said that CLUW has set organizing the unorganized and full employment as its top goals. She turned aside the contention that "women are more hesitant to join unions than men," stressing that a large proportion of women workers are "locked into low-wage jobs" in traditionally hard-to-organize industries.

That, she said, "has nothing to do with sex," because forming a union "is a terrible struggle" for both male and female workers in those industries. Miller, who is also a vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers and director of ACTWU's Social Service Dept., appeared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

While the United States is basically "a sexist society," Miller said, "things are certainly improving." More and more women are running for political office, and this trend will increase in the next few years, she said.

"Women make up 51.3 percent of the population, yet only 8 percent of all public offices are held by women," she observed. "We have never had a woman on the Supreme Court, for example. We've had only five women over the past 200 years in the United States Senate. There have been very few women in the House of Representatives, and only five women have served in Cabinet office.

"We are going to see more women holding public office—just like we have a new mayor of the city of Chicago . . . and we have Governor Ella Grasso in Connecticut, and Governor Dixie Lee Ray in the state of Washington."

She renewed the call for federal legislation to establish "child care for every working family that wants it and needs it." Noting that ACTWU has pioneered the establishment of child care centers for the pre-school-age children of working women, she said that the need for such opportunities has expanded greatly in recent years as on-rushing inflation has forced large numbers of mothers to take jobs "to help support their families—their children."

ACTWU has set up six child care centers in the United States, five in the Washington-Baltimore-Virginia area, and one in Chicago, she said.

"We care for more children than any other private institution in the country. We have more than 1,300 children in child care facilities," she said.

"We believe that child care enhances and supports the American family."

More than 51 percent of married women are now in the workforce, she asserted, and their paychecks often "spell the difference between the family being below or above the poverty line."

Most women work not because they particularly want to, but because they have to, she said.

"Today, with the high rate of inflation and with unemployment, women are working because they need those jobs, they must have those paychecks," Miller said. "They cannot stay home and take care of their kids—they have to earn a living."

Reporters questioning Miller on Labor News Conference were Rachelle Patterson, of the Boston Globe and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and is aired weekly by Mutual radio.

In the Washington, D.C. area, the program may be heard on Sundays over KYS-FM (93.9) at 10:30 p.m.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

IN APRIL ten released mental patients died after a nightmarish inferno in their "home" in Washington, D.C. Investigations indicate gross violations of occupancy and fire regulations by the operators, and violation of wage-hour laws. Fires in similar unsafe dwellings in Missouri and Pennsylvania brought the death toll to 45 in just one month.

It took these deaths to focus attention on the "dumping" of the nation's mentally ill and retarded citizens into what are often crowded, dilapidated, unhealthy firetraps.

Ironically, the "dumping"—officially called "deinstitutionalization"—has been promoted in the name of humane treatment. It has resulted in a sharp decline in the number of mentally ill and retarded people in public institutions with the greatest change occurring in state mental hospitals.

The peak resident population in these institutions was 559,000 in 1955. By the end of 1977, the figure had dropped to 160,830.

The discharged patients were supposed to go into the community and lead better, less restricted lives. However, provisions for treatment in the community proved inadequate to meet the needs of many of these people who need continuing help to survive "on the outside." Also, often lacking is follow-up support by state agencies and effective regulation of nursing homes and other facilities that house former patients.

Congressional investigations in 1975 and 1976 and a General Accounting Office report in 1977 documented the all too common tragic situations in nursing homes, halfway houses and foster care settings where many discharged patients merely exist with little or no care.

Last year, the President's Commission on Mental Health reported: "Because sufficient services and appropriate financial assistance are not available, many people with chronic mental illness have no choice but to live in poorly maintained boarding homes or cheap occupancy hotels and rooming houses."

AT THE HEART of the problem are provisions of social security and Medicaid programs that create financial incentives for "deinstitutionalization" and in effect disregard the needs of the mentally disabled.

For example, the income of many citizens with chronic mental disabilities is limited to support from the Supplemental Social Security Income program (SSI). In 1972, Congress barred "inmates of public institutions" from receiving SSI and reduced the SSI funds for recipients living with relatives.

People living with unrelated individuals can receive full payment. Too often, the check goes from the recipient to the "unrelated" and, often unconcerned, owner of a boarding home or similar facility.

In the courts, a related battle goes on. A federal district judge ordered the closing, effective Dec. 31, 1981, of Pennhurst State Hospital for the mentally retarded. Situated some 30 miles outside Philadelphia, the facility houses 1,045 residents, three-fourths of whom are "severely or profoundly retarded"—with IQs below 35. Closing the hospital would dump many of them into the wasteland of privately-run boarding homes and nursing homes.

The "enlightened" approach of "deinstitutionalization" has only succeeded in putting society's most helpless citizens into the care of some of its greediest. It is time to truly reform this system and come to the aid of those who most need help.



UNION CONTRACTS are the best way for women to escape from the lower-paid female job ghettos, Clothing & Textile Workers Vice President Joyce Miller, center, declared on Labor News Conference. Miller, who is president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, was questioned by Rachelle Patterson of the Boston Globe and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Key House Votes on Budget Ceilings

These two key House votes were on amendments to a budget resolution setting spending ceilings for the 1980 fiscal year.

Column I *shows the 218-198 defeat of an amendment by Marjorie S. Holt (R-Md.) and Ralph S. Regula (R-Ohio) to cut more than $6.8 billion from needed, labor-supported programs. On the May 9 vote, 214 Democrats and four Republicans opposed the budget slash and are marked right (R). Voting wrong (W) were 48 Democrats and 150 Republicans.*

Column II *marks the 277-130 defeat of a labor-supported amendment by Rep. Parren J. Mitchell (D-Md.) that would have added $1.5 billion in funds for domestic social programs. Voting right on the May 10 vote were 126 Democrats and four Republicans. Voting wrong were 129 Democrats and 148 Republicans.*

Numerals show House districts; PR—paired right; PW paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

	I	II
ALABAMA		
1. Edwards (R)	W	W
2. Dickinson (R)	W	W
3. Nichols (D)	W	W
4. Bevill (D)	R	W
5. Flippo (D)	W	W
6. Buchanan (R)	W	W
7. Shelby (D)	W	W
ALASKA		
AL Young (R)	PW	W
ARIZONA		
1. Rhodes (R)	W	W
2. Udall (D)	R	R
3. Stump (D)	W	W
4. Rudd (R)	W	W
ARKANSAS		
1. Alexander (D)	R	W
2. Bethune (R)	W	W
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	W	W
4. Anthony (D)	R	W
CALIFORNIA		
1. Johnson (D)	R	W
2. Clausen (R)	W	W
3. Matsui (D)	R	R
4. Fazio (D)	R	R
5. Burton, John L. (D)	R	A
6. Burton, Phillip (D)	R	R
7. Miller (D)	R	R
8. Dellums (D)	R	R
9. Stark (D)	A	PR
10. Edwards (D)	R	R
11. Royer (R)	W	W
12. McCloskey (R)	W	W
13. Mineta (D)	R	R
14. Shumway (R)	W	W
15. Coelho (D)	R	A
16. Panetta (D)	R	R
17. Pashayan (R)	R	W
18. Thomas (R)	W	W
19. Lagomarsino (R)	W	W
20. Goldwater (R)	W	W
21. Corman (D)	R	R
22. Moorhead (R)	W	W
23. Beilenson (D)	R	R
24. Waxman (D)	R	R
25. Roybal (D)	PR	A
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W
27. Dornan (R)	W	W
28. Dixon (D)	R	R
29. Hawkins (D)	PR	A
30. Danielson (D)	R	W
31. Wilson, C. H. (D)	W	W
32. Anderson (D)	R	R
33. Grisham (R)	W	W
34. Lungren (R)	W	W
35. Lloyd (D)	R	W
36. Brown (D)	R	R
37. Lewis (R)	W	W
38. Patterson (D)	PR	A
39. Dannemeyer (R)	W	W
40. Badham (R)	W	W
41. Wilson, Bob (R)	W	W
42. Van Deerlin (D)	R	W
43. Burgener (R)	W	W
COLORADO		
1. Schroeder (D)	R	R
2. Wirth (D)	R	W
3. Kogovsek (D)	R	R
4. Johnson (R)	R	W
5. Kramer (R)	W	W
CONNECTICUT		
1. Cotter (D)	R	W
2. Dodd (D)	R	R
3. Giaimo (D)	R	W
4. McKinney (R)	W	R
5. Ratchford (D)	R	R
6. Moffett (D)	R	PR
DELAWARE		
AL Evans (R)	W	W
FLORIDA		
1. Hutto (D)	R	W
2. Fuqua (D)	R	W
3. Bennett (D)	W	R
4. Chappell (D)	W	W
5. Kelly (R)	W	W
6. Young (R)	W	W
7. Gibbons (D)	R	W
8. Ireland (D)	W	W
9. Nelson (D)	R	W
10. Bafalis (R)	W	W
11. Mica (D)	W	W
12. Stack (D)	R	R
13. Lehman (D)	R	R
14. Pepper (D)	R	R
15. Fascell (D)	R	W
GEORGIA		
1. Ginn (D)	R	W
2. Mathis (D)	R	W
3. Brinkley (D)	W	W
4. Levitas (D)	R	W
5. Fowler (D)	R	W
6. Gingrich (R)	W	W
7. McDonald (D)	W	W
8. Evans (D)	R	W
9. Jenkins (D)	R	A
10. Barnard (D)	W	W
HAWAII		
1. Heftel (D)	R	W
2. Akaka (D)	R	R
IDAHO		
1. Symms (R)	W	W
2. Hansen (R)	PW	W
ILLINOIS		
1. Stewart (D)	R	R
2. Murphy (D)	R	R
3. Russo (D)	W	W
4. Derwinski (R)	W	W
5. Fary (D)	R	R
6. Hyde (R)	W	W
7. Collins (D)	R	R
8. Rostenkowski (D)	R	R
9. Yates (D)	R	R
10. Mikva (D)	R	R
11. Annunzio (D)	R	W
12. Crane, Philip (R)	W	PW
13. McClory (R)	W	W
14. Erlenborn (R)	W	A
15. Corcoran (R)	W	W
16. Anderson (R)	W	W
17. O'Brien (R)	W	W
18. Michel (R)	W	W
19. Railsback (R)	W	W
20. Findley (R)	W	W
21. Madigan (R)	W	R
22. Crane, Dan (R)	W	W
23. Price (D)	R	R
24. Simon (D)	R	R
INDIANA		
1. Benjamin (D)	R	R
2. Fithian (D)	W	A
3. Brademas (D)	R	W
4. Quayle (R)	W	W
5. Hillis (R)	W	W
6. Evans (D)	W	R
7. Myers (R)	W	W
8. Deckard (R)	W	W
9. Hamilton (D)	W	W
10. Sharp (D)	W	W
11. Jacobs (D)	W	W
IOWA		
1. Leach (R)	W	W
2. Tauke (R)	W	W
3. Grassley (R)	W	W
4. Smith (D)	R	W
5. Harkin (D)	R	R
6. Bedell (D)	R	R
KANSAS		
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W
2. Jeffries (R)	W	W
3. Winn (R)	W	W
4. Glickman (D)	R	W
5. Whittaker (R)	W	W
KENTUCKY		
1. Hubbard (D)	A	W
2. Natcher (D)	R	W
3. Mazzoli (D)	R	W
4. Snyder (R)	W	W
5. Carter (R)	W	W
6. Hopkins (R)	W	W
7. Perkins (D)	R	R
LOUISIANA		
1. Livingston (R)	W	W
2. Boggs (D)	R	W
3. Treen (R)	A	A
4. Leach (D)	W	W
5. Huckaby (D)	W	W
6. Moore (R)	W	W
7. Breaux (D)	W	PW
8. Long (D)	A	A
MAINE		
1. Emery (R)	W	W
2. Snowe (R)	W	W
MARYLAND		
1. Bauman (R)	W	W
2. Long (D)	R	W
3. Mikulski (D)	R	R
4. Holt (R)	W	W
5. Spellman (D)	R	R
6. Byron (D)	W	W
7. Mitchell (D)	R	R
8. Barnes (D)	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS		
1. Conte (R)	W	W
2. Boland (D)	R	W
3. Early (D)	W	R
4. Drinan (D)	R	R
5. Shannon (D)	R	R
6. Mavroules (D)	R	W
7. Markey (D)	R	R
8. O'Neill (D)	Speaker	
9. Moakley (D)	R	R
10. Heckler (R)	W	R
11. Donnelly (D)	R	R
12. Studds (D)	R	R
MICHIGAN		
1. Conyers (D)	R	R
2. Pursell (R)	R	W
3. Wolpe (D)	R	R
4. Stockman (R)	W	W
5. Sawyer (R)	W	W
6. Carr (D)	R	R
7. Kildee (D)	R	R
8. Traxler (D)	R	W
9. Vander Jagt (R)	W	W
10. Albosta (D)	R	W
11. Davis (R)	W	W
12. Bonior (D)	R	R
13. Diggs (D)	R	PR
14. Nedzi (D)	R	R
15. Ford (D)	A	R
16. Dingell (D)	R	A
17. Brodhead (D)	R	R
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R
19. Broomfield (R)	W	W
MINNESOTA		
1. Erdahl (R)	W	W
2. Hagedorn (R)	W	W
3. Frenzel (R)	W	W
4. Vento (D)	R	R
5. Sabo (D)	R	R
6. Nolan (D)	R	R
7. Stangeland (R)	W	W
8. Oberstar (D)	R	R
MISSISSIPPI		
1. Whitten (D)	R	W
2. Bowen (D)	W	W
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W
4. Hinson (R)	W	W
5. Lott (R)	W	W
MISSOURI		
1. Clay (D)	R	R
2. Young (D)	R	PW
3. Gephardt (D)	R	R
4. Skelton (D)	R	W
5. Bolling (D)	R	W
6. Coleman (R)	W	W
7. Taylor (R)	W	W
8. Ichord (D)	W	W
9. Volkmer (D)	R	R
10. Burlison (D)	R	W
MONTANA		
1. Williams (D)	R	R
2. Marlenee (R)	W	W
NEBRASKA		
1. Bereuter (R)	W	W
2. Cavanaugh (D)	W	R
3. Smith (R)	W	W
NEVADA		
AL Santini (D)	W	W
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
1. D'Amours (D)	R	W
2. Cleveland (R)	W	W
NEW JERSEY		
1. Florio (D)	R	R
2. Hughes (D)	R	R
3. Howard (D)	R	R
4. Thompson (D)	R	R
5. Fenwick (R)	W	W
6. Forsythe (R)	W	W
7. Maguire (D)	R	R
8. Roe (D)	R	R
9. Hollenbeck (R)	W	W
10. Rodino (D)	R	R
11. Minish (D)	R	R
12. Rinaldo (R)	W	W
13. Courter (R)	W	W
14. Guarini (D)	R	R
15. Patten (D)	R	R
NEW MEXICO		
1. Lujan (R)	W	W
2. Runnels (D)	W	W
NEW YORK		
1. Carney (R)	W	W
2. Downey (D)	R	R
3. Ambro (D)	R	W
4. Lent (R)	W	W
5. Wydler (R)	W	W
6. Wolff (D)	R	W
7. Addabbo (D)	R	R
8. Rosenthal (D)	R	R
9. Ferraro (D)	R	R
10. Biaggi (D)	R	R
11. Scheuer (D)	R	R
12. Chisholm (D)	R	R
13. Solarz (D)	R	R
14. Richmond (D)	R	R
15. Zeferetti (D)	R	W
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R
17. Murphy (D)	A	W
18. Green (R)	R	W
19. Rangel (D)	R	R
20. Weiss (D)	R	R
21. Garcia (D)	R	R
22. Bingham (D)	R	R
23. Peyser (D)	R	R
24. Ottinger (D)	R	PR
25. Fish (R)	W	W
26. Gilman (R)	W	W
27. McHugh (D)	R	R
28. Stratton (D)	R	W
29. Solomon (R)	W	W
30. McEwen (R)	W	A
31. Mitchell (R)	W	W
32. Hanley (D)	R	W
33. Lee (R)	W	W
34. Horton (R)	W	A
35. Conable (R)	W	W
36. LaFalce (D)	R	W
37. Nowak (D)	R	R
38. Kemp (R)	W	W
39. Lundine (D)	R	R
NORTH CAROLINA		
1. Jones (D)	R	W
2. Fountain (D)	W	W
3. Whitley (D)	R	W
4. Andrews (D)	R	W
5. Neal (D)	W	W
6. Preyer (D)	R	W
7. Rose (D)	R	W
8. Hefner (D)	W	W
9. Martin (R)	W	W
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W
11. Gudger (D)	R	W
NORTH DAKOTA		
AL Andrews (R)	W	W
OHIO		
1. Gradison (R)	W	W
2. Luken (D)	R	W
3. Hall (D)	R	R
4. Guyer (R)	W	W
5. Latta (R)	W	W
6. Harsha (R)	W	W
7. Brown (R)	PW	PW
8. Kindness (R)	W	W
9. Ashley (D)	R	W
10. Miller (R)	W	W
11. Stanton (R)	W	W
12. Devine (R)	W	W
13. Pease (D)	R	R
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R
15. Wylie (R)	W	W
16. Regula (R)	W	W
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W
18. Applegate (D)	W	W
19. Williams (R)	W	W
20. Oakar (D)	R	R
21. Stokes (D)	R	R
22. Vanik (D)	R	R
23. Mottl (D)	W	R
OKLAHOMA		
1. Jones (D)	R	W
2. Synar (D)	R	W
3. Watkins (D)	W	W
4. Steed (D)	R	W
5. Edwards (R)	W	W
6. English (D)	W	W
OREGON		
1. AuCoin (D)	W	W
2. Ullman (D)	A	W
3. Duncan (D)	R	W
4. Weaver (D)	W	R
PENNSYLVANIA		
1. Myers (D)	R	R
2. Gray (D)	R	R
3. Lederer (D)	R	R
4. Dougherty (R)	W	W
5. Schulze (R)	W	W
6. Yatron (D)	W	W
7. Edgar (D)	A	R
8. Kostmayer (D)	R	R
9. Shuster (R)	W	W
10. McDade (R)	W	W
11. Flood (D)	R	W
12. Murtha (D)	R	W
13. Coughlin (R)	W	W
14. Moorhead (D)	R	W
15. Ritter (R)	W	W
16. Walker (R)	W	W
17. Ertel (D)	W	W
18. Walgren (D)	W	R
19. Goodling (R)	W	W
20. Gaydos (D)	A	A
21. Bailey (D)	W	R
22. Murphy (D)	W	R
23. Clinger (R)	W	W
24. Marks (R)	W	R
25. Atkinson (D)	W	W
RHODE ISLAND		
1. St Germain (D)	R	R
2. Beard (D)	R	R
SOUTH CAROLINA		
1. Davis (D)	A	W
2. Spence (R)	W	W
3. Derrick (D)	R	W
4. Campbell (R)	W	W
5. Holland (D)	R	W
6. Jenrette (D)	R	W
SOUTH DAKOTA		
1. Daschle (D)	R	R
2. Abdnor (R)	PW	A
TENNESSEE		
1. Quillen (R)	W	W
2. Duncan (R)	W	W
3. Bouquard (D)	W	W
4. Gore (D)	R	R
5. Boner (D)	R	R
6. Beard (R)	W	W
7. Jones (D)	W	R
8. Ford (D)	R	R
TEXAS		
1. Hall (D)	R	W
2. Wilson (D)	R	W
3. Collins (R)	W	W
4. Roberts (D)	R	A
5. Mattox (D)	R	W
6. Gramm (D)	R	W
7. Archer (R)	W	W
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	A
9. Brooks (D)	R	W
10. Pickle (D)	R	W
11. Leath (D)	R	W
12. Wright (D)	R	W
13. Hightower (D)	R	W
14. Wyatt (D)	R	W
15. de la Garza (D)	R	W
16. White (D)	R	W
17. Stenholm (D)	R	W
18. Leland (D)	R	R
19. Hance (D)	R	W
20. Gonzalez (D)	R	W
21. Loeffler (R)	W	W
22. Paul (R)	W	W
23. Kazen (D)	R	W
24. Frost (D)	R	R
UTAH		
1. McKay (D)	A	A
2. Marriott (R)	W	W
VERMONT		
AL Jeffords (R)	W	W
VIRGINIA		
1. Trible (R)	W	W
2. Whitehurst (R)	W	W
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W
4. Daniel, Robert (R)	W	W
5. Daniel, Dan (D)	W	W
6. Butler (R)	W	W
7. Robinson (R)	W	W
8. Harris (D)	R	R
9. Wampler (R)	W	W
10. Fisher (D)	R	W
WASHINGTON		
1. Pritchard (R)	W	W
2. Swift (D)	R	W
3. Bonker (D)	R	W
4. McCormack (D)	R	W
5. Foley (D)	R	W
6. Dicks (D)	R	W
7. Lowry (D)	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA		
1. Mollohan (D)	R	W
2. Staggers (D)	R	R
3. Slack (D)	R	W
4. Rahall (D)	R	R
WISCONSIN		
1. Aspin (D)	R	W
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R
3. Baldus (D)	R	W
4. Zablocki (D)	R	W
5. Reuss (D)	R	R
6. Petri (R)	W	W
7. Obey (D)	R	A
8. Roth (R)	W	W
9. Sensenbrenner (R)	W	W
WYOMING		
AL Cheney (R)	W	W

New Program Designed:

65 National Groups Press Health Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

worked with Kennedy's staff to shape the legislative proposal.

To cover health costs only after they have mounted to catastrophic sums would merely add to health care inflation, Kirkland warned.

Catastrophic insurance "means the consumer pays the bills, not the insurance company," Fraser said. He termed control of health costs essential and urged employers to join in support because failure to adopt a comprehensive program would mean that health insurance premiums will take an increasing share of payroll costs just to maintain present levels of benefits.

Kirkland and other speakers expressed regret that the Administration is not supporting a comprehensive bill and, despite a Carter campaign pledge, has only promised to submit sometime this year a first-phase measure without a specific timetable to achieve universal coverage.

While the new Kennedy-Waxman bill would allow the program to be put into effect in stages, it would not require new legislation to carry it through to completion.

Kennedy acknowledged that getting a comprehensive bill through Congress "will be an uphill battle," but he served notice that the health care coalition will not settle for "the lowest common denominator." Kennedy said he will do "everything I can" to defeat a merely token bill.

Waxman, who is chairman of a House Commerce Subcommittee on Health, said he had agreed to take a leading role in the legislative effort because the alternative would be shrinking health coverage as costs continue to soar.

An actuarial study of the probable price tag of the proposed legislation shows costs initially exceeding present spending for health services but soon crossing over and resulting in a net savings.

With all figures in constant dollars, the actuary estimated that if the Kennedy bill were put fully into effect by the 1983 fiscal year, the total spending for covered health services would amount to $211.4 billion as compared with $171.4 billion for lesser services if the legislation were not passed. Of that $40 billion difference, $28.6 billion would be an added cost to the federal budget and the remainder would be in private costs such as insurance premiums.

The cost assumption is based on a premium amounting to between 7 and 8 percent of payrolls.

But after four years, the impact of cost controls would result in total spending of $38 billion less than if no legislation were enacted, the study predicts.

The broad spectrum of support for the measure was reflected in endorsements given at the news conference — from the National Council of Senior Citizens and other major organizations of retired people, from the NAACP and the Urban League, religious bodies and the Farmers Union, and dozens of others who joined in statements of support.

Senators who took part in the launching of the health care campaign included Democrats Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (N.J.), Claiborne Pell (R.I.), Donald W. Riegle, Jr. (Mich.) and Howard M. Metzenbaum (Ohio), along with Republicans Jacob K. Javits (N.Y.) and Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. (Conn.).

House participants included Democrats Andrew Maguire (N.J.) and Mickey Leland (Tex.) from Waxman's subcommittee and William M. Brodhead (Mich.) from the Ways & Means Committee.

Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Joseph A. Califano, Jr. responded to the introduction of the bill with a statement that "President Carter shares with Sen. Kennedy and Congressman Waxman the same ultimate aspiration — a universal comprehensive national health program."

But Califano said the Administration had decided to propose "only a first phase bill" because it didn't think a comprehensive bill could be enacted.

To the groups rallying around the Kennedy-Waxman bill, however, comprehensive and universal health care was clearly a concept whose time had come.

"I believe this legislation is inevitable," Kennedy said.

If the Administration chooses to abandon its commitment, Kirkland said, "we must go our own way."

Plasterers Get Grant To Train 700 Jobless

The Plasterers & Cement Masons will train about 700 jobless and underemployed workers in 22 states to qualify as apprentices under a new $1.1 million Labor Dept. contract.

The program calls for priorities in recruiting for minorities, women and Vietnam-era veterans. The Labor Dept. said minorities will constitute at least 51 percent of the program and women at least 20 percent.

Under previous government contracts totaling $8.8 million, the union has trained 8,700 persons.



FIRST-PLACE WINNERS in the 1979 National Apprentice Contest sponsored by the National Training Fund of the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Industry are, left to right, Thomas R. Lemay of Chicopee, Mass., a first-year apprentice and member of Sheet Metal Workers Local 63; Steve J. Benakovich, San Jose, Calif., Local 309, second year; Charles E. Carlsen, Milwaukee, Local 24, 4th year, and Glenn E. Emenaker, Edwardsburg, Mich., Local 164, third year. They were judged the best of 80 regional contest winners in final competition in Minneapolis.

Court Backs Bargaining On In-Plant Food Prices

(Continued from Page 1)

"The availability of food during working hours and the conditions under which it is to be consumed are matters of deep concern to workers, and one need not strain to consider them to be among those 'conditions' of employment that should be subject to the mutual duty to bargain," the decision said.

The case involved the Ford Motor Co., which had refused to bargain with the UAW over food price increases at its stamping plant in Chicago Heights, Ill. The AFL-CIO filed a brief in support of the union's position in the case.

The Ford plant employs some 3,600 production workers in three shifts. Catering services are provided by ARA Services, Inc. Through the years, workers have expressed their dissatisfaction with the food service. In February and May 1976 they staged a boycott when prices rose 5 to 10 cents an item.

Ford consistently has refused to bargain with the union concerning the prices set by its caterer. The quality of service, however, has been the subject of bargaining. In a 1967 letter of agreement, the company acknowledged "its continuing responsibility for the satisfactory performance of the caterer and for providing the union with a means for registering and expeditious handling of complaints concerned with such performance."

Ford argued that NLRB policy in this area would provoke "endless rounds of negotiations over issues as minor as the price of a cup of coffee or a soft drink." The high court's ruling, which was unanimous, responded, however: "Common sense . . . tells us that even minor increases in the cost of meals can amount to a substantial sum of money over time.

"In any event, we accept the board's view that in-plant food prices and services are conditions of employment and are subject to the duty to bargain."

In its ruling, the court left open the question whether an employer must bargain over a union's position that in-plant food services be supplied where none now exists.

The AFL-CIO brief in support of the UAW stressed that Ford provides the cafeteria and makes the vending machines available as part of its labor relations policy. The company's right to set that policy unilaterally was nullified "when its employees exercised their statutory right to bargain through a representative of their own choosing," the brief pointed out.

Summary of Key Elements In New Health Care Plan

The new Health Care for All Americans bill will include these key provisions:

- Every resident of the United States would be covered and no distinction would be made between persons whose coverage is paid for as an employment benefit and those whose insurance is subsidized by the government.
- Benefits available to everyone would include hospital care without limits or deductibles and full payment for physicians' services and for laboratory tests, X-rays and necessary home services.
- Medicare would be continued for those over 65 with improved benefits including prescription drugs for chronic illness. For low-income persons, Medicaid would be available for certain services not covered by the basic health care program, such as long-term nursing home care.
- Cost controls would be imposed through advance negotiation with hospitals and doctors and the program would be administered by a National Insurance Board with a majority of consumer representatives.
- Several forms of insurance coverage would be available, but all would have to meet at least the federal standards listed above. Each insurer would have to be part of a consortium made up of either private insurance companies, Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans, health maintenance organizations, independent medical practice groups, or self-insured plans such as some that are administered by unions and employers.
- The program would be largely financed by a premium based on a percentage of wages, with individual payments tied to earnings from self-employed persons and persons with substantial non-wage income. The federal government would subsidize the benefits for all others.
- At least 65 percent of the premium for employed persons would be paid by the employer, but through negotiations or mutual agreement the employer could pay the full amount as is commonly the case in job-related health insurance under the present system. If an employer's present health care payments exceed the required premiums, the excess would be applied to other employee benefits.

CWA Voices Concerns on Deregulation

The Communications Workers asked congressional committees involved in rewriting a 45-year-old law to keep in mind the impact of various deregulation proposals on the workers involved.

CWA Sec.-Treas. Louis B. Knecht presented the union's position on successive days to both House and Senate subcommittees that are drafting a national telecommunications policy as part of major amendments to the 1934 Communications Act.

An area of special interest, Knecht said, is the proposed requirement of an arm's-length relationship between the Bell System and Western Electric, the equipment manufacturing arm of AT&T.

"We can see many complex pension entitlement, wage and benefits questions unresolved," Knecht said. The CWA will be offering a number of specific proposals in these areas, he said.

Knecht also expressed concern at the loss of jobs that would result from imported telephone equipment, including telephones sold directly to consumers rather than through the telephone company.

Knecht said some imported telephones have easily removable country-of-origin labeling. "We believe the consumer is best served by knowing where the equipment on the retail store market originates," he said.

The CWA agrees that competition can and should benefit the consumer, Knecht said. But he reminded the congressional panels that the telephone industry is not a matchup of giant AT&T against small business firms. The "actual and potential" competitors, he stressed, are mostly giant conglomerates that dominate other fields.

It would be "discriminatory," he suggested, to legislate special protection for such firms as Exxon, IBM and ITT.

Rail Crafts Win Improved Sick Benefits

Six shopcraft unions have negotiated substantial improvements in supplemental sickness benefits under a national agreement with the railroads.

Employees disabled from work as a result of injury or illness after last Jan. 1 will have their benefits increased according to the following schedule: mechanics, up $200, to $442 a month; helpers, up $161, to $296, and lower-rated employees, up $164, to $230.

Unions covered by the agreement are the four affiliates of the Railway Employees' Dept.—Carmen, Electrical Workers, Firemen-Oilers, and Boilermakers-Blacksmiths — and the Sheet Metal Workers and the Machinists.

$2.5 Billion Slash:

House Votes to Cut All Federal Funding

The House concluded more than two weeks of debate over federal budget ceilings with an across-the-board slash of $2.5 billion that will force cuts in a number of labor-supported programs that were already underfunded.

Earlier, the Senate had done its own hatchet job, and its proposed funding ceilings for people-oriented programs are in many areas even lower than the House voted. This means that the final version shaped by a House-Senate conference committee inevitably will be less than adequate in terms of the AFL-CIO's assessment of the nation's needs.

The House had beaten back a series of meat-axe budget cuts proposed by Republicans. But when Democrat Joseph L. Fisher (Va.) proposed a modest-sounding cut of one-half of 1 percent in all budget categories except mandatory interest payments, the chance to cast a seeming "economy vote" broke Democratic ranks.

House Budget Committee Chairman Robert N. Giaimo (D-Conn.) tried to stem the tide.

"This would be a very brash and harsh reduction," he warned, "$2.5 billion on top of all the reductions which were in the budget when it was sent up to us by the President in January."

It would affect defense and health, Giaimo warned, education, veterans benefits, income security. "In all of these programs we would be hurting people."

But Fisher contended that his proposal amounted to only "a very small meat-axe" and the House approved it, 255-144.

Earlier, a labor-supported attempt to raise budget ceilings so that federal workers would be able to get a "guidelines" 7 percent pay raise instead of the 5.5 percent the Administration wants to impose failed to get enough support to force a rollcall.

After the Fisher amendment was adopted, the House approved the budget by a 220-184 vote with some liberal Democrats joining nearly all Republicans in opposing the measure. The GOP position was that the cuts weren't deep enough.

In overall totals, the House budgeted outlays of more than $529.8 billion as compared with a Senate total of $532.6 billion, which was close to the Administration proposal although the breakdown of program funding differs considerably.

All three budgets use different assumptions as to inflation and revenue to come up with a deficit estimate of $20.8 billion for the House and about $29 billion in the Senate and Administration figures.

This first congressional budget sets spending ceilings for broad categories of programs, leaving some flexibility in division of funds. But in mid-September, Congress will pass a more detailed final budget ceiling which will be binding.

Prompt Ruling Pledged On Test of Guidelines

(Continued from Page 1)

stick, Assistant Atty. Gen. Barbara Babcock observed, the program says, "I may not give you a carrot." Parker suggested that the only difference was, "I'll hit you with a steel rod, or I'll hit you with a 2-by-4."

As the oral arguments were heard, leaders of the striking Rubber Workers, including President Peter Bommarito, filled the federal court room. The URW struck 12 plants of Uniroyal Inc. across the country on May 9 after the parties were unable to reach an agreement on a new contract complicated by the government's guidelines.

Bommarito has accused Uniroyal of reneging on a tentative accord Apr. 18 after top Administration officials threatened to withhold federal contracts from the company if it did not keep its settlement within the guidelines.

Under the Administration's anti-inflation program announced last October, employers are asked to hold wage settlements to 7 percent annually and to limit price increases to half a percentage point below their 1976-77 average increase.

In asking the court to declare the Administration's program unlawful, the AFL-CIO charged that Congress intended that the government should "get out of the business of controlling wages and prices." This was clearly implied five years ago when Congress refused to extend the Economic Stabilization Act, which had granted the Nixon Administration broad powers to set mandatory controls, the AFL-CIO observed.

The government denied that the guidelines are mandatory and insisted that denial of government contracts to firms that exceed them "does not alter the voluntary nature" of the guidelines. The Administration also contended that the withholding of contracts is authorized by the Procurement Act of 1949 requiring the government to strive for "efficiency" and "economy" in its procurement policies.

In its brief, the AFL-CIO observed that "if we are correct in our understanding of the meaning of Congress's rejection of 'mandatory' controls, the government's argument from the Procurement Act, as well as its reading of the COWPS Act, fails."

Section 3(b) of the COWPS Act provides that "nothing in this act . . . authorizes the continuation, imposition, or reimposition of any mandatory economic controls with respect to prices, rents, wages, salaries, corporate dividends, or any similar transfers."

5/19/79

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.



JOSEPH A. BEIRNE Community Service Award of the United Way of America is presented to President Glenn E. Watts of the Communications Workers by John W. Hanley, right, UWA board chairman, and William Aramony, center, UWA national executive. Beirne, late president of the CWA, was active in the United Way for a number of years.

Oil Tax Plan Called 'License to Profiteer'

(Continued from Page 1)

The oil companies have already profited hugely despite controls, Young stressed, and it would be a further "ripoff of the American worker and his family" to invite further unjustified price rises.

Young testified as part of a panel that included representatives of the Consumer Federation of America, the UAW and the National Council of Senior Citizens.

At the Ways & Means Committee hearings, Oswald protested the Administration assumption that "Americans must be punished at the gas pump and in their furnace in order to reduce consumption."

The token windfall profits tax the Administration proposes, he testified, amounts to "nothing more than a license fee for the privilege of profiteering."

Under the Administration's proposal, he noted, the windfall profits tax would be considered as a deductible business expense which the oil companies could use to reduce their ordinary income tax liability.

Over a seven-year period, he told the committee, the net windfall revenue the oil companies would receive from decontrol would amount to more than $20.7 billion. And that would be after payment of both regular taxes and the proposed windfall tax.

If the committee confines itself only to the oil windfall tax issue, Oswald said, the "most reasonable" of the proposals is the one advanced by three of the committee members—William R. Cotter (D-Conn.), Raymond F. Lederer (D-Pa.) and James M. Shannon (D-Mass.). Their plan would recoup substantially more of the decontrol profits than the Administration bill.

Oswald also urged the committee to carry out the mandate of the full House of Representatives by abolishing a special tax loophole that allows oil companies to charge off royalties paid to foreign countries as credits against taxes owed to the United States, instead of counting them as ordinary business expenses that can be deducted from taxable income.

The House a week earlier overwhelmingly adopted an amendment to its budget resolution that assumes added revenues from repeal of the foreign tax credit.

Both Oswald and Young stressed repeatedly the AFL-CIO's emphasis on the need for continued controls on oil prices.

"Consumers are being sidetracked into a scrimmage on the windfall tax proposal when the real issue is to maintain control over oil," Young testified. He warned that "it would be a mistake to ignore the ever-increasing outrage of American workers and their families over decontrol and its effect on their pocketbooks."

Washington's Joe Davis On Jobless Aid Council

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall has appointed President Joe Davis of the Washington State AFL-CIO as an employee representative on the 15-member Federal Advisory Council on Unemployment Insurance.

Other employee members are Wilbur Daniels, executive vice president of the Ladies' Garment Workers; Robert M. McGlotten, legislative representative of the AFL-CIO; Ken Morris, regional director of the UAW, and David A. Sweency, legislative and political director of the Teamsters.

Executive Pay Soared 16.7% During 1978

America's top corporate executives received handsome salaries and other compensations for their services last year.

Business Week magazine's annual survey of executive compensation found that direct executive pay rose an average of 16.7 percent in 1978, compared to 12.7 percent in 1977. The percentage comparisons are not directly comparable because of the Securities & Exchange Commission's new reporting rules, the magazine noted.

Still, executive income soared in 1978, boosted from the exercise of stock options and from appreciation rights — payments which reflect the appreciation of a company's stock price and which are granted in lieu of exercising a stock option.

"In some cases, such payments more than doubled an executive's base pay," Business Week observed. "Executives also benefited from newly created performance unit plans, a form of incentive compensation that provides executives with cash or stock awards for attaining corporate profit goals."

Six of the 25 highest paid executives worked for either Ford or General Motors. Henry Ford II, the 10th highest paid executive, received $1,056,000 in salary and bonus last year. However, high incomes from exercised stock options and other non-salary compensation pushed a number of executives ahead of Ford.

The biggest gain on stock appreciation rights—$1.2 million—was realized by David Mahoney, chairman of Norton Simon. Mahoney's total compensation was $2,307,000, making him the highest paid executive in the country.

Archie R. McCardell, president of International Harvester, was the second-highest with a total of $1,907,000. When he was recruited from Xerox in 1977, McCardell received a bonus of $1.5 million.

Others in the top 10 were Harry J. Gray, chairman of United Technologies, $1,683,000; T. A. Wilson, chairman of Boeing, $1,227,000; M. T. Stamper, president of Boeing, $1,215,000; Willard F. Rockwell, Jr., chairman of Rockwell International, $1,165,000; Edwin A. Gee, president of International Paper, $1,109,000; Elton H. Rule, president of American Broadcasting, $1,107,000, and William A. Marquard, president of American Standard, $1,099,000.

Maine Legislature Kills 'Right-to-Work' Proposals

Augusta, Me.—The Maine legislature decisively defeated a "right-to-work" bill that would have banned union shop agreements in the state.

The House voted 85-59 against the anti-union bill, and the Senate followed suit the next day with a 21-9 vote.

Earlier, a joint legislative committee had recommended disapproval of the measure after a hearing held in a large auditorium at the state capital to accommodate some 4,000 union members from all parts of the state. Their presence was credited as a major factor in offsetting a right-wing drive spurred by the National Right to Work Committee which had made Maine a target state.

On the rollcalls, the House majority against banning the union shop was made up of 64 Democrats, 20 Republicans and one independent. Voting for "right-to-work" were 50 Republicans and nine Democrats.

In the Senate, 12 Democrats, eight Republicans and one independent opposed "right-to-work," while nine Republicans voted for the anti-union bill.

Maine had rebuffed three previous attempts to ban the union shop, the last in 1963.

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Corporate Profits Up 35 Percent

Official government figures on first-quarter earnings confirm what private surveys had forecast—profits are booming for America's big corporations despite a slowing trend in the economy.

The Commerce Dept. reported that after-tax corporate profits jumped 5.7 percent to a seasonally adjusted $137.9 billion annual rate between the fourth quarter of last year and the first three months of 1979.

On a year-to-year basis, the profits rise was 35.1 percent—the largest such gain since a 43 percent rise in the second quarter of 1976. Much of the boost was attributed to inventory profits, the Commerce Dept. said in releasing the figures.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said the huge earnings increase shows that companies are "protecting themselves against future problems by raising prices rapidly so they can make big profits on their inventories."

The sharp first-quarter increase in profits followed a steep earnings advance in the fourth quarter of 1978. After-tax profits in the October-December period climbed 25.2 percent higher than the similar quarter a year earlier.

AFL-CIO President George Meany called the fourth-quarter profits jump "the grossest demonstration of profit-gouging since the opening days of the Korean War."

Financial analysts say that further increases in earnings are expected in the current quarter.

Among those industries profiting most in the January-March period were the mining and non-ferrous metal companies. Also benefiting were farm equipment manufacturers, railroads, pulp and paper companies, petroleum firms, and the auto makers.

Meanwhile, the nation's economy grew more slowly than originally estimated during the first quarter of this year, the Commerce Dept. said in its report. Real gross national product—the nation's output of goods and services adjusted for inflation—increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of only four-tenths of 1 percent, instead of seven-tenths of 1 percent reported earlier. Real GNP stood at an annual rate of $1.416 trillion during the quarter, down $1 billion from the initial estimate.

In the fourth quarter of 1978,

(Continued on Page 8)

House Democrats Oppose Carter Oil Decontrol Plan

Meany Asks Aid to UFW On Boycott

AFL-CIO President George Meany called on all union members to fully support the boycott of non-union iceberg lettuce by the Farm Workers.

In a letter to all affiliated unions, state federations and local central bodies, Meany also urged financial contributions to the UFW. The striking farm workers are seeking "a living wage," he said, and they "badly need all the support they can get."

He asked union families to "not only refuse to buy the lettuce being shipped by strikebreakers working behind UFW picket lines" but to also "do all they can to encourage others to join in the boycott." The boycott was endorsed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its meeting on May 8.

The council charged that California's growers are importing illegal aliens to try to break the strike, and are clearly intent on destroying the UFW.

"The American trade union movement will not permit that to happen," the council declared.

UFW President Cesar Chavez "reports that the strikers are waging their battle courageously," Meany said, but "their need is great. I have every confidence that the American trade union movement will once again help, as quickly as possible for as long as may be necessary."

Contributions can be sent to the UFW at P.O. Box 62, Keene, Calif. 93531.



THIS IS THE BUTTON that AFL-CIO Price Watch volunteers are wearing as they make their rounds of retail outlets in an effort to uncover excessive price hikes as well as skyrocketing rents, doctors' fees and other mounting charges. **(Story, Page 6.)**

Resistance Growing to Price Hike

The House Democratic caucus, reflecting growing grass-roots opposition to President Carter's plan to decontrol domestic crude oil prices, voted by a 2 to 1 margin to favor continuation of oil price controls at least through 1981.

By a vote of 138 to 69, the House Democrats approved a resolution by Rep. Toby Moffett (D-Conn.) declaring it to be their policy that the controls should be continued and enforced.

The caucus vote was a stinging rebuff to the President who had made decontrol the centerpiece of his latest energy program. And it was a clear sign of a growing response in Congress to the public's anger and concern over higher prices for gasoline and heating oil, long lines at gas stations, and soaring profits for the major oil companies.

The resolution is not binding. It simply expresses the sentiment of the party caucus. To maintain the present system of controls past June 1, the date that Carter proposes to start phasing them out, both the House and the Senate would have to enact legislation to continue controls.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young, in letters to Democratic House members urging support of the Moffett resolution, pointed out that this year alone Americans have watched the pump price of gasoline jump at an annual rate of 23 percent and heating oil costs go up almost 30 percent.

"Construction workers and those of our members in other industries forced to drive long distances to work are deeply concerned about any new soaring energy costs,"

(Continued on Page 7)

House Wins Compromise:

Congress Approves Pared-Down Budget

Congress completed action on the 1980 budget resolution after a brief fight by House liberals partially restored funds for education and training cut in a House-Senate conference report.

By votes of 202 to 196 in the House and 72 to 17 in the Senate, action on the target budget was completed two weeks behind schedule and Congress can now begin consideration of authorization and appropriation bills for specific programs and agencies.

A second and binding budget resolution must be adopted by Sept. 30 that will spell out expenditures and revenue totals.

The first conference report was rejected 260-144 in the House in response to a move by Rep. David R. Obey (D-Wis.) and supported by the Democratic Study Group. The report added $1.9 billion for defense purposes while cutting $1.8 billion in education and training programs.

In new talks with Senate conferees $350 million was added to the conference report for education programs; the defense spending was left unchanged.

Obey, supporting the compromise, said it would allow funding of education programs and make "real choices to spend real dollars."

Prior to the first vote, the AFL-CIO called on House members to reject the conference report so it could go back to conference for further negotiations. The conference report, said a letter from Legislative Director Kenneth Young, is "unacceptable" because of the $1.8 billion slash in budget authority and over $800 million in outlays covering education, training, employment and social services.

"Such a drastic cut, the deepest cut in budget authority in any of the 19 functions, will force discretionary 'human needs' programs to compete against each other for inadequate funds," Young said.

The defeat of the conference report further delayed the congressional budget process already two weeks behind schedule. The process calls for the first resolution on the 1980 fiscal year budget to be completed by May 15.

The differing budget resolutions that emerged from the House and Senate were well below the amounts backed by the AFL-CIO and liberal

(Continued on Page 8)

Labor-Backed Party Gains Seats in Canada

Ottawa—Canadian labor hailed the results of the Canadian elections as achieving two of its major objectives, "to beat the Liberal government and strengthen the New Democratic Party."

Dennis McDermott, president of the Canadian Labor Congress, also said the elections helped the labor movement "become a closer-knit community" because of its hard work on behalf of the NDP, which increased its seats in Parliament from 16 to 26.

The NDP was left in a strong position as the Conservative Party won 136 seats, six short of a majority, and the Liberal Party fell from 141 to 114.

That means Canada will soon have its youngest prime minister in history — 39-year-old conservative Joe Clark.

The good news for organized labor was fashioned on a strong NDP campaign led by Ed Broadbent, a 43-year-old economist and former professor who has led the party since 1975.

The NDP had unprecedented support from the CLC and many of its affiliated unions, which organized telephone calls at the local level to rank-and-file members.

McDermott said the NDP campaign "pulled workers into the decision-making process of the country." But he was disappointed with the results in the industrial province of Ontario where the NDP dropped one seat.

At dissolution of the last Parliament, the Liberals held a clear ma-

(Continued on Page 2)

Oil Union Asks Probe Of Crude Supply Status

Denver—The Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers called for a congressional investigation to determine the true status of the nation's available crude oil supplies and gasoline shortages.

OCAW President A. F. Grospiron cited a study showing discrepancies between estimates made by the industry and the Dept. of Energy. For the year 1978, the supply of domestic and imported crude oil, minus amounts supplied to refineries, grew by 69 million barrels, the study showed. The DOE reported a decline of 25 million barrels in crude oil stocks for the year.

Part of the discrepancy is explained by the diversion of nearly 56 million barrels of crude oil into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) stocks, Grospiron noted. But between the 69 million barrels calculated from American Petroleum Institute figures and the decline of 25 million barrels reported by the Dept. of Energy, there is an amount of 94 million barrels to be accounted for, he pointed out.

(Continued on Page 7)



LEAGUE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY's annual award was presented this year to President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers for his commitment to democracy "at the work place, in the economic sphere, and in race relations." Turner, left, received the award from Executive Director Benjamin Hooks of the NAACP. League President Thomas R. Brooks is at right.

Turner Assails Media On Bias Against Labor

New York—A strong anti-labor bias within the mass media continues to seriously distort coverage of labor news, President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers told the annual luncheon of the League for Industrial Democracy.

Turner said the mass media has been "a consistent enemy of the labor movement." He charged that media dependence on advertising from anti-union companies like J. P. Stevens and Winn-Dixie has led many broadcasters and newspapers to ignore or distort labor's point of view.

In many instances, Turner declared, liberal and pro-labor positions "are being deliberately shut off." As evidence, he cited the refusal by U.S. News & World Report to publish a paid advertisement supporting labor law reform.

Citing the "great concentrated power" of the mass media, Turner called for the enforcement of antitrust laws within the industry. He said the broadest media, particularly, must reflect a greater variety of opinions, because "the airwaves belong to all the people."

Turner also complained about growing corporate domination of public television.

"Public broadcasting must serve all the people, not just corporations and conglomerates," he said.

Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to the AFL-CIO President, told a pre-luncheon meeting of league members that increased corporate attacks on unions are "an obvious demonstration of the fact that the business community does not accept the legitimacy of the trade union movement."

Pointing to the growth of union-busting firms and the creation of the business-supported Council for a Union-Free Environment, Donahue charged that corporations and right-wing politicians want "to weaken and destroy" the labor movement.

The attack on labor, he noted, also includes efforts to undermine the minimum wage, fair labor standards, health and safety provisions, and the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law.

"These attacks," Donahue declared, "are part of a clear employer strategy that keeps us on the defensive." Despite the difficulties that lie ahead, however, he predicted that labor will beat back attacks on Davis-Bacon and continue to score gains on the organizing front.

Several union organizers told the league meeting of recent organizing successes among metal, retail, educational and public employees.

The league, a group dedicated to promoting trade unionism and democratic values, presented Turner with its annual award in recognition of his commitment to democracy "at the workplace, in the economic sphere, in race relations."

NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks presented the award to Turner.

Other speakers at the conference sessions included Deputy Director Donald Slaiman and Assistant to the Director Charles McDonald of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, Assistant Organizing Director Philip Kugler of the Teachers, Professor Thomas Kuhn of Columbia University, and Robert Merry, labor reporter for the Wall Street Journal.

Rubber Union Set to Resume Uniroyal Talks

Akron, Ohio — The Rubber Workers agreed to resume contract talks with Uniroyal Inc. here on May 29, the first scheduled negotiations since the union struck the company on May 9.

The strike, which involves about 8,200 employees at 12 Uniroyal plants around the country, followed charges by URW President Peter Bommarito that the company reneged on an agreement to replace a contract that expired on Apr. 20.

Bommarito, who accused the Carter Administration of pressuring Uniroyal to keep its settlement within the President's wage guidelines or lose out on federal contracts, will head the union's negotiating team. The URW has made Uniroyal the lead company in its current round of bargaining with the tiremaking industry.

Meanwhile, a ruling in the suit by the union and the AFL-CIO challenging the Administration's legal authority to threaten to deny federal contracts to companies that exceed its wage guideline was expected soon.

The action, supported by the AFL-CIO, was brought in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Judge Barrington Parker promised to rule in the case "as expeditiously as possible."

Federationist Article Says:

Balanced Budget Convention Based on Fallacies, Myths

The present push for a constitutional convention to balance the federal budget is the product of several badly mistaken ideas, Gus Tyler, assistant president of the Ladies' Garment Workers, points out in an article in the American Federationist.

One is that it would lower taxes; actually, a balanced budget could increase them, Tyler notes in the AFL-CIO monthly publication. Another is that federal deficits add to inflation; in fact, Tyler says, the deficits are more logically the result than the cause of inflation.

Also, those calling for a constitutional convention imply that the federal debt is getting worse when it has actually shrunk steadily since World War II as a percentage of gross national product, the author observes. In recent years, he adds, the debt of corporations, state governments, and U.S. consumers has each grown much faster than the federal government's.

Finally, even if a federal budget limit were a good idea—which Tyler says it clearly is not—a constitutional convention would still be a highly questionable way of going about it.

"The problem is not that taxes are too high, but that they are too high for some because they are too low for others," Tyler charges. "A proper cure for this disorder would be tax reform that lifts some of the burden from America's middle class of wage and salaried people and imposes more of the burden on the rich who live on 'unearned' income."

Fearing just such an eventuality, the wealthy have mounted a campaign to convince the nation that taxes in general are too high for everyone. This myth was the basis for passage of Proposition 13 in California last year, and is the basis for the present drive for a constitutional convention to mandate a balanced budget, Tyler points out.

"A budget can be balanced in one of two ways: either by reduced spending or by increased taxes. If at some future time the President and Congress are not allowed to borrow, they will have to raise taxes to make ends meet," Tyler observes. "Hence, a balanced budget can mean higher as well as lower taxes."

Equally fallacious is the argument that federal deficits add inflationary pressures to the economy, he notes. The evidence offered by the conservatives is that in years when the federal deficit has run high, inflation ran high.

"Actually, this seemingly irrefutable proof is no proof at all, because a tracing of U.S. budget deficits shows they are more likely the result of wars and recessions," Tyler observes. "Inflation may cause a deficit, but not vice versa."

Nor does the argument that the national debt is growing at a dangerous rate and will break the government's back hold water, Tyler adds. There has been a downward trend in the national debt ever since the end of World War II.

In 1946, the debt was 132.8 percent of GNP; by 1962, it was 55 percent; by 1965, 48 percent; by 1976, it was down to 37 percent, and this year, the debt is 28.4 percent of GNP. Meanwhile, state and local, corporate and private consumer debt grew far more rapidly over the same time span.

"The truth of the matter is that debt is a way of life not only in America but in every free enterprise (capitalist) country in the world," Tyler points out. The reasons, he adds, are pragmatically obvious and theoretically understandable.

Most homeowners in America, for instance, would own no home if they had to pay cash for the purchase. Mortgage indebtedness from 1940 to 1976 rose 24 times over, about twice as fast as the federal debt.

Since the New Deal days of Franklin Roosevelt, crises such as recessions have been warded off with the weapon of deficit financing. What happens in the future—assuming a budget-balancing constitutional amendment is on the books—if we are hit by some new crisis, Tyler asks.

The mischief that such an amendment would work is compounded by the method through which it is proposed to enact the change in the Constitution, namely by calling a constitutional convention, Tyler says.

If a convention is called, nobody really knows who would convene it, what the scope of its agenda would be, how delegates would be apportioned among the states, or who would elect the delegates, he points out.

"The delegates may convene to discuss budgets but are likely to end by proposing a variety of pet proposals presently circulating among those who are unhappy with the behavior of Congress, and who would like to bypass the legislature," says Tyler.

Illinois Labor Elects Gibson As President

Chicago — Robert G. Gibson, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois AFL-CIO, has been elected president of the state federation to fill the unexpired term of Stanley L. Johnson who retired.

Gibson, 51, a Chicago Steelworker, has served as secretary-treasurer since 1963.

To succeed Gibson, the executive board elected Harl H. Ray, 61, of Champaign as secretary-treasurer. Ray, a member of the Operating Engineers, is chairman of state COPE; he served for 6 years as president of the Champaign-Urbana Federation of Labor.

Gibson and Ray were elected to terms that expire Mar. 31, 1980.

Johnson, 73, has served as president of the Illinois AFL-CIO since 1970 after 11 years service as executive vice president. The board named him president-emeritus. He is a member of the Carpenters.

Labor-Backed NDP Gains Seats As Canadians Vote Out Liberals

(Continued from Page 1)

jority with 141 seats, the Conservatives had 95, the NDP 16, the right-wing Social Credit Party, 11, and one independent.

A new electoral map, in effect for the 1979 election, raised the number of seats to 282 from 264. The Social Credit Party will have six seats in the new Parliament.

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said after the election he would recommend to Governor-General Edward Schryer that he ask Clark to form a government. But how long the conservatives remain in power depends on how Clark puts his coalition together, and possibly even on recounts that could change the exact count. As it stands, the majority could be formed from coalition with the NDP or the Social Credit Party.

The Liberals had been in power since 1963, winning five consecutive elections since then. Trudeau, 59, had been party leader and Prime Minister since 1968.

The 1979 results show that many Canadians shared organized labor's view that the liberal government had mismanaged the economy, but union leaders were disappointed that more of the protest votes did not go to the NDP.

The record of the Liberal government gave reason for discontent: a slow-growth economy, a falling dollar, high unemployment and rapid inflation.

Organized labor has little reason for optimism about a Conservative government. The Conservatives campaigned in 1974 on a platform of wage controls.

That year, Trudeau was reelected by opposing controls during the election campaign, but he imposed them a year later.

He also promised his anti-inflation program would reduce the inflation rate, then more than 10 percent, to 4 percent by 1978. Instead, the rate was at 9.2 percent in 1978 and running close to 10 percent since.

While the anti-inflation program failed to curb prices and corporate profits, it did control wage increases strictly, and workers saw their earnings fall steadily behind cost-of-living increases.

The Liberals also imposed heavy restraints on public service pay increases, reduced the size of the federal public service and cut back on spending on social services.

They also made it harder for workers to get unemployment insurance, and decreased the weekly payments for eligible unemployed workers.

The Conservative members of the last Parliament voted with the Liberals to adopt those repressive measures, which only the NDP opposed.

The Liberals reduced the size of the federal public service by 5,000 jobs last year. During the election campaign, however, the Conservatives promised to outdo the Liberals and cut 60,000 more federal jobs.

The last minority government was a Liberal one during the 1972-74 period, and the NDP balance of power was instrumental in bringing about progressive legislation, including the indexing of old-age pensions to the consumer price index and personal income tax exemptions.

Vote Dues Increase:

Insurance Workers Back Merger Talks

Kiamesha Lake, N.Y.—The 11th biennial convention of the Insurance Workers International Union took a positive view of current merger talks with the Office & Professional Employees but at the same time opted to intensify the union's organizing efforts.

The 400 delegates also re-elected President Joseph Pollack to his second full term against token opposition, 342 to 46, and filled the union's other four full-time offices with candidates new to their positions, though no incumbents were defeated.

The latter situation became possible because one vice president resigned and another died during the three months prior to the convention, and Charles G. Heisel, secretary-treasurer for 14 years, was ineligible to run because of a constitutional age ceiling.

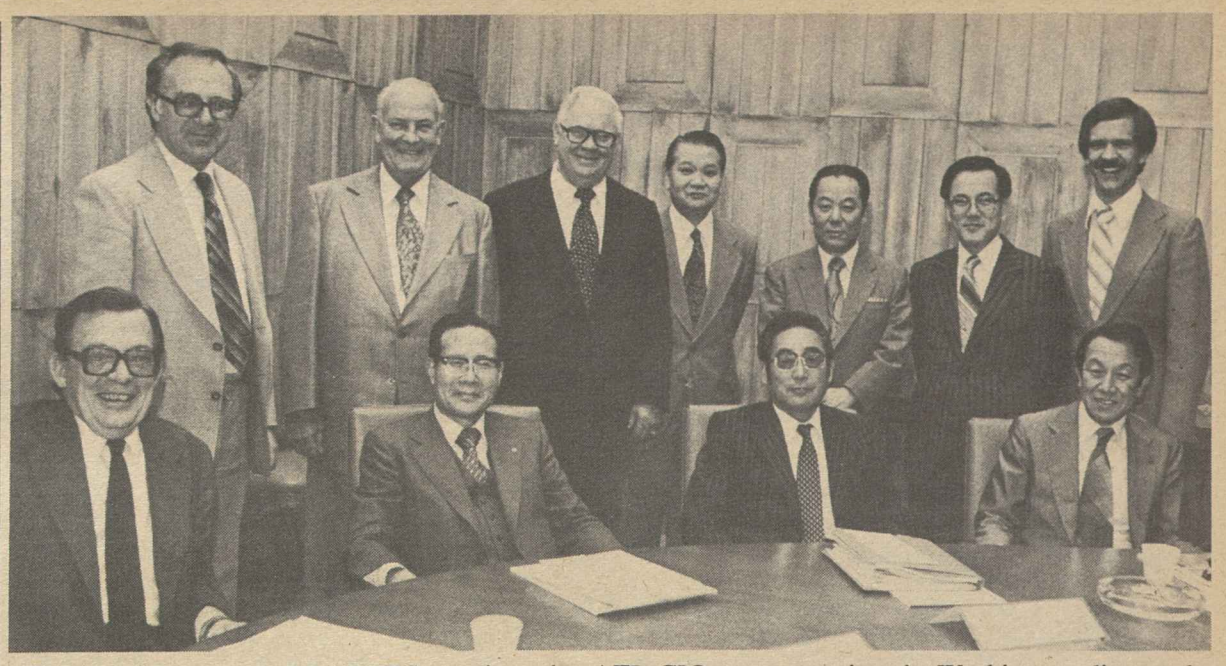
Nicholas M. Rongione, the remaining vice president, was elected secretary-treasurer without opposition. The new vice presidents, chosen at-large by rollcall vote, are Lawrence Pellegrini, veteran administrative staff member at IWIU's Washington headquarters, 265 votes; Andre B. Henault, Woonsocket, R.I., 245, and Pat McGrogan, Pittsburgh, 238. The latter two were members of the union's general executive board. A fourth candidate, Frank H. Zaruba, president of the New York local and also a GEB member, received 187 votes. The 14 GEB members are chosen by area caucuses after the election of officers.

Merger discussions between IWIU and the Office & Professional Workers began on a tentative basis late last year after the GEB directed Pollack to explore merger possibilities. The convention resolution on merger noted that the IWIU committee "to date has not run into any insurmountable problems." Under present economic conditions "our union must explore every option to improve the strength and position of the union and its membership," it went on. Therefore the convention "encourages the continuation of merger talks with the OPEIU," noting that any actual agreement must be laid before an IWIU convention.

Monthly dues were increased by $2, for a total of $9.50. Of the increase $1.25 went to per capita, which is now $6, although locals are rebated 80 cents if they assume certain responsibilities. The president's salary was raised $3,000 to $25,000, secretary-treasurer $2,000 to $23,000 and vice presidents $1,000 to $21,000.

Discussion of the dues raise, and a resolution on organizing, focused on measures to step up recruitment. The IWIU already signs 5,000 new members a year to keep pace with turnover.

Howard Coughlin, OPEIU president, was a guest speaker on opening day. Kenneth Young, AFL-CIO legislative director and a former IWIU staffer, and Daniel J. Foley, majority leader of the Massachusetts state senate and one-time member of the IWIU executive board, were other platform guests.



JAPANESE LABOR LEADERS meeting with AFL-CIO representatives in Washington discussed a number of matters of mutual interest. Seated with Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland are Domei officials Seiji Amaike, Yoshikazu Tanaka, and Koichiro Hashimoto. Standing are Research Director Rudy Oswald, AFL-CIO Vice Presidents Martin Ward and J. C. Turner, Masao Aihara, Masao Uenishi, and International Affairs Rep. James Ellenberger.

Rail Clerks Tie Dues to Wages, Re-elect Kroll, All Top Officers

Toronto—Delegates to the Railway & Airline Clerks convention approved a restructuring of membership dues and per capita payments keyed to the average hourly wage in the railroad industry. The 700 convention delegates also re-elected BRAC's top officers without opposition to new four-year terms.

Beginning July 1, the union's minimum dues will be 2.25 times the average railroad wage of $8.57 an hour, raising the minimum from $15.50 to $18.28 per month.

The convention's action will also increase the monthly per capita to the international from $6.10 to $7.60, and the per capita to system divisions from $5.90 to $7.35 a month. Effective Apr. 1, 1981, the international's per capita will be 39.4 percent of the minimum dues, with 38.1 percent going to the divisions and 22.5 percent retained by BRAC locals.

Starting April 1981 the minimum dues rate will be readjusted annually, based on the average hourly wage the previous December. The dues for associate members and BRAC retirees will remain at $1.50 a month.

Fred J. Kroll, who took over as BRAC president two and one-half years ago when C. L. Dennis stepped down, was elected to a full term that expires in August 1983. Also re-elected by acclamation were Sec.-Treas. Don A. Bobo, 11 vice presidents, three assistant vice presidents and eight of the nine members of the board of trustees. Elected to fill a vacancy on the board was William J. VanKleek of the Mid-Continent System board.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, in a speech to the convention, made a plea for labor cooperation in the Carter Administration's efforts to improve workers' protections and benefits, and to correct "the mess that eight years of Republican Administrations left behind."

Marshall said that the same forces which blocked passage of labor law reform are pressing for repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act. The campaign to dump the prevailing wage law has "become a Republican priority," he charged.

Marshall also maintained that the Administration's wage-price guidelines policy is a cautious and moderate effort to curb inflation.

"I'm not going to tell you that it's worked fine," he conceded, adding that "it will take years of self-restraint and patience. We must stick to our program."

President Dennis McDermott of the Canadian Labor Congress cited strange similarities between Prime Minister Trudeau's and President Carter's economic programs—both unfair to workers.

McDermott said it was vital for wage earners that the New Democratic Party make a strong showing in the May 22 elections. Speaking a week before the elections, he noted that when the NDP held the balance of power in the past between the Liberals and Conservatives, progressive legislation was enacted by the House of Commons.

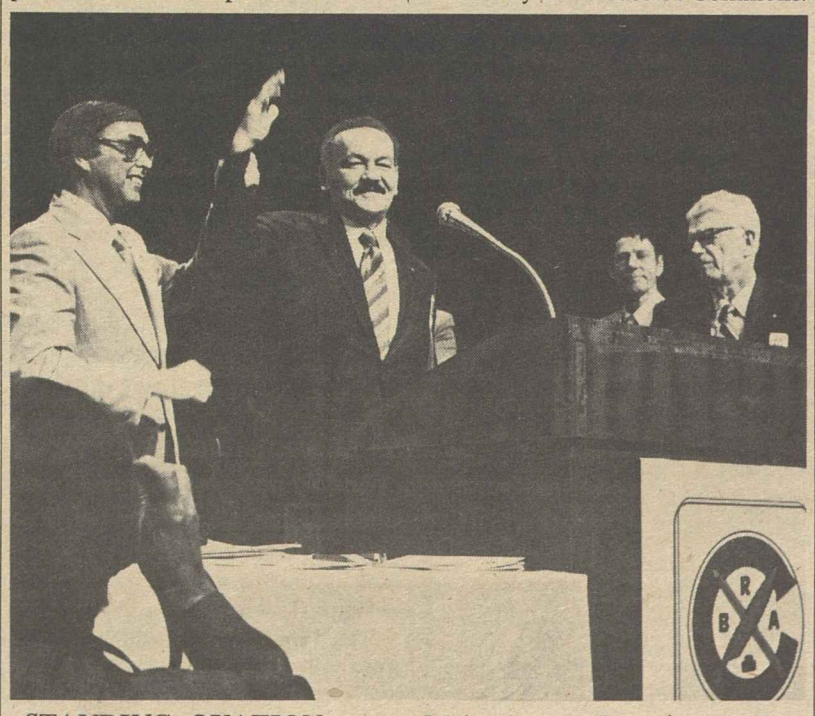
A featured guest of the convention was Donald U'Ren, the Malaysian labor leader who was released from prison in April along with 23 other trade union leaders after two months of confinement. They had been imprisoned for calling a strike against the government-owned airline.

U'Ren, who also is the Asian representative of the International Transport Workers Federation, credited the release of the strikers to the support and cooperation of trade unions throughout the world. The AFL-CIO and BRAC took a leading role in calling for his release.

"International solidarity through the ITF will go a long way toward achieving human dignity for all," he told delegates.

One day of the week-long convention was devoted to two special workshops on economics and health care. The session on "Inflation, Collective Bargaining and Wage Controls" was chaired by Executive Director Fred Hoehler of the George Meany Center for Labor Studies with Prof. Sid Ingerman of Montreal's McGill University and Prof. Robert Lekachman of City University of New York serving as panelists.

The workshop on National Health Insurance was chaired by AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis. Max Fine, executive director of the Committee for National Health Insurance, and Prof. Lee Soderstrom of McGill University were panelists.



STANDING OVATION greets Malaysian trade union leader Donald U'Ren at the Railway & Airline Clerks convention in Toronto as he is introduced by BRAC President Fred J. Kroll. U'Ren had been jailed along with 23 other Malaysian trade unionists for leading a strike against the government-owned airline.

DuChessi Dies at 64, Textile Union Pioneer

William M. DuChessi, executive vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, died of cancer May 19 at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

DuChessi, 64, served as ACTWU's legislative and political education director and assistant director of the textile division. He was a long-time member of the AFL-CIO's COPE Operating Committee, the Industrial Union Dept.'s executive board and the League for Industrial Democracy executive board.

In a message to DuChessi's wife, Shirley, Federation President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said they were deeply grieved by his death.

"He was a strong and resourceful trade union leader, a gallant fighter for the rights and welfare of his fellow citizens and a dear friend whose counsel we respected and whose companionship we prized," Meany and Kirkland said.

DuChessi began working in a carpet factory at age 14 in the late 1920s in his native Amsterdam, N.Y. He became active in trade union affairs in 1937 when the CIO's Textile Workers Organizing Committee initiated a campaign at the plant.

He later joined the TWOC organizing staff, working in upstate New York and continued to serve as an organizer after the Textile Workers Union of America was formed in 1939.

Following service in the U.S. Navy during World War II he served as a county joint board manager in New York, and in 1948 he became director of TWUA's Maryland and West Virginia region. He was assistant director of the union's Upper South region from 1948 until 1955, when he became director of the carpet division.

In 1956 DuChessi was elected a vice president and a member of the union's executive council and was appointed its COPE director. He was deeply involved in labor political action programs throughout his trade union career.

DuChessi took on the added role of the TWUA legislative director in 1963. He was elected secretary-treasurer in 1972 and held that position until the TWUA merged with the Clothing Workers in 1976 when he was elected executive vice president of ACTWU.

N.Y. Taxi Local Shifts to SEIU

New York—The New York City Taxi Drivers union, for many years a directly affiliated local of the AFL-CIO, is now Local 3036 of the Service Employes.

The transfer of the 11,000-member unit to the SEIU was completed last month following a membership vote late in 1978 approving the change in affiliation.

The Taxi Drivers local was chartered in June 1966 after it was organized under the direction of New York City Central Labor Union President Harry Van Arsdale, Jr. At the time of its joining the SEIU its president was Ben Goldberg; Van Arsdale was president-emeritus. AFL-CIO Regional Director Michael Mann helped guide the negotiations on the changeover.

5 Labor Leaders Elected by MDA

San Francisco — The Muscular Dystrophy Association re-elected three AFL-CIO leaders to its national board of directors.

The three are Firefighters President William H. McClennan, President Frederick O'Neal of the Associated Actors & Artistes of America and Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany. Donahue, McClennan, and O'Neal were also re-elected corporate members of the association, as was Meany.

Retail Clerks President William H. Wynn was also re-elected an MDA corporate member, and Letter Carriers President Vincent Sombrotto was elected a national vice president of the organization.

Productivity and Bargaining

WORKERS IN U.S. MANUFACTURING each produced an average of $32,000 worth of goods and services in 1978. That's about twice as much as was produced by each worker in 1950 in dollars corrected for inflation.

Understanding why workers produce more can lead to policies which help to raise living standards. But "increased productivity" is all too often a catch phrase and excuse for a variety of attacks on unions, laws protecting worker health, safety and the environment, the tax structure and essential public facilities and services.

Productivity will increase when better ways are found to produce and distribute goods and services enabling each worker to produce more in each hour worked. Productivity can be improved by the use of new and better machinery, better scheduling of work flows or a better-educated and better-trained workforce.

All of these can be beneficial because they are a source of improved living standards—if the benefits are shared and distributed equally. Unfortunately some people say they want to increase productivity when they mean they just want to increase someone's workload.

Productivity is a measure of efficiency and is determined by dividing the goods produced by the number of hours worked. If a worker produces 200 widgets in 40 hours, the productivity is five widgets per hour. It's not much different than determining the efficiency of a baseball hitter whose batting average is determined by dividing the goods produced (base hits) by the number of times at bat.

PRODUCTIVITY GAINS are fundamental to economic growth and are a source of higher wages, more holidays and vacations, earlier retirement and general improvement in living standards. Productivity increases can also have destructive effects on workers and their jobs, so workers have a vital interest in how new production methods are introduced in the workplace.

Collective bargaining plays a crucial role in meeting both the dangers and opportunities of increased productivity. The flexibility of collective bargaining helps workers and their unions to settle with employers on reasonable and humane protections against the adverse effects of new production methods.

But the union role of protecting workers from the adverse impact of productivity is only one dimension of the collective bargaining agreement, which also does much to stimulate productivity. The needed protections, in such areas as job safety, can themselves contribute mightily to productivity gains by reducing time lost to injuries. And the stability brought to the workforce through acceptance of seniority, the grievance procedure or other standard features of a collective bargaining contract can contribute to worker morale and consequently to productivity.

—From "Bringing Productivity into Focus" in the May 1979 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

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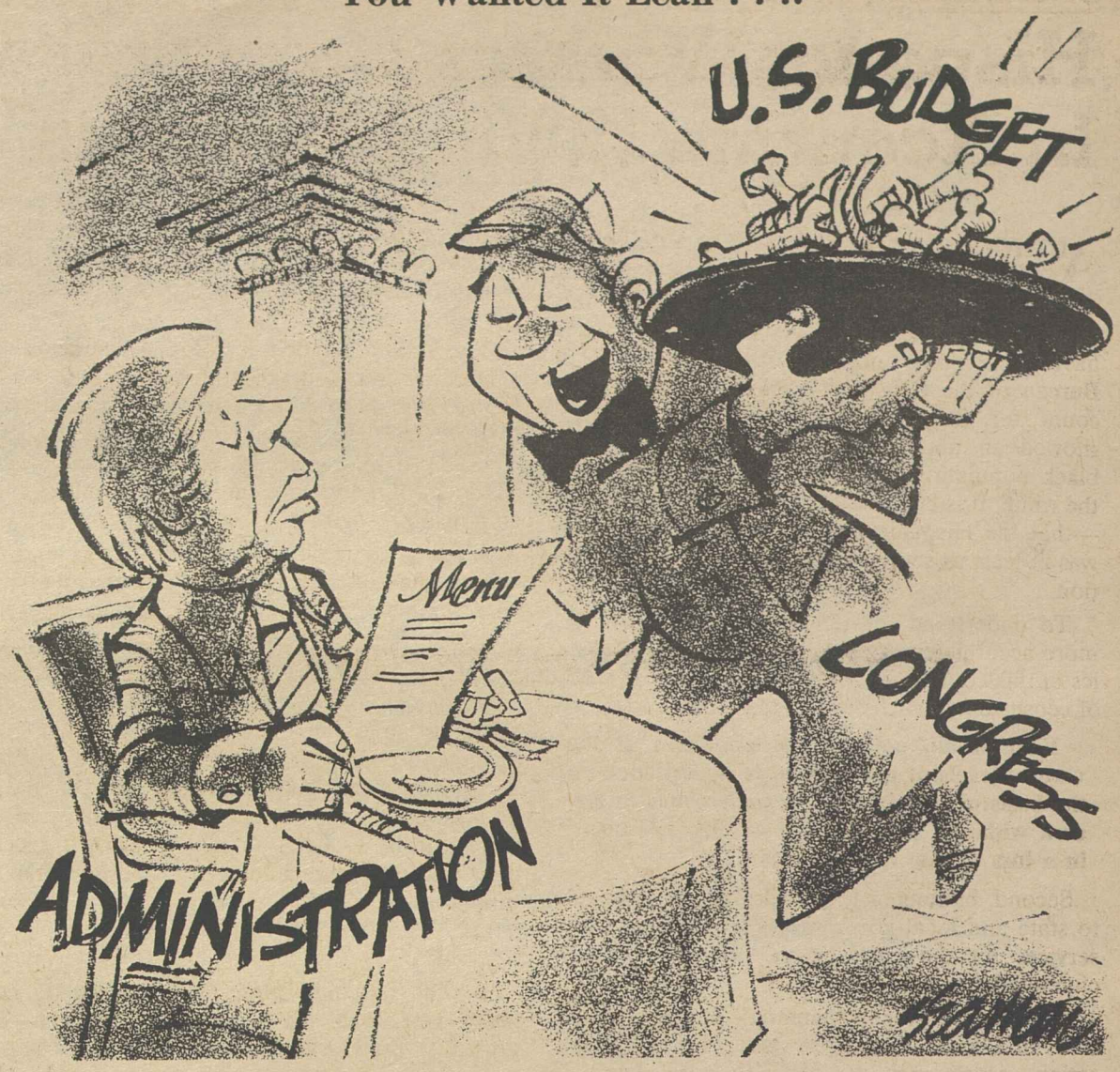
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Shift in Direction:

Mainstream Politics Turns Off Crane's Right-Wing Supporters

By Gus Tyler

PHILIP CRANE, the handsome young congressman from Illinois, who was the first aspirant to declare his candidacy for president this year, is under fierce fire from conservatives who were his original cheering squad. They say that Crane is turning his back on old pals and principles and is playing me-too politics to pick up votes.

The New Right, the well-funded, facile and fluent folk who have breathed new life into American conservatism, has counted heavily on Crane. Although these bright, mainly young, politicos appreciate the role of Ronald Reagan in their movement as a Hollywood hero who has given a pop tone to right-wing ideology, they are also aware that the one-time actor and California governor is not young and that a successor must be groomed.

Crane is a logical choice. He is young; he is good to look at; he is pleasant; he talks convincingly and he gets better with time; he is a highly political person from a highly political family, with two brothers who also hold elective office. Crane is also a conservative.

I first met Phil about half a dozen years ago when both he and I appeared on the TV program, The Advocates. He was brought on to the show by William Rusher, an early spark plug of modern conservatism, who was one of the "advocates" on the program. Crane was a witness. I felt that Crane was strong on appearance but weak on articulation.

A few weeks later, Crane was back again. His looks were still there and his talk was more talented. My offhand suspicion was that Rusher was grooming Crane for something big.

Then I noticed that Crane was chairman of the American Conservative Union. That gave him stature, and it also gave him a portable rostrum as he moved across the land addressing fellow conservatives.

The original planning for the Crane campaign was in the hands of a committed cadre of conservatives: Richard Viguerie, whose talent in raising millions for right-wing candidates is the envy of every political fund-raiser in America; Paul Weyrich, director of the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress; Rich Williamson, who was Crane's administrative assistant. The planning took place at the Virginia homes of Viguerie and Weyrich and in Crane's office in September 1977 and into 1978.

"During these sessions," reports the conservative Human Events, "it was decided that—to derail Reagan—Crane would be projected by the New Right as the front-running conservative movement candidate and would seek special ties to special-issue constituencies such as anti-gun control organizations, right-to-work groups, and pro-life organizations."

But now, charge these initiators of the Crane campaign, their chosen standard-bearer is lowering the standard. He is turning his back on the "single issue" groups and trying to get into the mainstream of American politics.

For the moment, the battle to keep Crane a clear and clean conservative is being waged between his early backers and an inner palace clique around Crane whom the present critics refer to as "the Rat Patrol."

While it is natural to blame "advisers," it is hard to believe that the new direction of Crane's campaign is not of his own making. Perhaps, in traveling around the country, he may have discovered that most voters are not quite as conservative as he thought they were and that most voters are Americans first and not just pro-gun, anti-union, or political cultists of one kind or another.

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Accountability Only Oil Decontrol Issue

Stripped of all the industry subterfuge, the decontrol debate is not about providing needed revenues for the oil industry. They are awash in cash.

It is not about creating incentive prices for new oil discoveries. The present differential between old oil and newly discovered or hard-to-get oil is the best incentive for continued exploration.

There is no real decontrol issue. The only issue is who will control oil prices: government officials accountable to the public or the OPEC oil cartel in concert with the major oil companies—accountable clearly to no one.

—Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition testimony before the House Energy Subcommittee.

Broad Range of Benefits:

Hispanic Workers Have Stake In Accurate 1980 U.S. Census

By J. F. Otero

ALTHOUGH IT IS GENERALLY acknowledged that the 1970 Census significantly undercounted the Hispanic population in this country, the practical results of this inaccuracy have gone pretty much unexplored. The U.S. Bureau of the Census conceded that the undercount for the total U.S. breakdown by race showed an undercount of 7.7 percent for the black population as opposed to 1.9 percent for the white. It is believed—though not substantiated—that the Hispanic numerical misrepresentation was at least as severe as that of the black population.

To understand the importance of achieving a more accurate estimate of the number of Hispanics in this country, we must look at the uses made of census data which affect our everyday life:

First of all, political representation at the various levels of government is apportioned on the basis of population. An undercount in any area within a state, county or city can result in a loss of due representation.

Second, billions of federal dollars are allocated to state and local governments for programs and services on the basis of population, size and characteristics.

Third, government planning—at the federal, state and local level—for future housing, education, employment and health care needs is largely influenced by data collected in the decennial census. The private sector also utilizes this data to make forecasts and decisions affecting business expansion, location and manpower.

An act was passed in mid-1976 mandating that all federal domestic agencies improve the collection and publication of statistics on this country's Hispanic population. As a direct result of this law, the U.S. Bureau of the Census has taken the following concrete steps to ensure a more accurate count of Hispanics in the 1980 Census:

Advisory committees were appointed for Hispanics, blacks and Asian Americans. These committees have been very active in planning for the 1980 Census.

All the 1980 Census questionnaires will include a Hispanic-identification question. In 1970 this was true for only 5 percent of the questionnaires.

There will be Spanish language questionnaires for those persons requesting them.

The bureau established the Community Services Program whose function it has been to educate the Hispanic community on the importance of their participation in the census; how it could benefit them and their communities.

Local census bureau officers—through a review board—will have the opportunity to review figures for specific locations so that if discrepancies appear they can be rechecked before final results are submitted.

The Labor Council for Latin American Advancement is encouraged by the response of the Census Bureau to very real concerns. We continue to work with the bureau to ensure that the 1980 Census provides as accurate and sensitive a measurement of the various sub-groups in this country as possible.

Already, some 64 chapters in cities around the country have begun coordinating local activities with the bureau's Community Services Program and more will become involved.

THE LABOR COUNCIL for Latin American Advancement is concerned on two levels with achieving an accurate census. First of all, in terms of the entire Hispanic community in this country, there clearly are political and other benefits to be accrued from a fair and representative census. Beyond this, LCLAA is also concerned specifically with the implications to organized labor in this country of a large and growing Hispanic population. The facts need to be outlined and stressed:

- The Hispanic labor force is growing at a faster rate than the general labor force—the growth in the Hispanic female labor force is particularly significant.
- Large numbers of Hispanic workers are concentrated in the service sector of the economy which is experiencing rapid growth. The more negative characteristics of this sector, to which Hispanic workers have fallen prey, are: the preponderance of businesses with relatively small workforces which have been traditionally difficult to organize; the preponderance of low-paying, unskilled and semi-skilled jobs with little if any future.
- Hispanic women workers have been vastly underrated and overlooked as a potential large and militant addition to the ranks of organized labor.

The Labor Council for Latin American Advancement will do everything it can to bring the message of organized labor to each and every Hispanic worker and family and to help the American labor movement reap the full benefits of a yet undeveloped resource. The 1980 Census will only confirm the urgency and importance of the task before us.

J. F. Otero is a vice president of the Railway & Airline Clerks, and executive vice chairman of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

Political, Economic Pressures:

Threats Mount in Congress To Federal Job Safety Effort

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC pressures have combined to create the most threatening climate yet in the eight-year uphill battle to maintain the integrity and effectiveness of the federal job health and safety law, AFL-CIO job safety expert George H. R. Taylor warned.

At least half-a-dozen bills now before the Congress would erase the Occupational Safety & Health Act from the statute books, and some 30 other proposals would roll back or water down the limited gains that have been made in protecting the lives, limbs and health of American workers on the job, Taylor declared. He said that proposed "curtailments by the Administration, excessive litigation by business management and jockeying for back-home support" by senators and congressmen up for re-election next year have been added to the perennial anti-OSHA drumfire from ultra-conservatives.

"This adds up to a clear and present danger to OSHA," Taylor asserted, stressing the need for an all-out effort to turn back the OSHA-threatening assault. Taylor, who is director of the federation's Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health, appeared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Taylor said that although the federal job safety and health law has had to survive in an atmosphere of controversy and attack—and sometimes official indifference and hostility—important gains have been made. He said OSHA's new directions program has made it possible for some 23 unions to step up their training and education programs and expand their technical and professional staffs assigned to safety and health.

He said that when the program went into effect in 1978, the entire labor movement had only eight or nine industrial hygienists while there are now 23. He said the stimulus of the program has already doubled the number of "effective people out in the field to help make the workplace safer for their members" and fellow workers.

"This is the most important thing that has been accomplished by OSHA, as far as direct effect on the unions is concerned," Taylor declared.

Reporters questioning Taylor on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Jean Culler White of Press Associates, Inc. and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio and can be heard in the Washington area Sundays on KYS-FM.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE LATEST REPORT of the Federal Election Commission shows that political action committees gave $35.1 million to House and Senate candidates during the 1978 congressional campaign.

Contributions by political action committees are soaring. PACs gave $12.5 million in 1974, $22.5 million in 1976 and now $35 million in 1978.

Ironically, the reason for this cash flow to Congress is that the Watergate scandals forced a clean-up of presidential elections. Candidates for the White House in 1976 qualified for public funds raised by the $1 check-off on income tax returns.

So the money that used to go to presidential candidates now has shifted to House and Senate races.

The FEC registered only 89 corporate PACs in December 1974, while the FEC report issued this May 10 counted 821 corporate PACs active last year. Added to this total should be the 543 trade/membership/health associations, the vast majoriy of which are business-oriented. Compared to this total of 1,364 business-oriented PACs, organized labor has a total of 281 PACs.

The FEC said that labor PACs spent $10.3 million during the 1978 campaign, compared to $9.8 million for corporate PACs and $11.5 million for trade associations. Thus labor was outspent by more than 2 to 1.

One problem is that, while labor has had PACs for some 35 years, and has just about reached its limit, the corporate PACs have an enormous potential for growth among thousands of companies.

According to the FEC report, the corporate and trade association PACs gave $12.6 million to Republican candidates and $8.6 million to Democrats. Labor gave $9.7 million to Democrats and $600,000 to Republicans. PACs as a whole favored the incumbent, 3 to 1.

What do the corporate PACs want for their money?

Justin Dart, chairman of Dart Industries, which disbursed $119,300 to candidates in 1978, is candid enough.

In a U.S. News & World Report interview, Dart said business is raising only about one-fourth as much money as it should raise to support "the free enterprise ideology."

Dart said, "My concept of a political action committee is strictly non-partisan. We have put money on Democrats, independents and, of course, more on Republicans than either of those. As long as a candidate supports free enterprise instead of a highly socialized process, then we support him. . . . It's a fiscally responsible person versus an irresponsible person."

THE NATIONAL JOURNAL described one example of how corporate PACs helped a conservative young Republican defeat a liberal Democrat and take a seat Democrats had held 16 years.

When Tom Tauke, a 28-year-old lawyer in Dubuque, decided to try to represent Iowa's 2nd Congressional District, he went to the Chicago office of Standard Oil (Indiana) to seek funds.

Douglas Cannon, who runs Standard's Amoco PAC, said Tauke was "just super-organized. He had his campaign plan all mapped out, just like you'd make a presentation to a banker if you were seeking a business loan. He's the sort of guy who could get the loan."

And he did, and more. Tauke got $1,500 from Amoco PAC and $5,500 from seven other oil companies around the nation. Other firms kicked in, and Tauke got a total of $18,800 from 29 corporate PACs and $21,900 from trade associations.

Tauke reportedly ran a skillful fund-raising and political campaign. He outspent incumbent Rep. Michael Blouin, $188,825 to $92,707 and won, 53 percent to 47 percent. Blouin received most of his money from labor.

Organized labor has sought public financing for more than 20 years. "Votes should count more than dollars," labor has declared in supporting easier voter registration and get-out-the-vote drives.

If public financing can make Congress more responsive to the people back home, it will be the most important reform of our time.



HALF-A-DOZEN BILLS now in Congress would wipe out the federal job safety law—the heaviest threat yet in the eight-year uphill battle to maintain the integrity and effectiveness of the law, warned AFL-CIO Occupational Safety & Health Director George H. R. Taylor, center, on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Jean Culler White of Press Associates, Inc., and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers.



Kahn Alerted to List Of Suspected Violators

The following is a representative sampling of reports from AFL-CIO Price Watch volunteers and complaints from consumers across the country compiled by the federation's Dept. of Community Services.

Department Director Leo Perlis submitted the findings to Chairman Alfred E. Kahn of the Council of Wage & Price Stability for investigation.

Citing the complexities of the Administration's anti-inflation standards, Perlis said in his letter to Kahn, "We don't know, of course, whether these are in violation of your voluntary price guidelines. But then, who does?"

A 49-ounce box of Tide detergent at a Food Giant store in Atlanta was priced at 99 cents in October 1978 and $1.69 in March 1979.

Copper wire has gone up 70 percent from Feb. 15 to Apr. 12, according to J. F. L. of Lawton, Okla., "and is going up more each week. Aluminum products are almost as bad. All metal products that we have to buy are up 30 percent or more. . . ."

On Apr. 10, S. A. reported that ARA Caterers increased vending machine coffee and tea from 20 cents to 25 cents per cup at the Social Security Administration headquarters in Woodlawn, Md.

Among the companies listed pledging support to the "war on inflation" was the Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co. (3M). "The present maintenance agreement with that company on our Book Theft Detection System costs the Syosset, N.Y., Public Library $380." But the new agreement with 3M, according to J. G. H., costs $465.

The New York Times raised its daily delivery rate in the Bronx, N.Y., by 12 percent.

On Jan. 25, 1979, according to R. S., two pairs of Legtricity comfort knee-top highs were priced at 99 cents at Sears in Miami. On Feb. 19, the price was increased to $1.39.

T.K. of Green Bay, Wis., writes that the Wisconsin Public Service Commission penalized the state's residents for conserving energy. It granted a rate increase which raised his average bill from $62 a month to $71 a month.

A. M. of Tucson, Ariz., complained that on Mar. 19 a 28-ounce bottle of Canada Dry ginger ale jumped from 39 cents to 43 cents at Safeway and Bayless stores.

J. F. writes from Watertown, N.Y., that a small jar of Sanka went up from $1.39 to $1.69 within two weeks.

D. C. M. writes that at a Giant Supermarket in Fairfax, Va., a 1.5-ounce package of almonds increased from 39 cents to 59 cents.

W. K. of Washington, Pa., complains that his automobile insurance premium for six months was raised from $53 to $76.

The city of New Orleans, according to G. T., has increased the rental fees for mooring boats at its Municipal Yacht Harbor by approximately 100 percent for residents and 200 percent for non-residents.

In Twin Harte, Calif., A. M. renewed his Post Office box and discovered that his annual rental went up from $6 to $8.

On Apr. 26, L. R. was informed by West Financial Co. that rent on her one-bedroom unfurnished apartment in Phoenix, Ariz., would be increased to $250 a month. Her rent had been raised in April 1978 to $186 and again last October to $202. She describes herself as a retired senior citizen living on a fixed income.

Also from Phoenix, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. reported their rent will be raised by the same company on June 1 from $196 to $275 a month.

And in a confidential letter to retailers, Faberge, Inc. raised the suggested prices on 73 of its products last December. A sampling of the changes show prices of some products were increased from $5 to $7.50; $6.50 to $9; $12 to $15, and from $3.75 to $6.

Volunteers Dig In:

Labor's Price Watch Effort Zeroes In on Big Profiteers

AFL-CIO Price Watch volunteers are digging in for a long campaign in the nationwide effort to monitor ever-rising living costs that workers encounter at stores and other markets where they do their shopping for goods and services.

"This is an on-going campaign with no set deadline, and we don't plan to wrap it up until we get a fair and workable anti-inflation program," Federation Community Services Director Leo Perlis declared.

The federation's Operation Price Watch is being coordinated by a cadre of 350 full-time labor Community Services Activities representatives across the country under the direction of the national CSA staff.

Perlis said that monitors are operating in hundreds of large and small communities throughout the country, and although he said it was difficult to determine the exact number of volunteers, he estimated there were "thousands."

The size of the monitoring teams varies widely, depending on the community and the input from AFL-CIO central bodies and affiliated local unions. Additional support is coming from consumer organizations, senior citizens, church and community groups.

Early returns from the monitors recorded by the Community Services staff reflect a continuing upsurge in the prices on all sorts of consumer goods. Perlis said the monitors are checking on a wide range of items and services consumers pay for in their basic living expenses as well as for leisure use.

The monitoring extends from hamburger to cosmetics, from rent to boat mooring charges, Perlis noted. But the prime emphasis is on food prices, rents, health care fees, fuel costs and other basic necessities.

Because of the complexities of the Carter Administration's guidelines, he said, the monitors are unable to determine if sharp price hikes are in violation of the so-called anti-inflation program.

Under arrangements the federation made with the Council on Wage & Price Stability when Operation Price Watch was launched last month, a representative sampling of the monitors' findings has been forwarded to COWPS Chairman Alfred E. Kahn.

The list documents price hikes on a broad spectrum of purchases, including utility rates, soap detergent, auto insurance, vending machine coffee, newspaper subscriptions, copper wire and aluminum products.

Some of the monitors have enclosed past and current receipts on specific items and services as proof of the sharp price increases.

Perlis conceded that labor's monitoring effort has not made a direct impact on retailers to the extent that they are voluntarily holding the line on prices. But he pointed out that they are not taking the activities of the price watch teams lightly.

In Cleveland, after the Plain Dealer and Press published reports by AFL-CIO monitors that food prices in area supermarkets jumped an average of 26 percent in six months, one grocery chain ran large newspaper ads attempting to explain the cause of the increases.

During that October-April period, the price watchers reported they found that one store chain raised prices 41 percent on a selected group of items, while prices rose 16 percent at another major chain.

But a unique problem has developed in Chicago, where prices on the monitors' selected list of items leveled off, Perlis observed. Coordinators of the Price Watch program in the Chicago area have voiced suspicions that retailers are purposely holding the price line on those items while marking still higher prices on other items that are not on the select list.

Several thousand Price Watch forms have been distributed among AFL-CIO local and state central bodies and unions participating in the monitoring effort. A number of union publications also have been reproducing the check lists as a guide to members for do-it-yourself monitoring.

The CSA coordinators all are distributing Price Watch posters for display in union halls and buttons that identify volunteers as price monitors.

In an effort to expand or improve the monitoring program, the Dept. of Community Services has been conducting sessions at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies on price watch tactics. Perlis said that about 250 full-time CSA staff members will complete the special orientation program.

Monitors will also focus on companies that COWPS has cited as "possible violators" of the price guidelines even after they have been cleared by the council, Perlis said.

In recent weeks, COWPS has named several firms for probable violations and said it suspects about 10 others of exceeding the price standards. But thus far, only one company—the cement division of Ideal Basic Industries, Inc.—has been accused by the council of being a definite guideline violator.

Disturbed by excessive price increases of gasoline, labor price watchers in Union County, N.J., joined in a recent demonstration at the Exxon Research Center in Linden. The protest rally was sponsored by the state Building & Construction Trades Council, Industrial Union Council, the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and the UAW.



Western Labor Press Elects Hughes-Wright

San Francisco — The Western Labor Press Association elected Jean Hughes-Wright, editor of two performing arts newsletters, as its new president at its 1979 convention here.

For the past 13 years she has edited publications of the San Francisco branches of the Screen Actors Guild and the Television & Radio Artists.

WLPA, which has nearly 90 member publications in 14 western states, re-elected Steve Robertson as secretary-treasurer. He is editor of the Los Angeles Citizen, published by the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO.

Mrs. Hughes-Wright succeeds Kenneth Lohre as president. He edits a newsletter for the San Francisco Engineers & Scientists, an affiliate of the Marine Engineers.

Theme of this year's convention was how labor can use radio, television and films to carry its message to union members and the general public. Discussions on the topic were led by a panel of radio and television news executives, and delegates toured a TV station.

Robert Kalaski, editor of the Machinist, explained how his union produced a film illustrating how workers and their families were affected when the Zenith Corp. closed a TV set manufacturing plant in Iowa and exported the jobs to low-wage foreign countries. He reported that the film was beamed via satellite to 182 cable TV stations in 42 states with a potential audience of 6.9 million homes.

Carter Plan Rebuffed:

Opposition Growing To Decontrol of Oil

(Continued from Page 1)

Young said. He noted also that decontrol, with the higher energy prices it would bring, was sought at a time when the Administration is urging that wage increases be held to no more than 7 percent.

Young further pointed out that decontrol would lead to virtually no additional increase in oil production as its supporters contend.

"We believe that decontrol is a sham solution to the energy problem," he said. "The reality is that it will further line the bulging pockets of oil industry executives whose first-quarter profits in 1979 have already reached record levels."

Organized labor has consistently fought against removal of the controls. At its meeting earlier this month, the AFL-CIO Executive Council warned that the burden of decontrol would fall most heavily on low-income families since a larger share of their income would have to be set aside for the higher cost of energy that would result.

The council said that, on a conservative estimate, a family of four would have increased energy costs of more than $500 a year if controls were lifted.

A study by the Congressional Budget Office disputes the Administration's estimate of increased production that might flow from decontrol.

The higher returns to the oil industry that decontrol could be expected to realize would stimulate the production of only 405,000 additional barrels a day instead of the 750,000 barrels estimated by the Administration, the CBO said.

The CBO report, prepared for the Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources, said the likely effect of higher prices in encouraging energy conservation would be a saving of 215,000 barrels a day in 1985, compared with 250,000 barrels estimated by Carter.

Rep. Thomas A. Luken (D-Ohio) has already introduced a bill to continue the controls. The measure is cosponsored by 49 other congressmen, including four Republicans. Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) is the author of a similar bill in the Senate, endorsed by 19 other senators.

Moffett said another option open to Congress is an amendment to the Energy Dept.'s authorization bill expected to go to the House floor for debate soon.

The oil controls were set by a 1975 law, which gave the President the power to abolish or phase them out starting June 1. The statute requires that controls end altogether by September 1981.

Carter said that he opted for a gradual removal of the controls because he thought that would be better for the economy than an abrupt end.

Meanwhile, at a House subcommittee hearing on the proposed plan, consumer representatives charged that the oil industry is trying to "flim-flam" the public on the need for higher energy prices.

Robert M. Brandon, Washington director of the Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition, said that the debate on oil prices has always been one-sided.

The oil companies "would like us to believe that costs somehow keep up with Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries price increases and the industry is, therefore, deserving of OPEC cartel prices," Brandon said in testimony before the House Energy & Power Subcommittee.

"This argument is flim-flam, plain and simple."

Under the President's plan, the immediate additional cost to consumers would be over $17 billion between now and 1981 for higher oil costs alone, Brandon told the House panel.

"If we're going to launch a new $17 billion energy program, then let's raise taxes on energy by that much and put the money to use directly buying energy-savings installations—mass transit, etc.—or more energy-subsidizing solar installations," he said.

"Letting the oil companies be the collection agents for that $17 billion 'high energy cost' tax and the purchasers of our energy savings is a bad bargain."

Brandon's organization is a group of over 100 unions, citizen groups, public interest groups, senior citizen organizations, church groups, and others seeking a more rational energy policy.

Oil Union Asks Probe To Check on Crude

(Continued from Page 1)

"If 56 million barrels went into SPR, there remain 38 million barrels unaccounted for," Grospiron said. "In spite of the dire warnings of DOE about the effects of the Iranian oil cutoff, imports of crude oil into the United States have not declined but have grown."

The study reveals that crude oil stocks in the U.S. have grown over the last 15 months in spite of the temporary loss of Iranian oil. Domestic crude oil production plus imports, less the amounts fed into refineries, show additions of 107 million barrels to crude oil stocks over this period, the union asserted.

Grospiron said that the study points up other discrepancies in Administration statements. According to API data, available crude oil —domestic production plus imports —grew by 6.4 percent in the first quarter of 1979 over the first quarter of 1978. Meanwhile, total domestic product demand—total demand less product imports—grew by only 3 percent in the first quarter of this year over the same period last year. Crude runs to refineries grew by 4.4 percent between the two periods, more than adequate to meet the growth in domestic product demand, Grospiron said.

"If it was expected by the Carter Administration that product shortage would ensue because of the Iranian crisis, it should have been ordinary prudence to cease immediately the diverting of crude oil into SPR stocks," he said. "Instead, diversions have continued at least through April 1979. As an example of DOE mismanagement, pumps are still not in place for removing any of the present SPR stocks."



CONSTRUCTION WORKERS pouring concrete is one of 82 works by sculptor Felix de Weldon on display at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies through May 31. De Weldon, who was present for the opening of the show, is probably best known for his U.S. Marine Corps Memorial, which depicts the flag-raising at Iwo Jima.

Arizona Labor Shapes Expanded COPE Effort

Tucson, Ariz.—A stepped-up political action program aimed at the "anti-union, anti-Arizona worker ghouls" who dominate the state legislature was strongly urged on delegates to the State AFL-CIO convention here—and on the members they represent.

Speakers from the podium and the floor called for intensified union organizing, broader registration drives, cooperation with like-minded groups and the establishment of a Committee on Political Action in each of the state's local unions. Their proposals won enthusiastic endorsement.

The last legislative session, which ended Apr. 15, repealed the state's little Davis-Bacon Act and weakened both workers' compensation and unemployment compensation under pressure from powerful right-wing groups. However, Gov. Bruce Babbitt (D) vetoed the Davis-Bacon repealer and the effort to emasculate workers' compensation. Babbitt addressed the delegates and received a warm welcome.

State AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Darwin Aycock blamed Republicans in the legislature for the raids on worker protections. The attack on workers' compensation standards was sponsored by employers and insurance companies, he declared, adding a warning that "they'll be back."

The convention also trained its guns on the state's "right-to-work" law.

F. L. Schroeder, an Arizona State University graduate student and a former member of the Communications Workers, who has been working closely with the State AFL-CIO office on socio-economic matters, gave detailed analyses of the spread of antiunionism in Arizona since the 1930s and of the tragic effect of R-T-W on workers' living standards here.

"Half our population doesn't make enough to maintain a 'moderate' standard of living," she said. "Labor issues are everyone's issues. Workers' concerns in Arizona have been neglected for 30 years—the promises of 30 years ago still haven't been fulfilled."

Sen. Dennis DeConcini, who was introduced as "a proven friend of organized labor," warned that labor is being regarded as increasingly weak because of the growth in reactionary strength. But he predicted that efforts to roll back the minimum wage as a way to fight inflation will be rejected by Congress.

Other speakers included I. W. Abel, retired president of the Steelworkers; Executive Sec. James W. Murry of the Montana AFL-CIO; Area Administrator Kenneth Evans and Supervisor Ronald Wanke of the Labor Dept's Labor-Management Services Administration; AFL-CIO Field Representatives Grace Carroll and David Sickler; Director Morris Skinner of the Bureau of Apprenticeship & Training, Region 3; Area COPE Director LaMar Gulbransen, and Sec-Treas. Earl D. McDavid of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.

Pres. Fred J. Brown was re-elected to his second two-year term and Aycock to his seventh.

Taylor, Koplan To Fill Posts In Legislation

Two new legislative representatives have been appointed to the AFL-CIO staff—Stephen Koplan, who has already begun his assignment, and Peggy Taylor, who is scheduled to start on June 4.

Before joining the AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation, Koplan served as chief of the federal programs section in the Justice Dept.'s Civil Rights Division, and had previously been a senior trial attorney. He is a former general counsel of the Senate Post Office & Civil Service Committee and earlier had been on the staff of the late Sen. Lee Metcalf (D-Mont.).

Koplan is a 1957 graduate of Brandeis University, with law degrees from Boston University and New York University. AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said his responsibilities will include energy and tax legislation.

Taylor has been a professional staff member of the House Budget Committee for the past two years, specializing in Labor Dept. programs and employment issues.

She previously was on the staff of the Senate Labor Subcommittee, with responsibilities including occupational safety and health matters. Earlier, Taylor had held responsible positions in the Labor Dept. dealing with employment and training programs. She joined the Labor Dept. as a management intern after graduating from George Washington University in 1967. Her Legislative Dept. assignments, Young said, will include budget and appropriations matters.

Young also announced the appointment of Kevin M. Kirlin as legislative aide. Kirlin has been a legislative representative in Maryland for the State, County & Municipal Employees. He previously served on the staff of Rep. Thomas R. Harkin (D-Iowa) and earlier worked as a reporter for the Des Moines Register & Tribune.

Kirlin is a 1974 graduate of Iowa State University, with subsequent graduate study there.

Soaring College Tuition Hits Workers' Families

Workers' families have been effectively priced out of the private university by soaring tuition and related costs of recent years, and now a new survey shows the costs are moving near that point in public institutions as well.

"The 1979 fall term at the nation's public and private colleges and universities will mark a period of financial disaster for the parents of most American working class families," AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis said in the wake of the annual survey of college costs by the College Entrance Examination Board.

The survey showed the average cost of a private, four-year college will be $5,733 this fall, with numerous prestige schools passing $9,000 a year. The public four-year schools surveyed will charge an average $3,576 total, and two-year institutions—which Davis noted organized labor has promoted as a less costly alternative—will be close behind at $3,246.

In all three categories, the College Entrance Examination Board noted the increases were equal to the consumer price index increase of 9 percent or above it. For four-year private schools, the increase was 10.6 percent. For public institutions, the increase was 8.6 percent.

The survey found that commuters who are spared room, board and away-from-home personal expenses will face increases as high as 15 percent next year in some states.

"Today's youth have little choice but to plunge themselves deeply into debt to earn a college education," Davis said, terming the $5,000 a year average figure "outrageous." He said any hopes of a leveling off were dampened by the survey and noted that the federal government continues to invest less of a percentage of gross national product in education than most other industrialized nations.

"There is something cockeyed about a system allegedly concerned about the complex education needs of the future while allowing such severe financial barriers to the development of our human resources," Davis said.

One aspect of the survey showed exactly how far into debt a student will have to go. To protect against increases while they're on campus, students at Washington University of St. Louis are allowed to pay four years in advance—which will be a tab of $17,200 to $19,000 this fall, plus 9 percent a year if they borrow that total from the university.

Administration Plan:

Hospital Cost Bill Backed as 1st Step

The AFL-CIO voiced strong support for President Carter's hospital cost containment bill, but told Congress it should be regarded only as a "first step" toward the real goal of comprehensive national health insurance.

AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman told a House subcommittee that Congress should not now "enact a long-term program which might have to be dismantled when a national health insurance program is developed."

Seidman called U.S. health care one of the nation's most subsidized industries with its intake of about $76 billion from direct and indirect federal, state and local payments. The federal share alone is $57 bilion and will rise to $102 billion by 1983 for Medicare, Medicaid and other health programs, Seidman said.

Yet Carter's proposal is the first containment measure in the 13 years since Medicare and Medicaid were enacted, he noted.

Seidman praised the Administration's proposal for controlling unnecessary hospital utilization. That aspect of the bill, Seidman said, "rewards efficiency and penalizes inefficiency."

So he saw no reason not to do the same with physician's fees. "We support negotiated fee schedules which should be accepted by doctors as full payment for services rendered," Seidman said. He noted that physicians could be given the option of capitation payments as an alternative method of reimbursement if they preferred.

Seidman cited physician cost run-ups as one of the reasons the nation needs a comprehensive program "such as the Health Care for All Americans Act" introduced recently by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. Harry Waxman (D-Calif.).

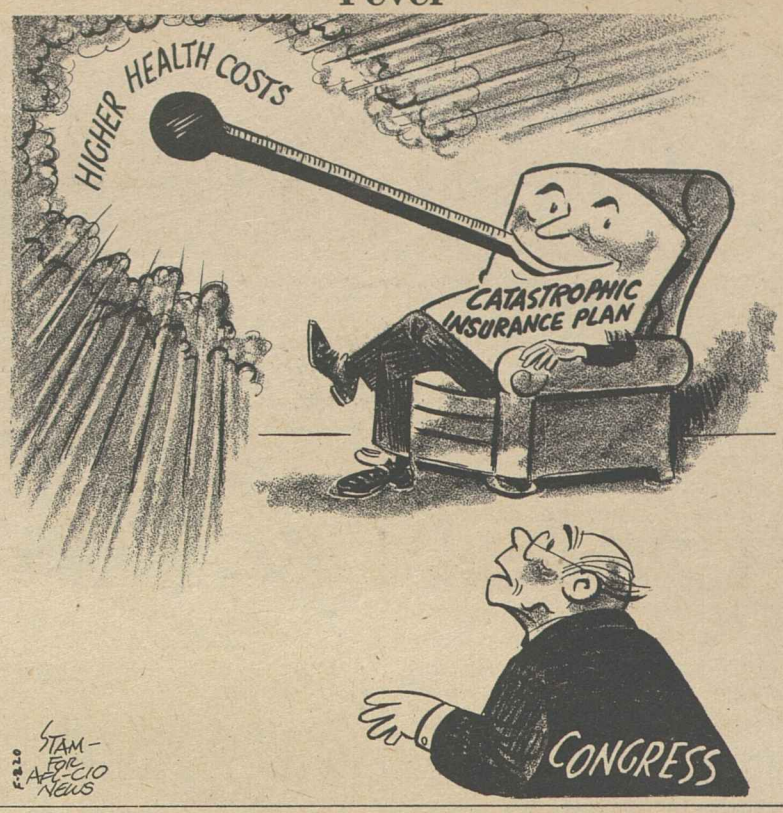
"A budgeting system of cost control is far more flexible than regulation and is less costly as well," Seidman said describing the Kennedy-Waxman measure. He contrasted America's outlay of 8.8 percent of gross national product for health to Canada's 7 percent with a national health system.

The need of cost containment in the short run is clear in a nation where health care costs are doubling every five years, Seidman said. He pointed out that health-related costs are continuing to escalate at about double the rate of the overall consumer price index.

Seidman said the three major items of hospital costs are intensity of care, excessive utilization of hospital beds and operating costs. Since operating costs rank only third on that list, Seidman noted the relatively small contribution of labor costs to the overall increases.

"The wages of nonsupervisory hospital employees have been the source of only about one-tenth of the annual increase in average hospital costs per patient day," Seidman said. "Hospital wages lag behind the wages in manufacturing and in all other industries."

Fever



Ratification Vote Set On IAM-United Pact

Members of the Machinists employed by United Airlines voted on a tentative, new three-year contract that could end their eight-week-old strike against the nation's largest domestic airline.

The outcome of the balloting had not been announced as the AFL-CIO News went to press. Two previous tentative accords worked out by IAM and management negotiators were turned down by members. The union represents some 18,000 United mechanics, baggage handlers, and other ground-crew personnel across the country.

The proposed contract would raise pay for top mechanics from $10 to $13 an hour over the life of the agreement. The pact also provides for a 13-cent maximum cost-of-living adjustment each year, raises monthly pension benefits from $21.50 to $27 per year of service over the term of the contract, and allows for a paid lunch period.

The tentative setlement was announced in Denver, where bargainers for the two sides had engaged in 11 days of intensive talks under the auspices of the National Mediation Board, which helps resolve disputes in the airline and railway industries.

The union struck United on Mar. 31, after rejecting the two previous settlements. The dispute centered mainly on wages. The contract would be retroactive to last Nov. 1.

The union recently negotiated agreements with three other airlines—Eastern, Allegheny, and Northwest—all patterned on a three-year agreement reached last fall with Trans World Airlines.

Meanwhile, the union is continuing talks with Continental, National, Piedmont, and North Central Airlines. IAM is in mediation with Ozark Airlines.

5/26/79

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Recording Fund Pays $14.5 Million

New York—Some 38,000 members of the Musicians who play for phonograph recordings will share over $14.5 million this year from the industry's special payments fund.

AFM President Victor W. Fuentealba said that checks will be mailed out on Aug. 1. The payments are made under terms of collective bargaining agreements between the union and the recording companies. The fund was set up 15 years ago.

Fund Increase Sought For Cultural Subsidies

Actors' Equity President Theodore Bikel urged Congress to provide full funding of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities for the 1980 fiscal year, declaring that "unless our society is willing to concede that the arts shall be the preserve of the wealthy," government assistance is necessary.

The foundation, consisting of the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, currently expends $295.3 million annually. Bikel supports an increase in the budget to $304.5 million, of which $154.4 million would go to the Arts Endownment and $150.1 million to the Humanities Endowment.

"National parks, clear streams, virgin woods are vital resources for all who seek to enjoy the outdoors in their free time," Bikel told a House Appropriations subcommittee. "America's fine actors, musicians, dancers, and other artists are the nation's basic resources of concern to all who seek to enjoy our cultural riches.

"The problem in both areas is not only to protect and develop these resources but to make them available and easily accessible to as many Americans as possible."

Bikel, who also represented the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees comprising 26 unions, said that "with regard to our cultural programs, this nation has a great deal of catching up to do."

The small 3 percent increase in the budget for the Arts and Humanities Foundation represents a cut in real terms when inflation is taken into account, he said, "and this is a cut that is ill afforded at a time when we are just beginning to fashion federal programs in this area."

American artists continue to be underutilized and poorly paid, Bikel observed, a condition that has an adverse effect on the quality of their work and their ability to serve society's cultural needs.

"These people are America's cultural resources. But they are being cut down in mid-career," he said.

Bond Tax Exemption Supported To Fund Low-Interest Mortgages

The AFL-CIO urged Congress to continue the federal tax exemption on the interest of state and local bonds whose proceeds are used to finance low-interest mortgages.

In a letter to Chairman Al Ullman (D-Ore.) of the House Ways & Means Committee, Legislative Director Kenneth Young said that the tax-exempt revenue bond issues should be permitted to help alleviate the hardship that many families experience when it comes to buying a house, and to counteract a widely expected downturn in residential construction which could lead to an economic recession.

The Committee is considering a bill by Ullman to knock out the current federal tax exemption.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has expressed its support for the tax-exempt issues if the benefits were restricted to families who cannot afford to pay private market rates.

Young noted that the council statement was adopted in response to a crying unmet housing need of workers and other families of moderate income.

The current short supply of housing is reflected in the lowest national housing vacancy rates on record, Young pointed out. It is also reflected in annual increases of 15 and 12 percent in median prices of new and existing homes sold, which have brought those prices up to $61,000 and $52,000, respectively, he added.

Young said that payments on a $50,000 mortgage at 10.5 percent interest, with a 30-year term, are $449 a month just for principal and interest. When taxes, insurance, heat and utilities, and maintenance and repair costs are added, the total monthly housing expenses are over $600, he said.

To meet these housing costs, with expenditure of no more than 25 percent of income, a family would need an annual income of at least $28,800, he observed. Only families in about the top one-fourth of the national income distribution, however, have such an income, he noted, and most of them are already satisfactorily housed.

"For those in need of housing, whose incomes are markedly lower, housing is very costly," he said.

The Conference Board, a business-supported research organization, recently estimated the current national median family income at $18,800. At that income, to meet payments on 10.5 percent mortgages and other housing expenses, Young pointed out, homes selling at less than $30,000 would be needed.

However, recent data indicate that only 2 or 3 percent of new homes and about 15 percent of existing homes are being sold at prices below $30,000," Young said. "The majority of families face a great scarcity of housing they can afford, and have to assume an unduly great financial burden to meet their family needs."

Young said that proceeds from the mortgage revenue bond programs should be loaned only to those eligible borrowers whose incomes do not exceed 120 percent of the median income in their area. The top 40 percent of the local family income distribution would be ineligible. Nationally, the average income limit would be about $22,500.

Pared-Down Budget Voted By Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

groups to meet the country's needs. A great many labor-supported programs would be cut back and underfunded in the new budget proposed by Congress, whatever the actual dollar compromises.

The House budget resolution called for expenditure of $529.8 billion compared to the Senate figure of $532.6 billion, which was close to the Administration's budget proposal although the breakdown of program funding differs considerably.

All three budgets use different assumptions as to inflation and revenue and come up with differing deficit figures.

The conference report defeated in the House adopted higher Senate figures for defense spending and higher House figures on government revenues as well as slicing back House figures on education and training. The compromise would have set a $532 billion spending figure and a $23 billion deficit.

The House liberals were joined in voting against the conference report by a number of conservatives who were continuing their fight to slash expenditures.

Profits Boom, Up 35 Percent

(Continued from Page 1)

the economy grew at a 6.9 percent rate after advancing at a 2.6 percent rate in the third quarter and 8.7 percent in the second quarter.

The government also reported that inflation in the first quarter of 1979, when measured by a broad, GNP-based price gauge, was at a seasonally adjusted 8.8 percent annual rate rather than 8.7 percent as first estimated.

The main reason for the downward revision in the rate of economic growth in the January-March period was a steeper retrenchment in consumer spending than originally figured, the Commerce Dept. said.

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Court Decision Knocks Out Wage-Price Guideline Plan

Real Wages Sapped By Price Jump

Large and continuing increases in the costs of fuel, food, and housing pushed up the government's consumer price index another 1.1 percent in April and cut deeply into workers' buying power, proving that the Carter Administration's inflation-fighting program is "a flop," the AFL-CIO charged.

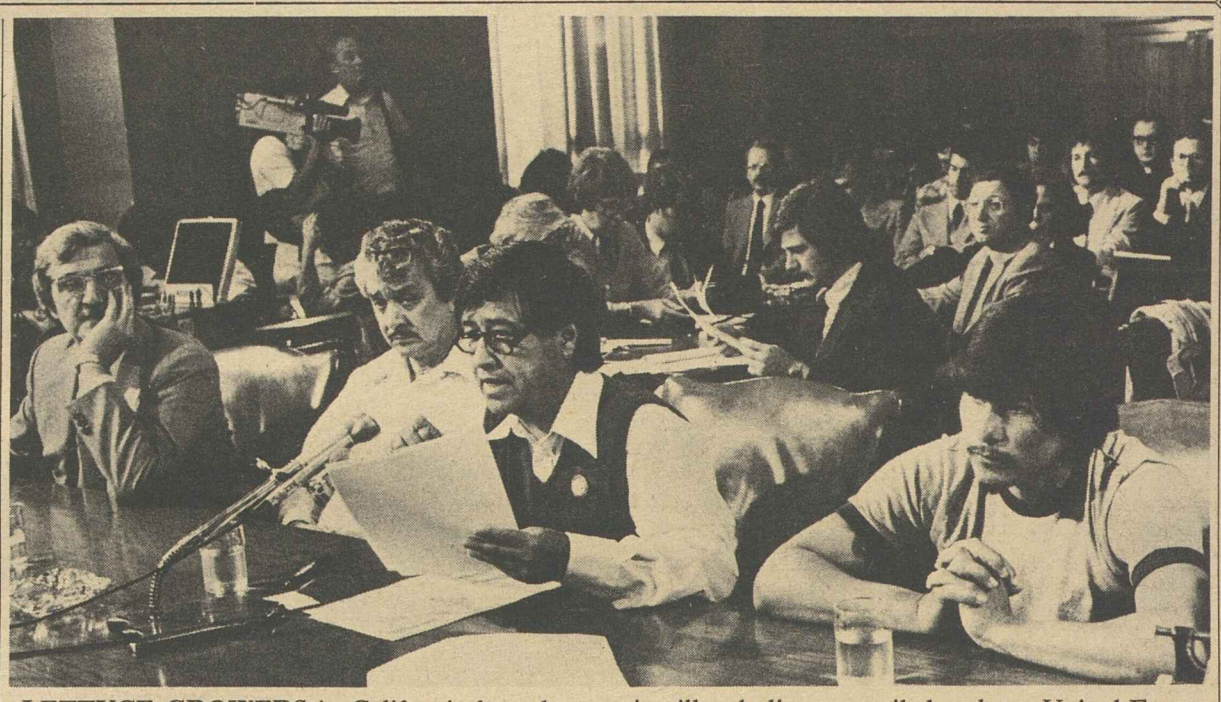
"If the Administration is unable to deal with the real causes of inflation," Federation President George Meany declared, "then the only remaining alternative is enactment of a legislated program with full controls on the price of everything and the income of everybody."

Most of the items that cost more are basically exempt from the Carter price guidelines. Gasoline prices, for instance, continued their spectacular rise, increasing 6 percent for the month.

April's CPI increase—equivalent to a 13.2 percent annual rate before compounding—was identical to the March increase and just under February's 1.2 percent rise. For the first four months of 1979, consumer prices have surged at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 13.2 percent, after compounding.

"April is the fourth month of double-digit inflation," Meany observed. "Prices paid by workers continue to soar while the Administration continues to try to enforce its 7 percent wage control figure. Thus, the buying power of workers' paychecks has dropped by 3.3 per-

(Continued on Page 3)



LETTUCE GROWERS in California have been using illegal aliens as strikebreakers, United Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez charged at Senate hearings. At the witness table, from left: AFL-CIO Associate Legislative Director Ray Denison, UFW Sec.-Treas. Gilbert Padilla, Chavez, and Luis Gonzales, a Mexican farm worker who told the committee how he had been recruited as a strikebreaker. **(Story, Page 3.)**

Labor Suit Upheld By U.S. Judge

By James M. Shevis

A U.S. District Court has ruled that the Administration's anti-inflation program is unconstitutional "and must be rejected" because of mandatory sanctions against firms holding government contracts.

The decision upheld the position of the AFL-CIO and nine of its affiliated unions who had filed suit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia last March asking for a summary judgment enjoining government officials from administering or enforcing the wage-price guidelines.

"President Carter has exceeded the authority conferred on him by the Constitution by seeking to control incomes and thereby prices through the procurement power," Judge Barrington D. Parker said in a 24-page decision.

"The program establishes a mandatory system of wage and price controls unsupported by law. The court, therefore, reluctantly concludes that the President's anti-inflation program cannot be sustained."

This had been organized labor's position since the beginning of the controls program last fall, AFL-CIO President George Meany observed in a statement.

Meany called upon the Administration to move swiftly to develop an inflation-fighting program that deals effectively with the basic, underlying causes of today's price spiral—oil prices, interest rates, and the cost of food and medical care.

"We agree with Judge Parker

(Continued on Page 3)

25% over 3 Years:

Garment Pact Posts Gains for 130,000

New York—The Ladies' Garment Workers announced agreement on new contracts providing wage increases of 25 percent over the next three years for 130,000 womens' clothing workers.

ILGWU President Sol C. Chaikin said that the pacts will provide new levels of security for garment workers, giving members "an opportunity to keep their heads above water."

"At the same time, we are convinced they are reasonable enough to allow manufacturers to maintain their competitive market position," he said.

The settlements set a pattern for the New York market, but their "ripple" effect, Chaikin said eventually will benefit a quarter-million garment workers in related industries throughout the country.

The wage increases will be paid in installments of 5 percent on June 4, 5 percent on Oct. 1, 8 percent on June 2, 1980, and 7 percent on June 1, 1981.

Chaikin announced the terms of the new contracts at a press conference here. The garment industry is New York's largest manufacturing industry, and the settlement covers firms producing sportswear, blouses, dresses, coats and suits.

Other gains provided by the new agreements include:

- An additional paid holiday in 1980, with stipulated holiday pay for piece workers rising to $40 from $33.25 in three stages through June 1, 1981. Week workers will receive an additional day's pay.
- Employers will contribute an additional 2 percent of payroll to the retirement fund, with 1 percent payable on June 1 and the other 1 percent a year later.
- An increase of one-half percent will be added to the health services plan on June 1 and an additional half-percent will be added

(Continued on Page 2)

House Widens Aid to Victims Of Imports

The House passed by a one-sided voice vote a labor-supported bill to improve the adjustment assistance program for workers whose jobs are wiped out by imports.

Before sending the bill to the Senate, the House adopted an amendment further easing the eligibility requirements for benefits and defeated a union-opposed amendment that would have cut back the scope of the bill.

Similar legislation passed both the House and Senate last year, but time ran out on the 95th Congress before action was completed. The legislative process thus had to start anew this year.

(Continued on Page 8)

Guideline 'Hypocrisy' Clouding Bargaining

New York—Mistrust is growing between union and management negotiators because of the blatant hypocrisy in the Carter Administration's ill-conceived anti-inflation program, Thomas R. Donahue told the American Arbitration Association.

Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, said the greatest measure of hypocrisy and pretense comes from the government, but the business community has compounded the problem.

This has resulted in much cynicism at bargaining tables this year, he said in an address to participants in an Arbitration Day conference sponsored by the AAA.

"Since collective bargaining is a process and an institution reliant upon trust—between individuals and parties — the hypocrisy and resultant cynicism is damaging the process and the institution," Donahue declared.

A prime cause of the problem is the Administration's ironclad 7 percent limit on wage settlements that "is not rooted in economic fact or logic," Donahue declared.

(Continued on Page 8)

Stronger Law Sought To Stop Housing Bias

The AFL-CIO called on Congress to strengthen the Fair Housing Act by giving the agency that administers the law the power to enforce it.

Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter told a House Judiciary subcommittee that the goals of the 1968 law have been thwarted by the lack of enforcement machinery. The law, adopted as an amendment to the Civil Rights Act, bans discrimination in sale or rental of housing because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

While the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development administers the law, its only recourse in dealing with complaints of violation is to attempt conciliation. Thus, Schechter noted, a government study of 332 discrimination complaints handled by HUD showed that only 36 were resolved and the housing unit in question was secured for the complainant in only four cases.

The Justice Dept. has authority to litigate cases involving a "pattern or practice" of housing dis-

(Continued on Page 6)

Solar Energy Training Plan Given Funds

A joint union-management venture has won a $1.5 million federal grant for a national training and education program in the development of solar air heating and hot water systems.

The Energy Dept. contract went to the Solar Training Institute (STI) of the Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Industry, which is setting up training schools in six cities.

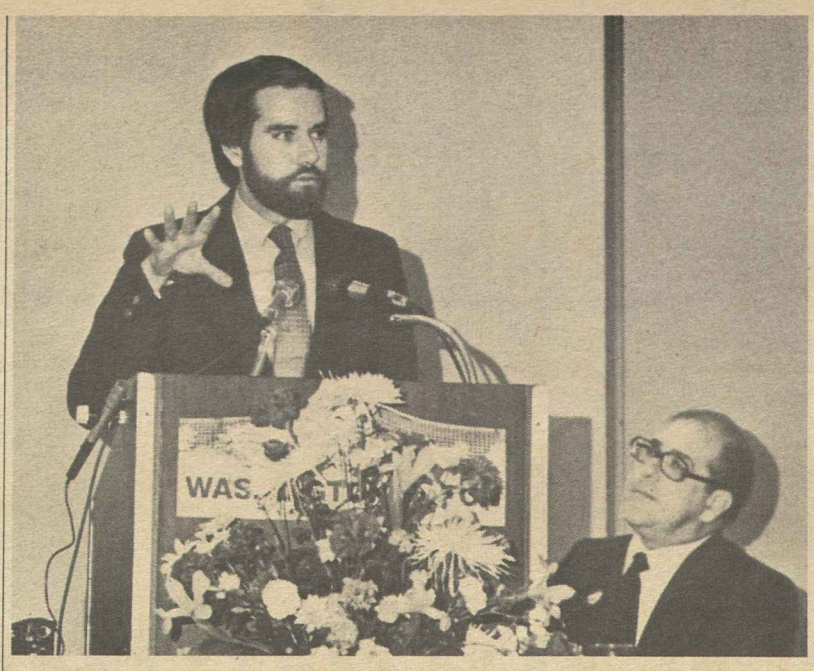
Local contractors and members of the Sheet Metal Workers operating the schools as a union-employer venture will provide the labor. STI will provide and coordinate teaching programs for contractors, journeymen and apprentices.

The government funds will be used to pay for the design, engineering and materials for solar air heating and hot water systems at the training facilities.

W. L. Fillippini, president of STI, said the new venture will have a major impact on the acceptance of solar technology in meeting the energy crisis. He termed it an outstanding example of labor-management cooperation on mutual goals in the public interest.

President Edward J. Carlough of the Sheet Metal Workers, citing the union's continuing activities in the development of solar heating technology, said the new STI program should help make the country more energy self-sufficient.

The six cities designated for the training facilities are Sacramento, Calif.; Denver, Atlanta, St. Louis, Columbus, Ohio; Louisville, Ky.



SIDNEY HILLMAN AWARD winner Michael Flannery addresses a media awards luncheon sponsored by the Hillman Foundation. Flannery shared an award with Bruce Ingersoll for a series of in the Chicago Sun-Times on job safety violations. President Murray H. Finley, right, of the Clothing & Textile Workers presented the awards.

Series on Job Safety Wins Hillman Award

The Sidney Hillman Foundation Awards for media achievements in 1978 have been won by a newspaper series exposing job safety scandals, a magazine article on the plight of Vietnam veterans, a book on criminal justice and a television documentary on Martin Luther King, Jr.

The awards were presented at a luncheon in Washington by Clothing & Textile Workers President Murray H. Finley. He also heads the foundation named after the first president of the Clothing Workers.

The foundation also made two special awards. Actor E. G. Marshall received a Meritorious Public Service Award as an outstanding humanitarian who has "dedicated his life to the betterment of society." Journalist I. F. Stone was cited for a half-century of work "in the best tradition of domestic journalism."

Winners of the Hillman awards for 1978 were:

- Michael Flannery and Bruce Ingersoll of the Chicago Sun-Times for their series, "The Working Wounded." Flannery and Ingersoll gained access to industrial plants to learn how some companies evaded and violated the federal Occupational Safety & Health Act at the expense of their workers.
- Tracy Kidder, a free-lance writer, for "Soldiers of Misfortune," an article in the Atlantic Monthly. Kidder contrasted the hostility faced by returning Vietnam veterans with the welcome given veterans of previous wars.
- Charles E. Silberman for his book, "Criminal Violence, Criminal Justice," published by Random House. Silberman dealt with the connection between race and crime and pointed up the deficiencies of the juvenile system.
- Abby Mann, the producer, for his NBC-TV documentary, "King." The film traced the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. and his struggle for equality which led him to the Memphis sanitation workers strike and his death.

Court Limits Damages In Suits Against Unions

A union can't be assessed punitive damages in a suit alleging failure to properly process a worker's grievance, the Supreme Court ruled.

The court was unanimous in cancelling as unjustified a $75,000 punitive award against a local of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

But more significantly, a 5-4 majority of the court agreed that punitive damages should not be allowed even if the case against the union were stronger.

Punitive damages are amounts exceeding actual loss, and the Supreme Court majority noted that juries have wide discretion in setting a dollar figure.

Writing for the majority, Justice Thurgood Marshall commented:

"Such awards could deplete union treasuries, thereby impairing the effectiveness of unions as collective bargaining agents. Inflicting this risk on employees, whose welfare depends upon the strength of their union, is simply too great a price for whatever deterrent effect punitive damages may have."

Marshall noted also that fear of heavy punitive damages could induce unions to process to the limit grievances that have no merit and can't be supported by the contract. He was joined in his opinion by Justices William J. Brennan, Jr., Potter Stewart, Byron R. White and Lewis F. Powell, Jr.

The four other judges joined in a statement by Justice Harry A. Blackmun that punitive damages should not be ruled out if in some other case a union was more at fault in not fulfilling its obligation of fair representation. He contended the court should merely have voided the punitive damages in the particular case before it.

The case that reached the court involved a railroad worker who was dismissed for failure to submit a doctor's statement supporting his request for an extension of a medical leave of absence. The worker's attorney did not seek intervention by the union until a few days before the deadline for filing a grievance expired, and the deadline passed before the proper claim form reached the railroad.

The former employee sued both the company and the union, reached an out-of-court settlement with the company and won a jury award of $40,000 in actual damages and $75,000 in punitive damages against the union. It was the $75,000 punitive award that led to the Supreme Court review.

Marshall noted that the Supreme Court agreed to review the case because federal appellate courts have come to various conclusions in dealing with punitive awards in unfair representation suits.

Bakers Boost Benefits For Current Retirees

Retirees of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers will receive an additional $25 a month in pension benefits, starting July 1, BCT President John DeConcini announced.

The increase will go to retirees on the union's pension fund rolls as of May 31 and will affect some 25,000 pensioners. The increase will mean an additional pension fund outlay of $7-8 million a year, the union said.

Ray Dolan Dies, HUD Labor Aide

Bethesda, Md. — Raymond J. Dolan, a retired senior labor relations specialist with the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, died May 22 of cancer at his home here. He was 62.

Dolan, a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, held a number of positions with the federal government since the mid-1950s at the Labor Dept., Peace Corps and the former Public Housing Administration. For several years, he had been assistant administrator of the Labor Dept.'s Wage & Hour Division.

In the early 1970s Dolan headed a program to recruit skilled craftsmen for the Peace Corps. He joined HUD early in 1978 and retired late last year for health reasons.

Short of Labor's Proposals:

Carter Trims Back Welfare Plan Scope

President Carter has sent Congress a welfare reform proposal that he said would result in more adequate assistance to those who cannot work and improved job opportunities for family heads who "can and should" work.

Its thrust is in the direction urged by the AFL-CIO but its assistance standards fall short of an Executive Council recommendation that benefits be not less than the poverty cutoff level.

On the plus side, the Administration proposal would result in additional income for 800,000 families in states with lower benefit levels and create 400,000 new job and training opportunities through an expansion of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA).

It would make two-parent families eligible for assistance in all 50 states. Twenty-four states now deny welfare benefits to families with two parents living together.

In scope and cost, the program is smaller than a proposal Carter made two years ago, which never reached a vote in either the House or Senate. The cost of the new plan is estimated at $5.7 billion in its first full year, of which $2.7 billion would be the net cost of new job and training programs and $900 million would be the savings to states from federal assumption of a larger share of welfare costs.

The Administration's welfare reform bill would establish a federally-financed minimum family benefit of 65 percent of the poverty level through a combination of cash payments plus food stamps. That's higher than 13 states now provide and it would narrow the wide gap that now exists.

The current national poverty level is $7,200 for a family of four. Present benefits for welfare families of that size, combining federal food-stamp allotments and state-determined cash payments, range from $3,540 a year in Mississippi to $6,540 in Vermont.

A separate Work & Training Opportunities Act is proposed by the Administration to generate jobs and training for able-bodied heads of welfare households, those who are expected to work.

The federal government would put up 90 percent of the funds for a state-administered job search program that would combine referrals to private-sector jobs with arrangements for supportive services such as child care, transportation and medical care.

If, after eight weeks of active job search, the welfare family head were still unemployed, jobs or job training would be provided under CETA programs that in most cases include a mix of jobs and training.

The Labor Dept. estimated that the nation's communities could find useful employment for at least 1.6 million low-skill workers on public payrolls and in programs of non-profit community organizations.

Depending on factors such as family size, the CETA jobs would either minimize or eliminate the need for direct welfare payments. The goal would be to move the CETA workers into unsubsidized jobs within 18 months. But after that period, they would be eligible for a return to CETA employment if an eight-week active job search proved fruitless.

There are many details of the President's plan that will be shaped in the course of congressional hearings, but the Administration this time consulted with key members of Congress in developing its proposals.

Stuart Eizenstat, Carter's chief domestic adviser, termed the congressional outlook "reasonably good."

Carter told Congress that the cost of the reform plan has been held to a minimum. But "even in a period of austerity and fiscal stringency," he stressed, "our nation cannot afford to ignore its most pressing needs and its most needy."

Ladies' Garment Pact Sets Gains for 130,000

(Continued from Page 1)

to the helath and welfare fund over the life of the contract.

- Hourly craft minimums will rise to $4.50 from $3.80 for operators, and to $4.40 from $3.65 for floor workers. The two crafts account for 80-85 percent of the workers covered by the contracts.

Negotiations for 24,000 sportswear and blouse workers were conducted by Blouse, Skirt & Sportswear Workers Local 23-25 in New York City, and by the New Jersey Region, Northeast Dept. and New York State District for 45,000 workers outside the city.

Of the 60,000 workers in the dress, coat and suit industries covered by the Dressmakers' Joint Council, 15,000 workers in New York City were represented by the New York Coat, Suit, Dress, Rainwear & Allied Workers' Union while the 45,000 workers outside the city were represented by ILGWU's New Jersey, New England and Eastern Pennsylvania regions, and its Northeast, Western Pennsylvania and Ohio Dept.

Negotiations on sportswear and blouses opened on Mar. 27; dress negotiations, on Apr. 3, coats and suits, Apr. 5, and rainwear, Apr. 6. Old contracts in most of the industries expired on May 31.

Chaikin pointed out that apparel imports from low-wage countries continue to plague the industry. Domestic non-union competition is also keen, he said.

Apparel prices during the year have risen only about half the general rate of consumer price increases, he observed, adding: "Our industry could hardly be described as a contributor to inflation."

Steelworkers' Parley Shifted to ERA State

Pittsburgh — The Steelworkers have moved their 1980 convention from Las Vegas to Los Angeles because Nevada has not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment.

President Lloyd McBride said the union strongly supports ERA and is cooperating with women's groups that contend states which have not yet ratified the proposed amendment "should not benefit in an economic manner from those who favor ratification."

The USWA's conventions are attended by more than 4,000 delegates plus family members and union staff.

Alien Strikebreakers Grow:

Chavez Hits Laxity Of Border Agency

California lettuce growers have been using an increasing number of illegal aliens as strikebreakers and the government's supposed crackdown has been too little and too late, the Farm Workers testified.

UFW President Cesar Chavez told the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee that the Immigration & Naturalization Service "refuses to enforce the law" despite the union's prodding.

He gave Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) a copy of a 14-page log the UFW had compiled on movements of Mexican nationals working in struck lettuce fields. The Immigration Service has largely ignored the union's evidence, Chavez and UFW Sec.-Treas. Gilbert Padilla said.

A young Mexican farm worker, brought by the union to the Senate hearings, gave first-hand witness to the manner in which strikebreakers are obtained.

Luis Gonzales, testifying with the help of a translator, told of his recruitment in Mexico. He was driven to a point near the U.S. border and advised on how to scramble across without being spotted. Then he was picked up on the U.S. side of the border and driven several hundred miles to a struck lettuce field in the Salinas area owned by SunHarvest, a major producer.

There, Gonzales said, a foreman furnished false social security numbers to him and other undocumented workers. He was put to work wrapping lettuce, but UFW pickets persuaded him to leave the struck fields.

Gonzales told the committee that about one-third of the farm workers at the ranch where he worked were illegally in the United States.

Later Immigration & Naturalization Commissioner Leonel J. Castillo acknowledged that his agency has limited resources and said it is "virtually impossible to keep the undocumented alien out of the fields or factories."

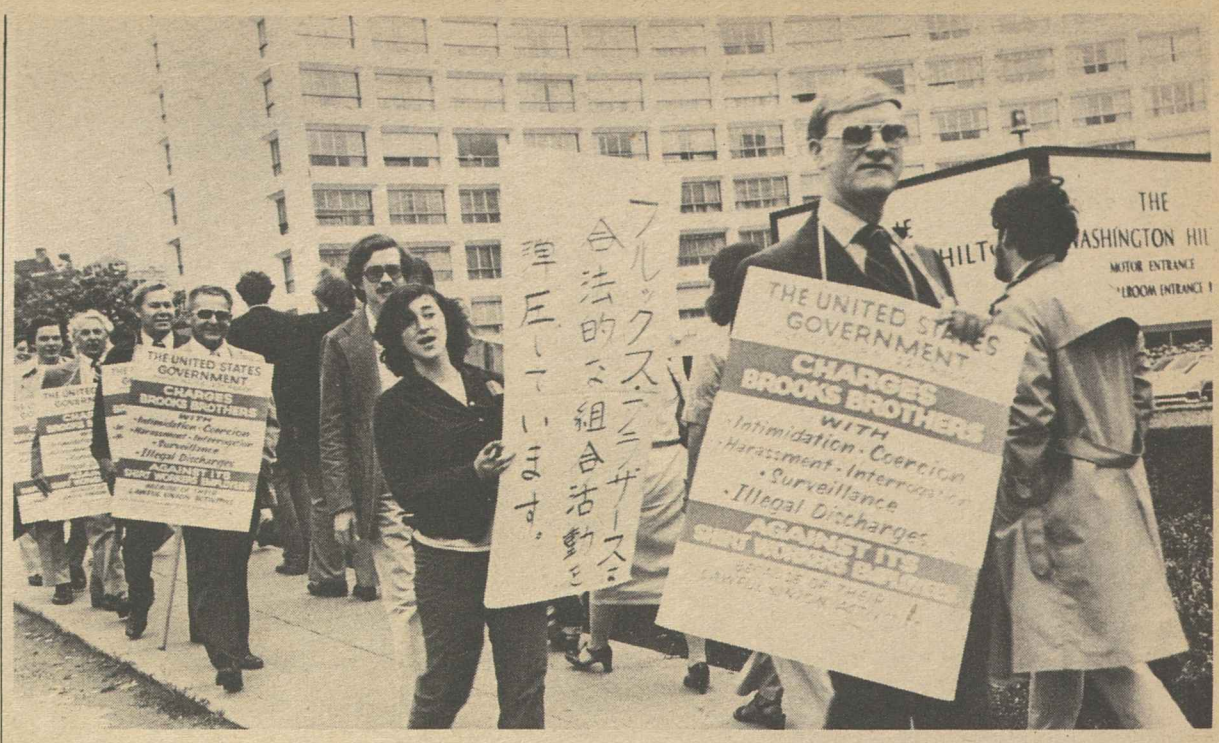
He said that during the past month the INS has apprehended 8,319 illegal aliens in the lettuce-growing areas, more than twice the number found during the same period a year ago. They included 442 apprehended as a direct result of information supplied by the United Farm Workers, he testified.

Chavez charged, however, that the increased Immigration Service activity was a temporary spurt that coincided with Senate hearings held at Salinas, and bypassed most of the struck ranches.

The union said many of the illegals were rounded up at the end of the harvest season in the San Joaquin Valley after they had worked the entire season breaking the strike.

An employer spokesman told the committee that the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act has brought "economic warfare" to the farms, and he said the growers now favor coverage under the federal National Labor Relations Act.

Chavez told the Senate committee that the UFW favors ending the exclusion of agricultural workers from the NLRA—but only if farm workers are exempt from restrictions on use of the boycott, which the UFW considers essential to balancing out the economic power of the big growers.



STOCKHOLDERS MEETING of Garfinckel, Brooks Brothers, Miller & Rhoads, Inc., at a Washington hotel is picketed by members of the Clothing & Textile Workers protesting anti-union tactics at the Brooks Brothers shirt factory in Paterson, N.J. ACTWU has accused the company of illegal firings and opposing the union's effort to organize the 300 workers at the Paterson plant even though 1,000 workers at other Brooks Brothers plants have union representation.

Court Upholds Labor's Challenge, Rules Wage-Price Controls Invalid

(Continued from Page 1)

that 'inflation is a vexing and festering domestic problem,' " Meany said. "That problem, however, cannot be solved by the Administration's current program because it seeks to control only wages."

The AFL-CIO has called repeatedly for mandatory, across-the-board controls on both incomes and prices, with the same level of sacrifice for all.

Meany said he was "gratified" by the court ruling and, noting the government's intention to appeal, offered to cooperate to achieve a final decision "as expeditiously as possible."

The District Court ruling called on the plaintiffs to submit an order declaring the government's pay standard, as enforced by contract debarment, unlawful. AFL-CIO Special Counsel Laurence Gold said he has drafted the order, containing an injunctive provision, and would transmit it to the court promptly.

Although Judge Parker's ruling strips Carter's guidelines of their only weapon of enforcement, the President can continue to seek voluntary compliance with the standards.

Chairman Alfred Kahn of the Council on Wage & Price Stability said the publicity surrounding a company when the government finds it exceeding the wage and price guidelines or issues a warning is still "a major factor in gaining compliance."

Kahn, who called the court ruling "disappointing," said the government will appeal the decision.

In its arguments for a summary judgment on May 16, labor attorneys charged that the threat of contract debarment turned the Carter guidelines into a mandatory set of controls, and therefore were not authorized under the 1974 Council on Wage & Price Stability Act.

The federation also held that the guidelines and the threat of debarment constitute government interference in the collective bargaining process in violation of the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act.

For its part, the government maintained that its anti-inflation program was authorized by the 1974 statute and that the withholding of federal contracts was permitted under the 1949 Procurement Act requiring the government to strive for "efficiency" and "economy."

Under the Carter guidelines, companies that violated the 7 percent per year wage limit faced loss of contracts with the government if those contracts amounted to $5 million or more. Parker noted in his opinion that the $5 million threshold directly covers about 50 percent of all government procurement dollars.

Dismissing the government's contentions, Parker said a review of the history of wage-price legislation leaves no doubt as to what Congress intended when it passed the Council on Way & Price Stability Act. He cited Section 3(b) of the statute:

"Nothing in this Act . . . authorizes the continuation, imposition, or reimposition of any mandatory economic controls with respect to prices, rents, wages, salaries, corporate dividends, or any similar transfers."

There is also ample evidence elsewhere to show that congressional intent was to remove government from the realm of controls, allowing parties to make their own pay and price decisions, he said.

"Congress would permit the government to cajole, not to compel," he said. "The council's function in combating inflation is thus essentially hortatory. Nowhere is it authorized to impose sanctions."

Parker said that in light of his ruling, it was not necessary to address the contention that the President's anti-inflation program "interferes with the congressionally-endorsed policy of free collective bargaining."

Of the Administration's assertion that the wage and price guidelines are somehow voluntary, Parker said that "this position is simply to blink at reality . . . and has little merit."

"It would be difficult to convince a business executive or anyone faced with a decision to comply or lose a substantial government contract that such a program is voluntary," the judge said. "The debarment threat serves as an effective lever and a none-too-subtle deterrent to any company which does business with the government. . . .

"The threat of ineligibility for, or loss of, government contracts is for some companies the most severe possible sanction the government imposes."

President Peter Bommarito of the Rubber Workers, one of the nine AFL-CIO affiliates joining in the lawsuit, said that Judge Parker "has renewed our faith in our system of checks and balances with what I consider a most courageous decision."

The intervention of the Administration in the Rubber Workers' bargaining dispute with the industry lent immediacy to the AFL-CIO suit and led Judge Parker to promise a prompt decision in the case.

The importance of the ruling "goes far beyond the realm of the URW and organized labor," Bommarito said. "It goes to the heart of the American system, thereby benefiting each and every American."

Bommarito made his remarks in Fairlawn, Ohio, where he and other URW negotiators were meeting with Uniroyal Inc., leaders to work out a new contract to replace one that expired on Apr. 20. He said he hoped that company negotiators now would do some serious bargaining.

"If they have any integrity at all, they will abide by their original agreement last April," said Bommarito, charging that the firm had been stalling in the last couple of days of talks.

The union struck the nation's No. 3 tire maker on May 9 after the two sides reached an impasse. Bommarito charged that Uniroyal had concluded a tentative accord on Apr. 18 but later reneged when the government pressured it to keep its settlement within the Administration's 7 percent wage guideline.

Judge Parker noted in his opinion that inflation in the last several years "has plagued, without discrimination, all segments of our population, and its impact has been felt in every facet of our political economy.

"The efforts of the President, however well-intentioned and commendable they may be, must be predicated upon Executive power pursuant to the Constitution," he said. "The constitutional separation of powers cannot be ignored."

Joining the AFL-CIO in the lawsuit were the Machinists; Rubber Workers; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Longshoremen; Steelworkers; Telegraph Workers; Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers; Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, and the Chemical Workers.

Continued Price Surge Undermines Real Wages

(Continued from Page 1)

cent since the Administration program was announced."

When the President announced his anti-inflation program last October, his stated goal was to hold wage increases to 7 percent and price increases to just under 6 percent. But in the first six months of the program, Meany noted, prices have risen nearly double that projection.

Over the same time, the price explosion has contributed largely to a 3.3 percent drop in workers' buying power, Meany pointed out.

"Reliance on wage controls is one-sided, illegal in its enforcement, has no basis in economic fact or statutory authority, and should be immediately abandoned," he said. "The Administration is aggravating inflation by its policies of decontrolling oil, raising interest rates, and inducing a recession."

In a separate report, BLS said that real spendable earnings for the average worker with three dependents fell 2.4 percent in April, the steepest decline since a 2.7 percent plunge in January 1978. Over the year, real spendable earnings were down 4.5 percent.

Real spendable earnings, or take-home pay adjusted for inflation since 1967, were $89.58 a week in April. That represented a drop of $2.23 from the March level and a drop of $4.18 over the year.

Higher energy prices led the April price parade. The 6 percent climb in gasoline prices was the largest since the 1973-74 Arab oil embargo. Also rising steeply in April were home heating oil prices, up 3.5 percent.

"If we look at all energy products, which account for 8.5 percent of the CPI 'market basket,' we find that they increased at an annual rate of 31.6 percent during the first four months of this year and accounted for about one-fifth of the 4.2 percent increase in the all-items CPI," BLS Commissioner Janet L. Norwood told a hearing of the congressional Joint Economic Committee.

New car prices also rose sharply in April, rising 1.3 percent after climbing seven-tenths of 1 percent in March. Food prices rose eight-tenths of 1 percent over the month, compared with a 1.2 percent jump in March. Beef prices were up 3.8 percent, the seventh consecutive month of large increases in this category.

Housing costs increased 1.1 percent, reflecting rising home-owner costs and higher financing charges. The only major area of the CPI that showed signs of moderation in April was clothing.

Apparel and upkeep rose four-tenths of 1 percent over the month, compared with 1.3 percent in March. Footwear prices, however, rose 1.8 percent, compared with 1.2 percent the month before.

Medical care costs rose seven-tenths of 1 percent, about the same as in March.

An Unmet Promise

FAIR HOUSING is a major civil rights issue of the Seventies. The social legislation of the 1960s was not considered complete until the passage of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 —also known as the Fair Housing Act. This significant piece of legislation made it illegal to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex and national origin in the selling or renting of housing. Title VIII represented an important step in the nation's quest for equal opportunity and freedom of choice in housing for all Americans.

However, the legislation did not provide the agency responsible for administering the law—the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development—with real enforcement powers. HUD was only given the authority to conciliate violations and, therefore, was unable to offer remedies.

In June and July of 1977, the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing undertook a Housing Marketing Practices Survey in 40 metropolitan areas across the nation. The HUD-funded survey sent 300 blacks and 300 whites, in pairs, to shop for housing through advertisements in local newspapers. Approximately 3,200 real estate sales firms and rental agents were contacted. The results were shocking.

When responding to newspaper advertisements for rental vacancies, it was found that 29 percent of the rental agents discriminated against blacks making inquiries. In the case of homes for sale, 21 percent of the real estate agents were found discriminating against blacks making inquiries.

Moreover, the study found that when blacks in the pursuit of housing visited four rental offices or four real estate brokers in response to advertisements, the probability of encountering discrimination was an astounding 75 percent in the rental market and 62 percent in the home sales market.

THE IMPLICATIONS of such unequal treatment in the housing market are far-reaching. Maintaining a housing market that limits the choice of a select group of Americans is costly—both economically and socially. Housing generally has been in short supply and prices and rents have been inflating. It particularly burdens minorities by forcing them to compete for a limited number of housing units in certain prescribed areas, thereby bidding up the prices of such units.

Further, there is the critical impact of discrimination in housing on employment opportunity. If, because of housing discrimination, a person is prevented from securing housing that is in the vicinity of an employment facility, and is therefore unable to obtain a job, there is a loss to the nation in income and productivity—a loss that can never be regained.

In part, the recent experience of young blacks can be explained by discrimination in the housing market. Traditionally, young blacks have held jobs that were in urban centers. In recent years, however, employers have been migrating toward the suburbs, leaving black youths behind—unemployed and isolated in the central cities, unable to obtain housing in the suburban areas.

The national goal of equal housing opportunity for all Americans has not been met. The Fair Housing Amendments of 1979 are, unfortunately, as needed today as the enactment of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act was needed in 1968.

—From AFL-CIO testimony.

AFL-CIO News

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'We Keep Slipping Back!'



Challenging Economic Tyrants:

Adam Smith Closer to Marx Than to Modern Conservatives

By Gus Tyler

THEY ARE ALL WEARING the same neckpiece, the brand new conservative school tie. It features the profile of Adam Smith, the celebrated Scot of the 18th Century who, in his official role as professor of moral philosophy, wrote the classic economic treatise, The Wealth of Nations.

The tie comes in blue, burgundy, green and black but, as is appropriate for a conservative movement, the Smithian face is delineated in gold. Among the proud wearers are Phil Crane, the first this year to declare his candidacy for the Republican nomination for President; Dr. Milton Friedman, the economic guru of the American right wing; Richard Viguerie, the fabulous fund-raiser for the movement; William Simon, former Secretary of the Treasury whose book, "A Time for Truth," is a best seller of anti-liberal literature; and, finally, William Buckley, Jr., the genial gentleman whose debonair deportment and aristocratic air have imparted class to what was once considered an ideology for illiberal illiterates only.

These gentlemen all display the Smithian symbol in the same way as some young leftist rebel might wear a neckpiece with the face of the bearded Karl Marx on it. Yet, despite the reverence of American conservatives for Adam Smith, the honored thinker had more in common with Karl Marx than with most of those who wear the Smithian symbol today.

Smith and Marx were both anti-establishment, challenging the economic tyrants of their time. To Smith, the oppressors were the landed nobility whose monopolies were making it impossible for the ambitious young capitalists to break into the market. Seventy-five years later, when Marx wrote, the capitalists had made their revolutions and were now putting together their monopolies to control the market and to oppress their employees. So Marx struck out at the new economic tyrants.

Ironically, Marx borrowed much from Smith, including the canny Scot's fears that the capitalists of his time could be quite conspiratorial in their exploitation of both their employees and the public.

"People of the same trade," Smith wrote in The Wealth of Nations, "seldom meet together, even for merriment and diversion, but the conversation ends in a conspiracy against the public, or in some contrivance to raise prices." That very modern-sounding comment was written in 1776.

Talking about unions, Smith wrote: "We rarely hear of the combination of masters (employers), though frequently of those of workmen. But whoever imagines, upon this account, that masters rarely combine is as ignorant of the world as of the subject. Masters are always and everywhere in a sort of tacit, but constant and uniform, combination not to raise the wages above their actual rate. . . . Masters sometimes enter into particular combinations to sink the wages of labor even below this rate."

Finally Smith argued that employers would never hesitate to use government for their own selfish purposes. "Whenever the legislature attempts to regulate the difference between masters and their workmen, its counsellors are always the masters. When masters combine together in order to reduce the wages of their workmen they commonly enter into a private bond or agreement not to give more than a certain wage under a certain penalty. Were the workmen to enter into contrary combinations of the same kind, not to accept a certain wage under a certain penalty, the law would punish them very severely."

Marx read these words, took them to heart, and concluded that the new masters were as bad as the old masters.

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One-Sided Controls Aggravate Inflation

Reliance on wage controls is one-sided, illegal in its enforcement and has no basis in economic fact or statutory authority, and should be immediately abandoned.

The Administration is aggravating inflation by its policies of decontrolling oil, raising interest rates and inducing recession.

If the Administration is unable to deal with the real causes of inflation, then the only remaining alternative is enactment of a legislated program with full controls on the price of everything and the income of everybody.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany

How to Buy:

New Regulations Aim at Ending Abuses in Vocational Schools

By Sidney Margolius

MANY YOUNG PEOPLE graduating from high school this spring will start looking for a trade or business school to learn a job skill.

These youngsters and their parents immediately become targets for misrepresentation by at least some private vocational schools. Often more mature but unskilled workers also encounter problems with trade and correspondence schools that exaggerate job opportunities, earnings potential and facilities.

While not all privately operated schools misrepresent by any means, some well-known names in industry and the educational business have been charged with such exaggeration from time to time by the Federal Trade Commission.

The extent of the damage done to students is underscored by the fact that, while vocational schools comprise only one-fourth of the government's guaranteed educational loans, they account for over half of the defaults. Many of these are attributable to deception by the schools, says FTC Chairman Michael Pertschuk.

Under pressure from the FTC, other agencies, and the more reputable schools and trade associations, some of the more flagrant practices have been cleaned up. The FTC has noted that reputable private vocational schools have provided many students with the skills needed for a good job.

But some schools have made claims they couldn't fulfill, the FTC's Office of Consumer Education reports.

The commission now has adopted a trade regulation rule aimed at correcting the abuses and protecting both the students and the scrupulous schools. But the rule won't become effective until the end of this year. It may not even go into effect then. The National Association of Trade & Technical Schools has asked the federal Court of Appeals for an injunction against the rule. It claims the regulations would cost students more but provide little additional benefit.

Since the privately owned trade schools often are criticized for high dropout rates, the association says in defense that its schools' average completion rate is higher than the average of the nation's colleges.

Until the new regulations become effective, you have to be your own policeman. The pending rules themselves offer an excellent guide on what to look for and insist on before you sign a school contract.

When the rule is effective, students will have 14 days after the school has accepted their application to change their mind about their choice. Schools must notify students about this right at the time they are accepted. If students cancel within the 14 days, they get all their money back—even if the course has started.

The trade schools' association also is against the proposed 14-day "cooling off" period after a contract is signed. The association claims that such a trial period places an "undue burden" on the students who complete their courses.

In any case, some schools already give at least 10 days to cancel, sometimes with a penalty. So it's important to make sure some such safeguard is in the contract.

Students also would be able to cancel at any time during the course under the FTC regulations. However, after the first 14 days, they may owe some money. Schools can keep a "registration fee" of not more than $75. They also can charge some tuition based on the number of classes or lessons completed.

Schools also will have to tell new students in a separate written notice how many former students dropped out of the course. If the school makes any claims about the demand for or potential earnings of graduates, it must tell how many recent graduates were placed in jobs and how much they are earning.

Schools also would have to back up their claims about their graduates' jobs and earnings.

BEFORE YOU CONTRACT for an expensive private school, even a legitimate one, see what the local high school counselor can suggest among courses available from public technical high schools or colleges. Many state universities now offer some vocational correspondence courses.

Also check with local unions in the trades which interest you to see if they know the reputation of private trade schools in the area, especially those that may attract you because of TV promotions or salesmen's claims. The union also can advise you on the actual availability of jobs in specific trades and if they have any training programs of their own.

The FTC has undertaken a new way to stop alleged exaggerations by requiring schools cited for misrepresentation to make refunds. One of the largest refunds was required for Bell & Howell correspondence courses.

The school was required to refund about $1.4 million under agreement with the FTC to students who failed to get a job. The FTC said Bell & Howell several years ago misled students about job opportunities, earnings potential and the nature of its home study courses.

In another recent case, refunds were required of North American Correspondence Schools' School of Conservation.

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Safeguards Lacking:

Serious Pitfalls Cited in Rush To Revise Communications Act

CONGRESS SHOULD GO SLOW in rewriting the nation's basic communications law to assure full protection of the public interest and adequate safeguards for the rights of workers in that industry, President Kathleen Nolan of the Screen Actors Guild said on Labor News Conference.

Nolan stressed that the overhaul now being shaped on Capitol Hill will make "a major change in the way that we communicate in this country—through the mass media—through the electronic media." She warned that arbitrary action in response to the current "deregulation fever" and pressures from industry interests could give many of the current industry ills the sanction of law.

Nolan said that attention must be given to "what people, or organizations, or corporations the marketplace is accessible to," or run the risk of "perpetuating the current monopoly in the broadcast industry and the telecommunications field."

Noting that the AFL-CIO agrees that the communications law does badly need updating, Nolan said that none of the proposals now under consideration by Congress makes the "positive move" that is needed. She was especially critical of the measure offered by Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin (D-Calif.), which, she warned, would wipe out both the Fairness Doctrine and the equal time provision that are aimed at guaranteeing that both sides of controversial issues are aired.

She said that the Van Deerlin bill fails to give any "attention to network control or how we deal with artists" or the effect on labor in general. This also is "a devastating piece of legislation, in terms of a responsible position to the public," she charged.

Reporters questioning Nolan on Labor News Conference, a public affairs production of the AFL-CIO, were Ann McFeatters of Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc.

The program is aired weekly by the Mutual Broadcasting System. It can be heard in the Washington area Sunday evening on station WKYS-FM.



By Press Associates, Inc.

MORE THAN 30 MILLION youths, 14 through 24 years of age, will be taking a break from school this summer, and the overwhelming majority will be using the time for relaxation, fun and odd jobs. But millions of students will be looking more for a money-making job, and a lot of them are going to be disappointed.

No one knows exactly how many young people, through either a desire to earn money or just to get a taste of work experience, will actively seek employment. But the number is substantial. Just among 16-to-19-year-olds last July, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1.9 million youngsters were listed as jobless and actively seeking work.

More than a million young persons can expect to get jobs in private industry this summer, according to Labor Dept. estimates—slinging hamburgers at fast-food restaurants, filling in for vacationing clerical workers, laboring on construction projects or performing any of thousands of tasks that require little training or experience.

But there's a limit to the number of summer workers private industry can absorb, so a lot of youngsters will be looking to federally funded or supported programs for their shot at a paycheck and some work experience.

While President Carter pledged in May to take a new look at a $200 million reduction he had ordered in the government's summer jobs program, current funding levels will reduce job opportunities by 80,000 from last year.

The cut came in the Summer Youth Employment Program, the government's single, biggest youth jobs effort. The SYEP program currently is budgeted at $740 million to create 1 million, 10-week jobs, generally at the federal minimum wage of $2.90 an hour. The jobs are made available through existing Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA) programs.

THE SUMMER JOBS PROGRAM is perceived by many as that necessary first step toward employment experience and that constructive sense of accomplishment that comes with an earned paycheck.

Hopefully, the Carter Administration will weigh the virtually insignificant dollar savings of job program cuts against the positive impact those dollars could have on tens of thousands of young lives, and decide in favor of people.

Meanwhile, a range of opportunities for young people still remains, though reduced in number, bringing the total of federally sponsored jobs for youngsters to nearly 1.7 million:

- The Youth Employment & Demonstration Projects Act will offer an estimated 226,000 jobs to disadvantaged youths between the ages of 14 and 21. There are four programs under the act, and these jobs have the added bonus of not being strictly for the summer—they will continue through the year for in-school and out-of-school youngsters.
- The Youth Conservation Corps has $60 million earmarked for this summer to handle about 38,000 jobs in trail building, stream clearing and timber trimming. The program is administered by the Departments of Interior and Agriculture.
- Three programs are being offered by the Office of Personnel Management. OPM's Federal Summer Employment Program for Needy Youth calls for about 38,000 jobs in all types of government offices across the country. Another 35,000 slots are available through OPM's Merit Staffing Employment for Youth program, in which hiring is based solely on merit without regard to economic need. And OPM's Stay-in-School program has nearly 20,000 slots for fulltime summer work and part-time employment during the school year.
- Some 55,000 jobs will be available through the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act Title III Summer Jobs Program, augmenting the basic summer youth program's million slots.
- The National Alliance of Business, with the support of the Labor Dept., is aiming to fill 270,000 private-sector jobs, using only private money to employ disadvantaged youth. The NAB last year reported placements of nearly 263,000.



STRONG SAFEGUARDS are needed in proposals now before Congress to rewrite the nation's basic communications law, President Kathleen Nolan of the Screen Actors Guild said on Labor News Conference. She was questioned by Ann McFeatters, left, of Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Harry Conn of Press Associates. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

House Democrats' Oil Decontrol Vote

The House Democratic Caucus on May 24 voted 138-69 for a labor-supported resolution opposing President Carter's decision to lift price controls on oil produced in the United States.

As the AFL-CIO sees it, votes for the resolution are right (R) and votes opposed are wrong (W). Absentees are marked (A) and numerals show congressional districts.

ALABAMA

3. Nichols A
4. Bevill A
5. Flippo W
7. Shelby A

ARIZONA

2. Udall R
3. Stump W

ARKANSAS

1. Alexander W
4. Anthony W

CALIFORNIA

1. Johnson W
3. Matsui R
4. Fazio A
5. Burton, J. R
6. Burton, P. R
7. Miller R
8. Dellums R
9. Stark R
10. Edwards R
13. Mineta W
15. Coelho W
16. Panetta R
21. Corman A
23. Beilenson A
24. Waxman R
25. Roybal R
28. Dixon A
29. Hawkins R
30. Danielson R
31. Wilson, C. H. A
32. Anderson W
35. Lloyd W
36. Brown W
38. Patterson A
42. Van Deerlin A

COLORADO

1. Schroeder W
2. Wirth W
3. Kogovsek R

CONNECTICUT

1. Cotter R
2. Dodd R
3. Giaimo R
5. Ratchford R
6. Moffett R

FLORIDA

1. Hutto W
2. Fuqua W
3. Bennett W
4. Chappell W
7. Gibbons A
8. Ireland W
9. Nelson W
11. Mica W
12. Stack R
13. Lehman W
14. Pepper W
15. Fascell W

GEORGIA

1. Ginn W
2. Mathis A
3. Brinkley W
4. Levitas A
5. Fowler W
7. McDonald A
8. Evans A
9. Jenkins W
10. Barnard W

HAWAII

1. Heftel W
2. Akaka R

ILLINOIS

1. Stewart R
2. Murphy R
3. Russo R
5. Fary R
7. Collins R
8. Rostenkowski W
9. Yates A
10. Mikva R
11. Annunzio R
23. Price R
24. Simon R

INDIANA

1. Benjamin R
2. Fithian R
3. Brademas R
6. Evans R
9. Hamilton W
10. Sharp W
11. Jacobs A

IOWA

4. Smith A
5. Harkin R
6. Bedell R

KANSAS

4. Glickman W

KENTUCKY

1. Hubbard A
2. Natcher R
3. Mazzoli R
7. Perkins R

LOUISIANA

2. Boggs W
4. Leach W
5. Huckaby W
7. Breaux W
8. Long W

MARYLAND

2. Long W
3. Mikulski R
5. Spellman R
6. Byron A
7. Mitchell R
8. Barnes R

MASSACHUSETTS

2. Boland R
3. Early R
4. Drinan R
5. Shannon R
6. Mavroules R
7. Markey R
8. O'Neill R
9. Moakley R
11. Donnelly R
12. Studds R

MICHIGAN

1. Conyers A
3. Wolpe R
6. Carr A
7. Kildee R
8. Traxler A
10. Albosta R
12. Bonior R
13. Diggs R
14. Nedzi R
15. Ford A
16. Dingell A
17. Brodhead R
18. Blanchard R

MINNESOTA

4. Vento R
5. Sabo A
6. Nolan R
8. Oberstar R

MISSISSIPPI

1. Whitten W
2. Bowen A
3. Montgomery W

MISSOURI

1. Clay R
2. Young R
3. Gephardt W
4. Skelton W
5. Bolling A
8. Ichord A
9. Volkmer W
10. Burlison W

MONTANA

1. Williams R

NEBRASKA

2. Cavanaugh R

NEVADA

AL Santini A

NEW HAMPSHIRE

1. D'Amours R

NEW JERSEY

1. Florio R
2. Hughes R
3. Howard R
4. Thompson R
7. Maguire R
8. Roe R
10. Rodino R
11. Minish R
14. Guarini R
15. Patten R

NEW MEXICO

2. Runnels A

NEW YORK

2. Downey R
3. Ambro R
6. Wolff R
7. Addabbo R
8. Rosenthal R
9. Ferraro R
10. Biaggi A
11. Scheuer R
12. Chisholm R
13. Solarz R
14. Richmond R
15. Zeferetti R
16. Holtzman R
17. Murphy A
19. Rangel A
20. Weiss R
21. Garcia A
22. Bingham R
23. Peyser R
24. Ottinger R
27. McHugh R
28. Stratton W
32. Hanley R
36. LaFalce R
37. Nowak R
39. Lundine R

NORTH CAROLINA

1. Jones A
2. Fountain A
3. Whitley W
4. Andrews A
5. Neal W
6. Preyer A
7. Rose W
8. Hefner A
11. Gudger W

OHIO

2. Luken R
3. Hall R
9. Ashley A
13. Pease R
14. Seiberling R
18. Applegate R
20. Oakar R
21. Stokes A
22. Vanik A
23. Mottl R

OKLAHOMA

1. Jones W
2. Synar A
3. Watkins W
4. Steed A
6. English W

OREGON

1. AuCoin A
2. Ullman A
3. Duncan A
4. Weaver R

PENNSYLVANIA

1. Myers R
2. Gray A
3. Lederer R
6. Yatron R
7. Edgar R
8. Kostmayer R
11. Flood R
12. Murtha W
14. Moorhead W
17. Ertel R
18. Walgren R
20. Gaydos R
21. Bailey R
22. Murphy R
25. Atkinson R

RHODE ISLAND

1. St Germain R
2. Beard R

SOUTH CAROLINA

1. Davis A
3. Derrick R
5. Holland A
6. Jenrette A

SOUTH DAKOTA

1. Daschle R

TENNESSEE

3. Bouquard A
4. Gore R
5. Boner A
7. Jones W
8. Ford A

TEXAS

1. Hall A
2. Wilson, C. A
4. Roberts W
5. Mattox W
6. Gramm W
8. Eckhardt R
9. Brooks A
10. Pickle W
11. Leath A
12. Wright W
13. Hightower A
14. Wyatt A
15. de la Garza A
16. White W
17. Stenholm W
18. Leland R
19. Hance W
20. Gonzalez R
23. Kazen W
24. Frost W

UTAH

1. McKay A

VIRGINIA

3. Satterfield W
5. Daniel, D. W
8. Harris R
10. Fisher W

WASHINGTON

2. Swift R
3. Bonker A
4. McCormack A
5. Foley A
6. Dicks R
7. Lowry R

WEST VIRGINIA

1. Mollohan R
2. Staggers R
3. Slack A
4. Rahall R

WISCONSIN

1. Aspin W
2. Kastenmeier R
3. Baldus R
4. Zablocki A
5. Reuss A
7. Obey R

Coors Goes Flat on Pitch To Tap Montana Beer Bust

Missoula, Mont.—The University of Montana had its annual Aber Day Kegger and the usual gathering of 10,000 people consumed the usual 1,000 kegs of beer. And they could all feel good about it the next day, because the beer they drank was not from the union-busters at Coors.

But it was close. Coors, subject of a nationwide boycott because of its actions against its Golden, Colo., workers, made an all-out pitch to take over the Aber Day Kegger. It offered its beer at a lowest-ever price, wanted to film the event for future Coors ads and was generally taking over the place.

Until the students started organizing a competing event. That caused the organizers to back off, throw out Coors, buy a good beer and have a good time. The Aber Day Kegger made it into the Guinness Book of Records as the world's largest campus beer party three years ago—but it has long been bigger than the campus, with thousands paying $9 a head to join the annual rites of Spring in mid-May.

And after the 1979 party, the sponsoring organization—called Liquid Assets Corp.—will be wary of any future attempt by Coors to muscle its way in. Coors tried to take Liquid Assets to court on grounds it lost the contract to a secondary boycott. But it wasn't, it was just a competing event being organized—so once again Coors was left without a keg to stand on.

Congress Asked to Strengthen Law Banning Discrimination in Housing

(Continued on Page 6)

crimination. But Schechter told the subcommittee that the resources allocated by the department are inadequate for its nationwide facilities.

The inability of HUD to bring violators to court, Schechter testified, "has proven to be a major flaw in the law and, in large part, is responsible for the lack of significant progress in the elimination of discrimination in housing."

The Administration is supporting strengthening of the housing law, and Schechter quoted approvingly the concern expressed in President Carter's State of the Union address that equal housing opportunity "remains largely an empty promise because of the lack of an adequate enforcement mechanism."

The bill supported by the AFL-CIO is co-sponsored by Rep. Don Edwards (D-Calif.), who is chairman of the subcommittee, and Rep. Robert F. Drinan (D-Mass.).

It would allow HUD to issue a "cease and desist" order after an administrative hearing establishes that the law has been violated. The bill would also allow HUD to levy a civil penalty of up to $10,000.

An important feature, Schechter said, would allow HUD to initiate enforcement action on the basis of its own investigations, without first receiving a formal complaint. And the bill would allow the agency to seek a court order barring the housing unit in question from being sold or rented before a decision is made on the merits of the case.

"This provision is of central importance in providing effective relief," he testified.

Other features of the bill would extend coverage to all housing units except rooms rented in an owner-occupied single-family unit and would allow a victim of discrimination to choose between seeking an administrative hearing through HUD or bringing a private court action. The bill would also drop the present requirement that HUD must first refer complaints to state and local fair housing agencies, and give the department the option to deal with a complaint directly.

Schechter cited as an example of the magnitude of the problem a 1977 survey by the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing, conducted in 40 metropolitan areas throughout the nation.

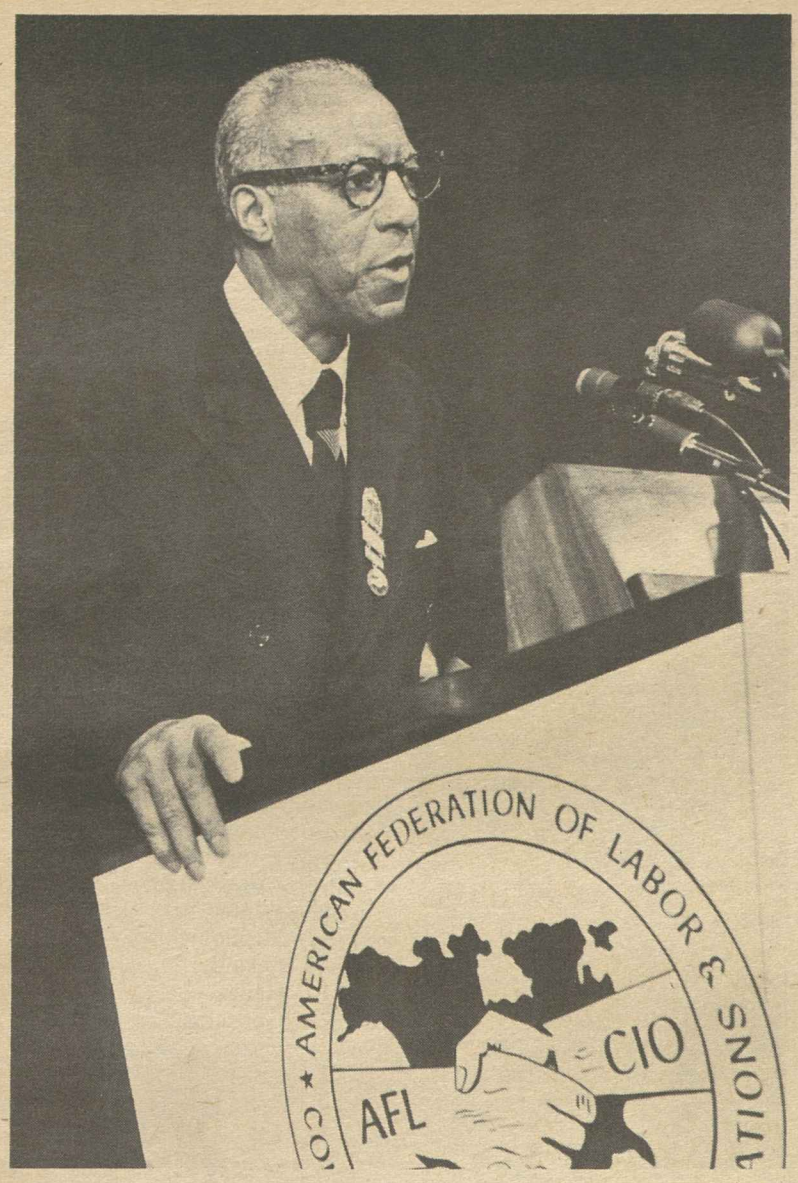
The HUD-funded survey sent 300 blacks and 300 whites to respond to local newspaper advertisements for apartments and homes.

The teams found that 29 percent of the rental agents discriminated against blacks inquiring about vacancies and 21 percent of the real estate agents discriminated.

Even that, Schechter noted, doesn't take into account the discriminatory effect of racial "steering" when agents seek to concentrate sales to minority groups to certain areas.

Housing segregation has been a factor in the higher unemployment rates of blacks, Schechter noted, as jobs have moved away from central cities.

"This bill cannot be enacted too soon," he told the panel.



A. Philip Randolph 1889-1979

FOR MOST OF HIS 90 years, Asa Philip Randolph labored in the struggle of America's black workers to win social and economic justice.

No one did more than Randolph in building the labor-civil rights coalition. By organizing the Sleeping Car Porters in the 1920s, he helped crack the barriers to black workers in the labor movement.

And as a vice president of the AFL-CIO, he spurred trade unions into expanding the fight against racism and the ongoing campaign for social progress.

In an address to the federation's 1963 convention, Randolph said: "Let each of us individually and unequivocally embrace the Negro's struggle for freedom, and the labor movement will rise to its full moral stature. Let us do this, and when labor's rights are threatened, you will see an outpouring of black Americans into the streets in defense of those rights. . . ."

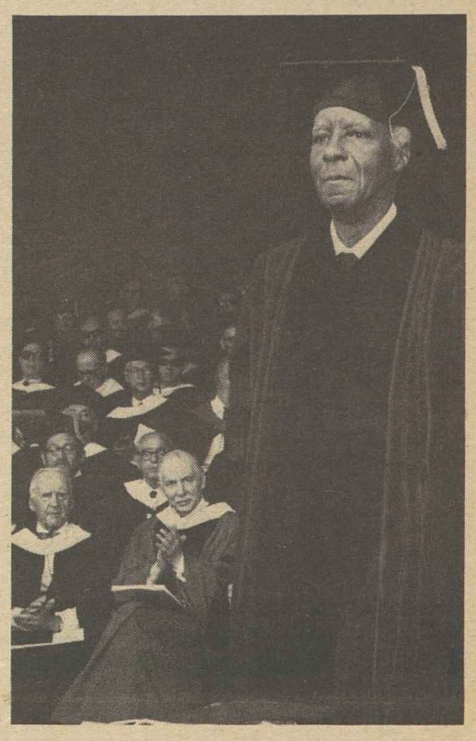
Randolph died May 15.



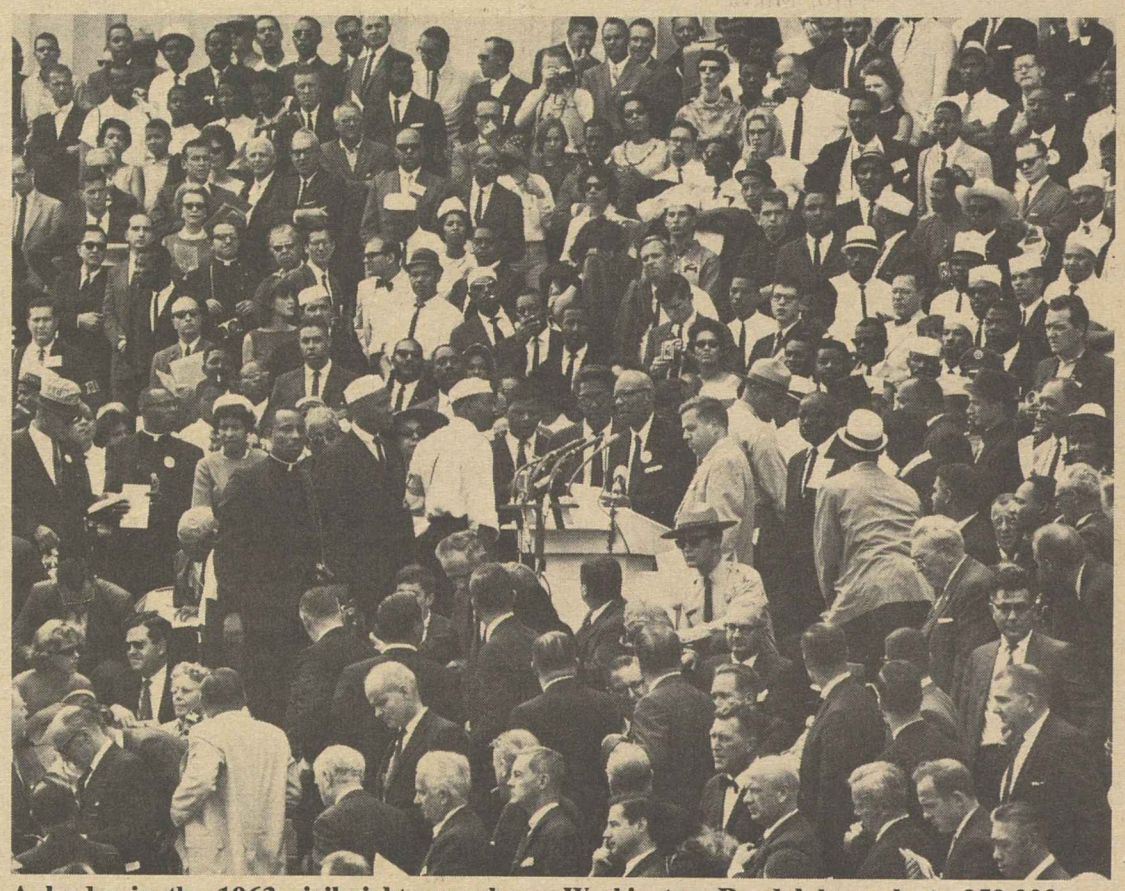
On his 80th birthday, Randolph was honored by his contemporaries as well as by the young.



At a convention with AFL-CIO President George Meany.



He accepts honorary degree from Brandeis University.



A leader in the 1963 civil rights march on Washington, Randolph speaks to 250,000 persons at the Lincoln Memorial. Bayard Rustin, his long-time associate, is to his right.



Randolph and Federation Vice President Willard S. Townsend discuss rights issues on a Voice of America broadcast.



March leaders met with President Kennedy at the White House.



Randolph receives the Medal of Freedom from President Johnson.

Eligibility Rules Eased:

House Expands Aid For Import Victims

(Continued from Page 1)

In a letter to House members before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young stressed the increased need for the legislation at a time when new multinational trade agreements threaten to add to the dislocation of American workers.

"It is important that Congress approve an adequate trade adjustment program to help ease the effects of the increased flow of imports which will result from these new trade policies," Young wrote. He termed the legislation "a modest step in that direction" and urged its approval "without weakening amendments."

The House-passed bill would allow workers to qualify for benefits if they have been employed in an import-hurt industry for at least 40 weeks over a two-year period. Present law requires at least 26 weeks of employment over the previous year.

Coverage would be extended to secondary victims of imports —workers laid off by firms that were suppliers of parts, products or services to plants that were forced to shut down or cut back because of increased imports.

The bill sent to the floor required that a supplying firm had to have provided at least 25 percent of its output to customers affected by imports in order for its workers to qualify for adjustment benefits if they were laid off. The House, however, eased that requirement by allowing benefits if the Labor Dept. determined that increased imports "contributed importantly" to the layoffs.

The basic weekly benefit remains 70 percent of lost wages, with a ceiling equal to the national average manufacturing wage.

Benefits are normally payable for up to 52 weeks of unemployment, and present law allows an additional 26 weeks of eligibility for persons over 60 and for those enrolled in approved job training programs.

But the House-passed bill would extend the maximum duration for both trainees and older workers by an additional 26 weeks—making 104 weeks in all. For older workers, the additional benefits would serve as a "bridge" until they qualified for social security payments.

Another provision of the House bill allows certification of workers and firms as eligible for adjustment assistance on the basis of anticipated plant closing or cutbacks. The benefits could then be put into effect promptly when layoffs take place.

The House bill includes a provision, which the Administration opposes as too costly, that would qualify an estimated 26,000 workers for retroactive benefits. It would cover workers who were denied benefits or did not file because of the time restrictions then in effect.

The legislation would also increase job search and relocation allowances and permit the Labor Dept. to initiate a petition for adjustment assistance to workers facing import-caused layoffs.

The bill was passed as the first major order of business after the House returned from its Memorial Day recess. The Senate was not scheduled to resume until June 4.

In actions taken before the recess:

- The House sidetracked the Alaska land bill supported by the AFL-CIO and its building trades affiliates and passed instead a more restrictive measure that would set aside 125 million acres of the state for national parks, wildlife refuges and national forests—an area about the size of California.

The labor-endorsed bill would have set aside a comparable amount of land under federal protection but would have allowed greater development of energy, mining and timber resources. The battle will be refought in the Senate, which has in the past leaned more toward multiple use of Alaska's public lands.

- Hopes for public financing of congressional elections were set back when the House Administration Committee voted 17-8 against a bill endorsed by the AFL-CIO, supported by public interest groups, and strongly backed by House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.

The measure would allow candidates for Congress to receive up to $60,000 in federal funds to match small contributions if they agreed to hold down total spending to a specified ceiling that in 1980 would amount to about $210,000. All committee Republicans voted against the bill and Democrats were divided.

State-County Names Women's Coordinator

Eve Johnson has been named national coordinator of women's activities for the State, County & Municipal Employees.

Johnson, 47, has served the past four years as education and training coordinator for AFSCME Council 28, Washington Federation of State Employees, in Olympia.

The union estimates that it has 400,000 women members across the nation.

6/2/79

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.



NATIONAL URBAN COALITION'S Distinguished Trade Unionist Award is presented to AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at a luncheon in Washington. Making the presentation were Coalition President M. Carl Holman and Joseph D. Keenan, right, president of Americans for Energy Independence and an honorary vice chairman of the awards program. Kirkland was cited for his contributions toward improving conditions in cities.

Guideline 'Hypocrisy' Clouding Bargaining

(Continued from Page 1)

The Rubber Workers strike against Uniroyal—which is damaging to both the company and URW members—was caused by government interference in collective bargaining, he charged.

"There is something grievously wrong with this nation when the government deliberately provokes and prolongs labor and management disputes," he added. "It is a wrong we in the labor movement are trying to correct through the courts, but the damage has already been done. (A U.S. District Court has ruled the Administration's wage guidelines unconstitutional based on the economic sanctions used to enforce them. **Story, Page 1.)**

"It is absolutely hypocritical for the government to claim that a wage guideline is fair when it says to workers 'you must reduce your standard of living.' It does not say that to any other group in society," he pointed out.

"Business profit margins are protected, and the corporate standard of living is certainly not being reduced. Everyone is allowed 'pass-throughs' except workers."

And if the Council on Wage & Price Stability has instituted any guideline on prices and profits, then it is either too high or not being enforced, Donahue observed.

"The simple fact that there is not a single identifiable, enforceable guideline for prices underscores the inequities in the Administration's guideline approach," he said.

The Administration finds the economy "too complex" to put a rigid guideline on prices, Donahue observed, but it finds the economy quite simple when placing a strict limit on wages.

And while workers are "volunteered" to hold the line on wages, they read about the pay of corporate executives — whose incomes are in six-figures—rising an average of 16.7 percent last year, or more than double the wage guideline standard.

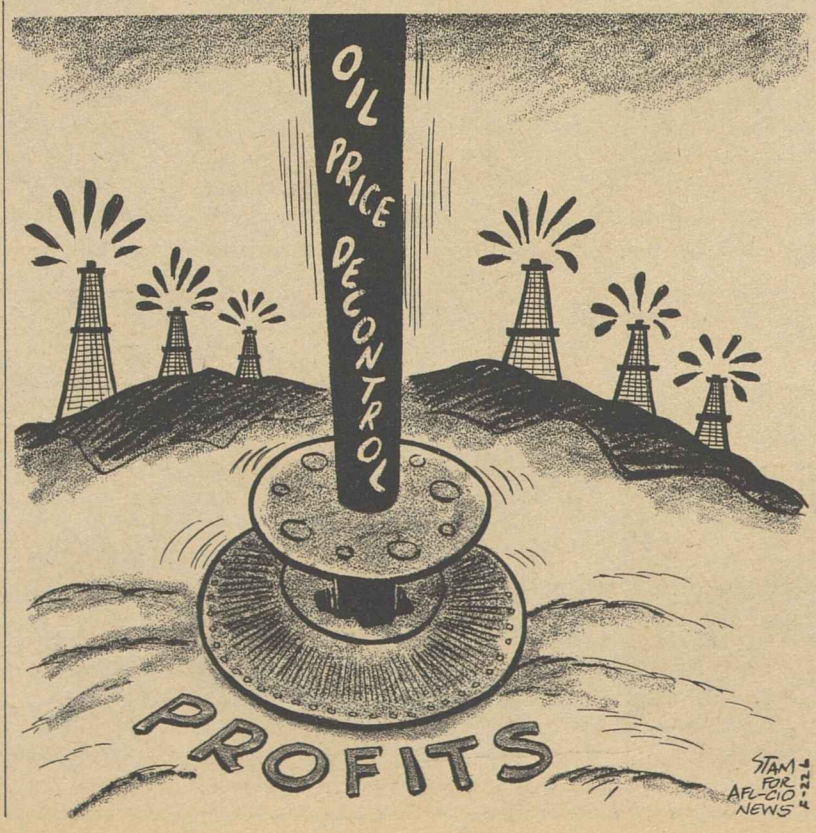
Pointing to the 37 percent increase in corporate profits in the first quarter of 1979, Donahue said, "It is a very difficult for anyone—much less an elected union official—to explain to union members that the pie they make with their labors does not have a larger share for them."

Even so, he noted, union negotiators often encounter corporate hypocrisy at the bargaining table with the statement: "We'd like to give you more, but we can't because of the guidelines."

Adding to the mistrust at the bargaining table is damage done by the business community in its opposition to labor law reform, as well as its attacks on the labor movement and its leadership, Donahue said.

"Those who expect to sit down at the bargaining table and let 'bygones be bygones' obviously were not on the receiving end," he said.

Another Live One



Cleary Reappointed To OSHA Review Unit

Chairman Timothy Cleary has geen reappointed to the Occupational Safety & Health Review Commission to serve a second six-year term.

The commission rules on disputes related to the Labor Dept.'s enforcement of the job safety and health program.

Panel Weighs UTU Dispute On Rock Island

A system-wide strike against the 7,300-mile Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad was averted when the United Transportation Union and the carrier agreed to creation of a special three-member panel to investigate their long-standing dispute over pay retroactivity.

The board, consisting of a carrier representative and a union representative and chaired by a disinterested third party chosen by the two sides, was proposed by the National Mediation Board, which helps to resolve disputes in the railway and airline industries.

UTU had scheduled a strike against the Rock Island for May 24, when the two sides reached a bargaining impasse over retroactive pay for union workers covering 1978 and 1979. In announcing authorization for the strike, UTU President Al H. Chesser pointed out that while the carrier had been granted shipping rate increases of 13 percent to offset increasing labor costs, it remained unwilling to grant the retroactive pay to its employees.

The Rock Island has agreed to pay higher wages retroactive to May 1 and make certain changes in work rules that would go into effect immediately. The UTU represents about 3,500 of the carrier's 8,500 workers.

Under terms of the agreement, the special board of inquiry must be established by July 15, convene as soon as possible, and file its recommendations with the National Mediation Board within 30 days after it first meets.

The two sides also may agree to extend the life of the panel any time before it files its report.

Machinists Ratify United Pact, 3-1

The Machinists ratified a new contract with United Airlines, the nation's largest domestic carrier, by a 3-to-1 margin, ending its two-month strike against the airline.

The three-year agreement covers some 18,000 mechanics, baggage handlers, and other ground-crew personnel across the country. Members had rejected two tentative accords earlier.

The new contract, retroactive to last Nov. 1, provides wage increases of about 30 percent over the term of the agreement, plus improved pension benefits and a paid lunch period.

Cambridge to Halt Stevens Purchases

Cambridge, Mass. — The Cambridge City Council, citing "widespread unfair labor practices" by J. P. Stevens & Co., voted to stop all city purchases from the giant textile firm.

In a council resolution, the Cambridge city manager was directed to order all city departments and agencies to "refrain from buying products of J. P. Stevens such as sheets, towels, and carpeting."

Stevens, the nation's second largest textile manufacturer, is the target of a worldwide boycott launched by the Clothing & Textile Workers and supported by the AFL-CIO.

The action is part of a growing trend among municipal and state governments, including a similar decision recently by California's state purchasing director.

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Food & Commercial Union Links 1.3 Million Members

Decisive 244-155 Vote:

House Turns Back Davis-Bacon Attack

A decisive 244-155 majority of the House crushed an employer-launched attack on the Davis-Bacon Act, the law which since 1931 has required contractors to pay area prevailing wages on federally funded construction.

The anti-labor strategy was to nibble away at a small and supposedly vulnerable portion of the law's coverage and then widen the breach with additional exemptions until the wage protection could be repealed outright.

The test came during House consideration of a Housing & Community Development bill. Rep. George V. Hansen (R-Ida.) proposed to exempt housing rehabilitation projects of non-profit groups and construction on Indian reservations from the Davis-Bacon requirements.

A similar amendment had failed by only one vote in committee, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce put on a nationwide lobbying effort to brand Davis-Bacon coverage inflationary.

Anti-union groups counted on the maximum vote for the Hansen amendment and were prepared to follow through with an amendment by Rep. Thomas M. Hagedorn (R-Minn.) to delete Davis-Bacon coverage from all of the housing and community development programs covered by the bill. Hagedorn never did call up his amendment; the vote on the Hansen amendment clearly demonstrated the futility.

Voting against the amendment and to preserve Davis-Bacon cov-

(Continued on Page 7)

Job Picture Shows Lag In Growth

A clear slowdown in employment growth provided further evidence of a cooling economy as the unemployment rate for May remained unchanged at 5.8 percent.

The number of American workers holding jobs rose a slim one-tenth of 1 percent, or 144,000, to a seasonally adjusted 96,318,000 in May, after an unusually sharp decline of seven-tenths of 1 percent, or 668,000, in April, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

At the same time, the size of the labor force expanded very slightly over the month, increasing by 136,000 to 102,247,000, BLS said.

"Because of the large employment decline in April, the May level was still more than half a million below that of March," BLS said in its monthly report on the employment situation.

(Continued on Page 8)

Labor Asks Safeguards For Pension Programs

The AFL-CIO endorsed the goals and most of the provisions of a bill that is designed to keep multiemployer pension plans solvent and protect the earned benefits of workers covered by them.

AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman expressed concern at the number of firms that have been withdrawing from participation in multiemployer plans, both to avoid the higher premiums that will soon be required and to shed obligations from unfunded liabilities of the plans.

Such withdrawals impose a heavier burden on firms continuing to participate and theaten to force termination of a number of pension programs, he testified at House hearings.

Seidman and President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. testified in general support of legislative proposals by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp., which administers the federal pension insurance program.

Georgine, who testified as chairman of the National Coordinating Committee for Multiemployer Plans, said the Administration bill "is not free from flaws" but labor and management administrators of collectively bargained multiemployer plans support it as "a substantial improvement on current law."

(Continued on Page 6)



BIRTH OF A UNION is symbolized by the charter AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland presented to officers of the merged United Food & Commercial Workers, President William H. Wynn, right, and Sec.-Treas. Samuel J. Talarico, left. The presentation was made at the start of the union's founding convention.

Fuel Paces New Rise:

Wholesale Index Up 10 Percent in Year

By James M. Shevis

Wholesale prices rose four-tenths of 1 percent in May, the smallest rise since last August, but the moderate increase does not necessarily portend a general lessening in inflation.

Over the year, producer prices for finished goods were up 10 percent. Wholesale food prices were 9.6 percent higher than in May 1978, and prices of goods other than food were up 10.8 percent.

The relatively small May rise in the government's producer price index for finished goods was attributed to a drop of 1.3 percent in prices of food ready for sale to consumers. But prices for other producer goods, particularly petroleum-based items, "continued to increase at a rapid pace," the Bureau of Labor Statistics observed in its report on wholesale price changes.

BLS Economist John Layng said it is still an open question whether declining food prices will reduce overall inflation more than energy prices are raising it.

"It's hard to say what the balance will be," he said.

Layng noted that energy prices affect not only products made from petroleum, but also higher prices of gasoline, diesel fuel, and jet aircraft fuel raise the cost of shipment of products in general.

Last month's overall increase in wholesale prices—BLS now calls them "producer" prices—compares with monthly increases of about 1 percent or more since December. The May rise was the smallest since last August when producer prices rose by three-tenths of 1 percent.

Prices of intermediate, or semi-finished, goods rose 1 percent in May, less than April's 1.5 percent but about as much as in each of the first three months of 1979. Prices for crude materials rose eight-tenths of 1 percent after de-

(Continued on Page 8)

Convention Puts Seal On Merger

By David L. Perlman

Delegates representing nearly 1.3 million union members sealed a history-making merger to create the United Food & Commercial Workers, the AFL-CIO's newest and largest affiliate.

Separate conventions of the Retail Clerks and the Meat Cutters voted near-unanimous ratification of the merger agreement, and then joined in the founding convention of the new union.

President Carter came to the opening session to add his congratulations—and to explain and defend his program to a group that has acquired new importance in the political arena as well as at the bargaining tables of the United States and Canada.

The merger is "a notable achievement," Carter said, "not just for the labor movement but for our country." And "I guarantee that your voice will always be heard in the Office of the President," he told the cheering delegates.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland welcomed the added strength that the labor movement expects from the merger.

"We need all of the unity, all of the resources we can muster," he said. Right-wing forces "bankrolled by corporate America" have launched "what amounts to a holy war to destroy our unions" and roll back collective bargaining progress.

Kirkland, who acted as temporary chairman of the merger convention, turned the gavel over to William H. Wynn, the 47-year-old president of the new UFCW.

(Continued on Page 3)

2 More States Reject 'Right-to-Work' Laws

Anti-union forces seeking to enact or strengthen "right-to-work" measures this year have struck out in 11 target states, the most recent rejections coming in New Hampshire and Delaware.

In the New Hampshire legislature, the Senate voted early in June to kill an R-T-W bill by a vote of 16 to 7 after the House had passed the measure 177 to 165 in April. But even if the Senate had gone along with the House, the chances of the bill becoming law were remote because of an earlier pledge by Gov. Hugh Gallen (D) to veto it.

In May, an open shop bill before the Delaware legislature was withdrawn from the House floor the day it was scheduled for a vote requiring a two-thirds majority because it carried a $1,000 magistrate court fine for violators. An effort by backers to amend the measure by dropping the court fine and thereby permitting a simple majority vote on the issue was rejected.

Delaware AFL-CIO President John Campanelli reported that

(Continued on Page 8)



A. PHILIP RANDOLPH is remembered at a memorial service in Washington at which President Jimmy Carter, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Randolph's long-time aide, Bayard Rustin, spoke. Seated at the tier below President Carter and Rustin are Metropolitan Opera singers Leontyne Price and George Shirley.

Carter Leads Tributes:

Randolph's Vision Recalled to Nation

By Rex Hardesty

President Jimmy Carter described him as a man of "dignity and tenacity."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland recalled him as a "gentleman of elegant impatience."

And Bayard Rustin spoke of "a gentle but iron-willed radical."

Thus was A. Philip Randolph remembered for the nation in a memorial service at the Metropolitan AME Church in Washington. Randolph, founder of the Sleeping Car Porters, longtime AFL-CIO vice president and civil rights leader for 70 years, died May 16 at the age of 90.

The national memorial service drew a standing room crowd of 3,000 to the church described by the pastor as the "church of Frederick Douglass," the abolitionist and Negro leader who died in 1895. Metropolitan Op-Leontyne Price sang, with Miss Price's powerful rendition of the Lord's Prayer provoking a standing ovation.

Similarly, Rustin's recollections of "The Chief," as the Pullman car porters called Randolph, brought tears, most notably to Rustin himself.

He recalled a black newspaper editor and Harlem street corner orator of pre-World War II America whose "leadership flowed from the depth of his humanity."

"Mr. Randolph was a successful and uniquely gifted labor and civil rights activist, precisely because he was a sensitive, unselfish and dignified human being," Rustin said. "He did not study organizational behavior, his leadership flowed from the depth of his humanity."

Consequently, the cruelty of segregation and exploited workers set Randolph on a course from which he never varied, and President Carter likened the civil rights movement that bore fruit 50 years later to "building a nation."

So from the loneliness of being a pacifist, a democratic socialist and integrationist before 1920, Randolph rose to national recognition by building a union. He came to global attention with his 1963 March on Washington.

But, Rustin explained, at any point along the way he would revert to the lonely agitator, because he would reject the "fads, the easy answers and the separatist illusions that had too frequently plagued movements for ilberation."

Rustin recalled Randolph urging him to aid Japanese-Americans detained during World War II or to help the refugees from Southeast Asia. One of his last expressions of concern before he died was the plight of refugees from Haiti.

"His universal moral concern compelled his resistance to any tendency anywhere in the world which defended unjust acts in the name of justice or excused wrongdoing—either by blacks or whites—because it was done in the name of some particular freedom, or in the name of democracy, or of anti-colonialism," Rustin said.

The tax collector who visited Randolph's apartment soon after he died found a net worth of less than $500, Rustin said. Randolph's most valued possession was a battered watch once given him by Pullman car porters.

President Carter cautioned that, in remembering the gentility and idealism of Randolph, future Americans should not forget that "he faced down four Presidents" in his pursuit of peace (Wilson), a national fair employment practice law (Roosevelt), integration of the armed forces (Truman) and the 1963 march (Kennedy) that helped produce the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The Louisiana state legislature also honored Randolph with a joint House-Senate resolution taking note of the Sleeping Car Porters as the first all-Negro union. The resolution also cited President Johnson's 1964 presentation to Randolph of the Medal of Freedom.

At the national memorial service, Kirkland traced the leadership of Randolph in 50 years of standing up against Marcus Garvey's "Back to Africa" and W.E.B. DuBois' "Talented Tenth" elitism of the 1920s; the Pullman Company in 1930s; and the federal government in quest of the executive orders signed by Roosevelt and Truman in the 1940s.

"Phil Randolph has left us more than memories," Kirkland said. "He left us a vision. He took a country divided by segregation and brought people together. He took a good labor movement, marred by discrimination, and made it better."

Deregulation Plan Opposed For Radio, TV

Radio and television stations should continue to be obligated to air a diversity of opinion and to serve all segments of their community, the Steelworkers urged at House hearings.

USWA Sec.-Treas. Lynn R. Williams expressed the union's concern about a proposed rewriting of the Communications Act that he said would allow a few big corporations to dominate the airwaves.

The deregulation steps being considered by a House Communications subcommittee as a part of a major overhaul of the law is based on what Williams termed "the unfounded assumption that marketplace forces will provide balance and diversity in programming."

He said any changes in present law should include a "clear statement of purpose," airing of diverse opinions and access to the airwaves by the various segments of the community, including labor.

They shoud require periodic review of a station's performance according to public interest standards, he said, and fairness in employment.

Fund Disclosure Ruling Hits Anti-Union Printers

One of the nation's most vigorous anti-union employer associations has been told by a federal court that it must comply with Landrum-Griffin disclosure requirements.

The ruling came on a suit by the Master Printers of America (MPA) to stop the Dept. of Labor's October 1978 order bringing MPA under disclosure requirements. The law says that disclosure must be made of funds collected and disbursed by anyone hired by employers who "seeks to persuade" employees to exercise or not exercise the right to organize.

At issue in the suit was the MPA's magazine, Insight, which regularly carries anti-union material. Insight is sent to the home of all employees of MPA member employers who turn in their names to the MPA.

The court ruling noted that Insight article titles included "Unions: Who Needs 'Em" and "The Advantages of Working in an Open Shop." The Graphic Arts Union, which has monitored MPA activities closely, also has evidence of MPA pamphlets being distributed to employees with their paychecks during union organizing drives. One pamphlet is titled "The High Cost of Union Membership."

The court said 929 non-union printing companies take part in the MPA's "Craftsmanship Program," which includes distribution of the magazine Insight. MPA is itself a division of the Printing Industries of America (PIA) which has a union employer division and about 5,000 member companies in all.

In finding MPA subject to the disclosure laws, U.S. District Court Judge A. V. Bryan said "it is not the function of a true trade association to disseminate literature in an attempt to persuade its members in exercising collective bargaining rights. Yet it is the express finding of this court that MPA in fact distributed such material."

He said trade association material is expected to be "less partisan in tone and more industry-oriented in interest" than material from an individual employer. "Thus the publication of biased material from an independent source is more dangerous insofar as the employee is less suspect of an attempt to persuade," the judge said.

The Graphic Arts Union has observed for some time that MPA has been building a legal fund through employer contributions to what it calls VAP, Voluntary Assistance Program. Contributions to VAP are tax deductible, the union points out.

MPA was one of the particularly active trade associations in 1977-78 in printing and distributing material against labor law reform.

Boycott Support Pushed In Chicken Plant Strike

AFL-CIO President George Meany has called on all federation affiliates and state and local central bodies to support a boycott of "Ms. Goldy's Chickens."

The boycott was called by the Chemical Workers against Sanderson Farms in Laurel, Miss. Ms. Goldy's Chickens are marketed in Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, California, Illinois, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Puerto Rico and Louisiana.

Meany said a strike by the 200 members of ICWU Local 882 in Laurel came when "the company refused to bargain about the inhumane working conditions at the Laurel plant."

The issue in the strike is basic human decency, Meany declared. For example, the employer restricts the workers' emergency use of toilet facilities to three times a week and engages in punitive policies regarding employee absences. The wage package offered by the employer was totally inadequate. The union has also filed complaints alleging child labor violations by the company in hiring strikebreakers and discrimination in job assignments.

"These workers need and deserve your help in those areas where the product is marketed by broad publicity about the boycott and efforts to enlist consumer support for a community-wide 'Don't Buy Ms. Goldy's Chickens' program.

"Only with the united support of the labor movement for an effective consumer boycott will these workers at Sanderson Farms be able to convince their employer that labor-management policies must be brought into the 20th Century," Meany added.

The boycott was unanimously approved by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its meeting on May 8.

5,000 Musicians Share Film Royalties from TV

New York—Some 5,000 members of the Musicians will share approximately $1,944,000 in annual royalty payments from the sale of motion pictures to commercial television broadcasters.

AFM President Victor W. Fuentealba said payments will be made on July 1 to union members who furnished background music in motion pictures produced after 1960 that appeared on TV in 1978.

The disbursements are the fifth annual payment under the union's contract with motion picture producers. Disbursements will be handled through the AFM Theatrical & Motion Picture Special Payment Fund.

Appeals Hearing Slated On Guidelines Decision

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia set June 13 for a hearing on the Carter Administration's appeal of a lower court ruling declaring the President's anti-inflation program unconstitutional because of its mandatory sanctions against companies holding government contracts.

The hearing date was set following a joint motion by attorneys for the AFL-CIO and the government to expedite the appeal. The AFL-CIO and nine of its member unions had challenged the legality of the government's inflation-fighting program, charging that the sanctions made it an illegal mandatory system.

Judge Barrington D. Parker of the U.S. District Court in Washington, who ruled in favor of the federation on May 31, stayed an order barring the Administration from enforcing its 7 percent wage guideline to give the government a change to appeal.

The Administration was given until June 11 to file its brief in the case, the federation until June 13. The case will be heard by the entire appeals court.

In Parker's order, following up his ruling, the Administration was enjoined from "administering, enforcing or giving any force and effect" to the pay standard announced by President Carter last fall.

Parker said in a 24-page opinion that Carter's voluntary" guideline amounted to mandatory controls because of the threat that firms exceeding the 7 percent limit for annual wage hikes would lose major government contracts.

Wynn Sees Expanded Strength:

New Food, Commercial Union Pledges 'Dynamic Organizing'

(Continued from Page 1)

Wynn has been president since 1977 of the Retail Clerks International Union, which brought more than 700,000 active members into the merger.

Harry R. Poole, who became president of the 525,000-member Meat Cutters in 1976, is one of two executive vice presidents of the UFCW. The other is Thomas G. Whaley, who has been secretary-treasurer of the Retail Clerks.

The secretary-treasurer of the new union is Samuel J. Talarico, who held the same position in the Meat Cutters.

Wynn told the delegates that he sees the UFCW as "a dynamic organizing union" that will bring collective bargaining to hundreds of thousands in need of union strength.

It will also, he pledged, "champion the causes of the poor, the oppressed and of the powerless" and speak up for those "who have no other effective voice."

Increased members "will mean increased power at the bargaining table" and "combining of resources will produce more effective service to the membership," he predicted.

Unity will mean new strength to fight such powerful foes as the Winn-Dixie food chain and Iowa Beef, he said.

Wynn spoke of the legislative goals of the labor movement of the United States and Canada and told the delegates that the merged union "will be heard in the legislatures and executive offices of every state and province, as well as in Ottawa and Washington."

On the international scene, Wynn said, "we shall oppose every form of tyranny."

Internally, the United Food & Commercial Workers "will be a huge operation, but we will not become rigidly bureaucratic."

Poole told the convention that the road to merger wasn't always easy, but it was spurred by awareness of the increased influence that corporations are bringing to bear on all branches of government.

Unions exist to serve people, he stressed. And the merger of two great unions "gives us the opportunity to use our resources more efficiently, to organize more successfully, to do better in our collective bargaining."

Carter was warmly introduced by Wynn as "a President who cares about working people" and who is "a friend of this union . . . a very special chief executive."

The President was accompanied by Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, who told the delegates that the Administration knows it can't take the trade union movement for granted, that it must "continue day-by-day earning this support and the support of working men and women."

Carter spoke to the delegates soberly of the problems facing the nation and of his efforts to deal with them.

He reiterated his opposition to the mandatory and comprehensive price and income controls sought by the AFL-CIO, but promised that he would "never fight inflation by deliberately throwing millions of Americans out of work."

Without spelling out the details, Carter said he will send his new health care proposals to Congress in a matter of days. He expressed the hope that "we can move towards the goal we share—a comprehensive system of national health insurance to protect every American citizen."

The President expressed concern at what he sees as the influence of "hundreds of well-financed, powerful special interest groups" that have "twisted and pulled" the machinery of democratic government.

And if the choices he must make cost Carter some political support, "then let the chips fall where they may," the President said.

Scheduled to greet the merger convention as the AFL-CIO News went to press were top officers of other unions, leading members of Congress, Cabinet secretaries, and persons prominent in the civil rights, consumer and public interest fields. James Suffridge, a past president of the Retail Clerks, and Patrick Gorman, for many years head of the Meat Cutters, were given warm welcomes as they joined in applauding the merger decision.

Kirkland told the gathering that other unions that chose merger have gained strength "at the bargaining table, in the legislative halls and in the community."

In the desperate struggle to defend free collective bargaining, Kirkland predicted, the United Food & Commercial Workers will bring "a vigor and resourcefulness greater than any in the history of either the Retail Clerks or the Meat Cutters."

Under the merger agreement, the officers will serve until the next convention, in 1983. Thereafter, conventions will be at five-year intervals. Until the 1988 convention, the officers will be chosen from the same prior union affiliation as in the merger agreement.

All international officers of the two unions will be members of the UFCW executive board and will choose an international vice president who, with the principal officers, will serve on an executive committee. The staffs of the two former unions will be combined, with headquarters in Washington, D.C. Local unions will not be required to merge.

New Kid on the Block



Aviation Agency Scored On 'Shoddy' Safety Role

The Flight Attendants charged the Federal Aviation Administration with gross negligence in allowing unsafe conditions both inside and outside aircraft, including the American Airlines DC-10 that crashed May 25 killing 275 persons.

"We believe it was a slipshod inspection procedure—or more correctly, the lack of an inspection procedure—that allowed that plane to literally disintegrate over the skies of Chicago," said Patricia Robertson Miller, president of the 20,000-member union.

"That the FAA would allow such an unsafe and shoddy safety inspection would shock and amaze us if we had not learned by long, hard experience that those are the facts of aviation life," Miller told a news conference.

The Chicago crash took the lives of 10 flight attendants, she noted. Other crew members killed were three pilots and a member of the Flight Engineers. The Flight Attendants union is affiliated with the Air Line Pilots.

Besides a thorough and exhaustive "nose-to-tail" inspection of all DC-10s, Miller called for a full-scale congressional investigation into the operation of the FAA to determine the relationship between the airlines and the regulatory agency.

Miller said the airlines routinely request and are granted FAA permission to relax safety standards. She said the union has received "an avalanche of reports and complaints" of safety violations and deviations by the airlines.

For example, she said, the FAA has granted the airlines permission to fly DC-10, 747, and L1011 jumbo aircraft with 10 percent of their emergency slide-door exits inoperative. Miller also charged that the agency has allowed six airlines to fly as much as 150 miles over treacherous waters without life rafts aboard.

A probe into the workings of the FAA "will find the need for an overhaul" of the federal agency, she said.

"In the meantime, we believe there should be an immediate moratorium on exemptions and all other methods to bend the safety rules," she declared. "As long as we have an industry overpowered by financial interests, we need a strong and independent aviation authority, something we now do not have."

Merger Creates New Landmark In Annals of U.S. Labor Movement

A lot of labor history is wrapped up in the merger that created the United Food & Commercial Workers.

Both the Retail Clerks and the Meat Cutters were chartered by the American Federation of Labor before the turn of the century, and each includes within its ranks previously independent unions with rich histories of their own.

Less than two years ago, the 30,000-member Boot & Shoe Workers marked its own 82nd anniversary by affiliating with the Retail Clerks to form a new Footwear Division.

The local unions that founded the Meat Cutters had originally been affiliated with the Knights of Labor, and the present-day union includes two former CIO affiliates. Its once bitter rival, the United Packinghouse Workers, joined forces in a 1968 merger. And back in 1955, the Meat Cutters took in locals of the Fur & Leather Workers.

The Retail Clerks, which entered the merger with some 735,000 members, were nearly wiped out during the depression years of the early 1930s, when nationwide membership dropped to 5,000. By 1948, it had climbed to 185,000 and by 1968 aggressive organizing had pushed the membership above 550,000.

In the supermarket era, Retail Clerks and Meat Cutters worked side by side, sometimes jurisdictional rivals but often partners on the picket lines and in bargaining.

The Meat Cutters headquarters has been in Chicago, once, as Carl Sandburg wrote, "hog butcher for the world," but now abandoned by the increasingly mechanized meat packing industry. The new union will use the RCIA's big headquarters building in Washington, D.C.

At the separate conventions of the two unions, delegates reflected the diversity of occupations and geography that will mark the AFL-CIO's newest and biggest union.

The merger agreement they ratified had been shaped in years of negotiations and meetings—sometimes interrupted by apparent impasses, but always resumed in the conviction that it was in the best interests of members of both unions.

Executive boards of the two unions unanimously endorsed the merger agreement and the proposed constitution, and local unions had the documents before them well before the convention dates.

The result was virtually unanimous approval at the ratification conventions of the two unions.

More than 1,200 delegates to the final convention of the Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen shouted their approval after hours of discussion, with only about five or six "nay" votes.

And at the last convention of the Retail Clerks International Union, one delegate said she had been instructed by her local to vote against the merger, but after listening to the discussion she personally wanted to make it unanimous.

That night, delegates from the two unions joined in a splendid bash of a party to celebrate the merger.

The next afternoon, as they crowded into a single convention hall, they were no longer Retail Clerks and Meat Cutters but fellow members of the UFCW.

President William H. Wynn confessed that the initials are still "strange sounding" and "roll over the tongue with a little difficulty."

But he promised that "in short order we will not only be comfortable with our new name, but proud of it and our merged union."

Lifting of Rhodesia Sanctions Opposed

AFL-CIO President George Meany urged President Carter not to lift sanctions against Rhodesia "until further substantial and rapid progress is made toward majority rule and the establishment of democratic rights."

Meany, in a personal letter to Carter, said that the April elections in Rhodesia "represent the beginning of progress" but that there are features of the internal settlement which are incompatible "with democratic principles."

The letter spelled out five specific steps essential to progress in Rhodesia that "ought to be attainable" in a relatively short time. Meany said the letter conveyed the views of the AFL-CIO International Affairs Committee, which met on June 6.

Rubber Union Hits Uniroyal Contract Stall

Fairlawn, Ohio—The Rubber Workers denounced the latest Uniroyal Inc. offer as less than one the union previously rejected, and charged the company with bargaining in bad faith.

URW President Peter Bommarito expressed his displeasure with the company's latest proposal following a meeting with Uniroyal negotiators here. He said the union bargaining committee was "angry and mystified" over the offer.

Bommarito had hoped that a May 31 ruling by a federal district judge in Washington, D.C., prohibiting the Carter Administration from withholding contracts from companies that violate its anti-inflation wage guideline would remove the barriers to a settlement with Uniroyal.

The union struck the company a month ago. Bommarito accused the firm of reneging on a tentative accord reached Apr. 18, succumbing to Administration pressure to settle within the 7 percent wage guideline.

Judging Federal Programs

THERE IS A growing concern both inside and outside government at all its levels, and especially in Congress, with the scope and complexity of government programs that reach into the day-to-day lives of the average citizen.

While there have always been those who question the very existence of these programs, a much broader and growing group of critics has sought ways to give Congress and the government as a whole better procedures for evaluating federal spending programs, for eliminating duplication and obsolescence among such programs, and for improving the effectiveness of such programs and new programs enacted by Congress. With these objectives and especially the achieving of rational planning and regular review of federal programs, we have no serious disagreement.

This is not the first time the sentiment for control over the proliferation of federal programs and financing has manifested itself. It was one of the purposes of the Legislative Reorganization Acts of 1946 and 1970, as well as the Congressional Budget & Impoundment Control Act of 1974.

These laws require each standing congressional committee to analyze, appraise and evaluate the administration, application and execution of the laws within the respective jurisdictions and to report biennially on oversight activities.

THE GREAT DIVERSITY of federal programs and the methods used to finance, administer and enforce them indicate that while some programs obviously call for close and continuing reviews, others which have become part of the basic law of the land, such as the National Labor Relations Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, and the Occupational Safety & Health Act to name only a few programs of special concern to the labor movement, should not be subject to the vagaries of periodic congressional reauthorization.

The same is true, of course, of many other federal programs, many of which require long years of laborious work to weave them into the nation's social fabric. These programs are appropriate subjects for proper legislative and executive oversight, and there is, of course, no reason why such reviews should not be on a regular and periodic basis. "Sunset" laws, which would keep these programs in a constant state of confusion and uncertainty as to their reauthorization, would be a poor substitute.

We seriously question whether either new "sunset" or "sunshine" legislation is needed at this time. Existing oversight requirements provided for in the Legislative Reorganizaton Act of 1970, the appropriations process and the procedures required by the Congressional Budget & Impoundment Control Act provide ample authority for the kind of review and renewal or termination of programs when Congress wants to deal with them in any of these ways.

New authority along the lines proposed in some bills is designed to shift the burden of proof for both existing and new programs from those who oppose to those who support their retention. We see no need for any such shift which could only do great damage to many important programs that have done much to enhance the quality of life of millions of Americans in the past half-century.

—From AFL-CIO testimony.

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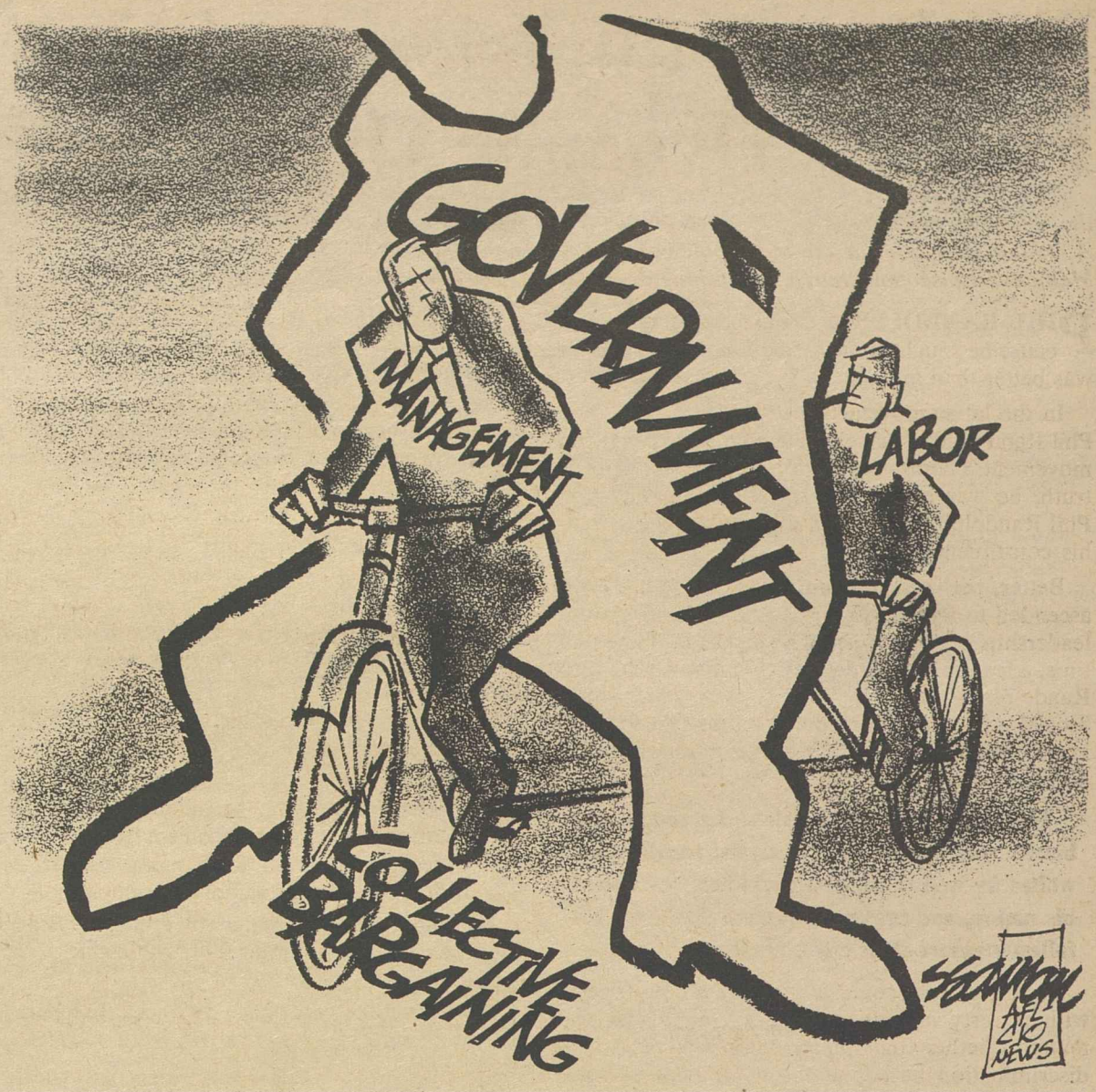
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On a Bicycle Built for Two...



Who Knows Where or When?

Uncertainty Heightens Dangers Posed by Falling Skylab Debris

By Gus Tyler

BY THE TIME you read this, the disaster may already have occurred: in which event you may check my accuracy against known facts. If this event has not yet happened, you may simply wait and see to decide how prophetic or silly these words are.

In any event, until it happens, there isn't much we can do except hold our breath or simply relax and accept the inevitable. But "it" will happen.

The "it," of course, is the return of Skylab to earth. That huge laboratory that we projected into space some time ago is about to come home to its mother planet. It has done its work and done it well, filling our reservoirs of knowledge with new information about what goes on in outer space.

But now the mission comes to an end and Skylab's days are over.

From everything that I am able to discover, nobody knows when Skylab will land, where it will touch earth, and into how many pieces it will scatter as it rains down on our heads. As a simple layman, my first reaction was that anyone spreading such nonsense had to be spoofing. So I asked my question of men and women in the scientific community who looked at me as if I were some ignorant oaf: of course, Skylab was about to enter the atmosphere and to shower us with its uncontrolled presence.

My first reaction was, impossible. Somehow my mind returned to early childhood fears that one day a meteor from space would fall upon this earth, squarely in the middle of my forehead. I was assured that there was little reason to worry because in passing through the atmosphere, meteors were burned up and reduced to insignificant rocks upon hitting our planet.

Under the best scenario, that's what will happen to Skylab: it will burn up like a meteor and end up as just so many streaks of tin foil in the sunlight.

But my knowledgeable associates tell me that such a happy prospect is unlikely. They expect us to get hit with sizable chunks.

Under the worst circumstances, not many people will be maimed or killed: perhaps a couple or a couple of hundred or a couple of thousand.

But the scary part is that we don't know how many or where: an electric power plant, Times Square, the Kremlin, the little red schoolhouse, or the middle of the Sahara or the Pacific?

We don't know although just about everybody must have assumed that when "science" launched the projectile "science" had a plan to bring it back safely. Apparently, the scientists had limited orders: just get it out there; we'll worry about the return later.

All of us had better pray that there is a safe landing. For if there is not, you may be certain that the mounting distrust about the mindless application of technology may, in itself, take on nuclear proportions in its explosiveness. Anyhow, I will pray, because I value the role of science in our society and I do not want it discredited. But what an irony it would be if science—with its disdain for the supernatural—should be rescued by my, and your, prayers.

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'A Union of Concern For Needs, Rights...'

The United Food & Commercial Workers will be a union of concern for the needs and rights of all working people as well as for those unable to work or find decent jobs.

Combining of resources will produce more effective service to the membership.

Most importantly, merger will benefit everyone by helping to organize the unorganized.

For many years . . we have worked to obtain better legislation and enforcement to insure that the fundamental right of workers to join together is strengthened, and we will now be better able to help that to come about.

For a long time we have been at the forefront of the fight to insure a more decent minimum wage, and now we will be in a more effective position.

For decades, we have struggled to establish national health insurance for all Americans, and now we will be an even stronger agent.

—President William H. Wynn to founding convention of the United Food & Commercial Workers.

His Vision Survives:

Phil Randolph, the Best of Men, Touched and Changed All of Us

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland delivered the following remarks at a memorial service for A. Philip Randolph at the Metropolitan African Methodist-Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C.

PHIL RANDOLPH was the best of men, because he sought to make certain that no person was better than any other.

In the labor movement, we call him "our own Phil Randolph"—just as, I am sure, the civil rights movement claims him, too, for their own. In truth, he was even more than both of ours, for Phil Randolph belonged to all of us—people were his constituency.

Better, perhaps, than any other individual who ascended to a leadership position—much less the leadership of two great movements at the same time, a feat as rare as the individual himself—Phil Randolph understood, in his own words, that "social and political freedom cannot be sustained in the midst of economic insecurity and exploitation."

He knew that the freedom he sought for blacks was, in the final analysis, freedom for whites as well. Fear and prejudice had bound his nation, and prevented it from achieving the fullest measure of its greatness for all its people.

That greatness could not occur, can not occur, with poverty and deprivation in our midst—no matter whether that human misery is caused by discrimination based on the color of a person's skin or the color of the collar they wear to work.

In the trade union movement, Phil Randolph found a vehicle to fight racism and poverty. It was not a popular choice. Capital, in the form of the Pullman Company, fought him. Other blacks, too, opposed Randolph's decision to work within the established trade union movement. Some because they preferred a black-only labor movement. Black newspaper publishers and academics denounced "Negro unionism," but for a different reason: they argued that the best interests of blacks would be served by "standing with capital."

Phil Randolph knew that both extremes were wrong. Blacks could not overcome their oppressors by either adopting their tactics or standing by their side.

And he persisted. He persisted with style. His manners have been described as Edwardian, his oratory Shakespearean, his language biblical. He was unfailingly gracious, courteous and polite. But he persisted—no one could ever mistake his civility for weakness.

For this was a strong, stubborn, tough, proud, unrelenting fighter. George Meany once called Phil Randolph a "gentleman of elegant impatience."

ADJECTIVES DESCRIBE the person, but achievements make the man. Leadership was Phil Randolph's crowning achievement, and he didn't earn it by age or longevity. He earned it by leading:

By leading against Marcus Garvey's "Back to Africa" movement and against W. E. B. Du Bois' elitist concept of the "Talented Tenth" in the early 1920s.

By leading the struggle against the Pullman Company to organize the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

By leading the fight against Communist infiltration of the National Negro Congress in the late 1930s.

By leading the 1941 March on Washington movement, which moved President Roosevelt to issue Executive Order 8802 banning discrimination in defense industries and government.

By leading the campaign to secure President Truman's Executive Order 9981 outlawing segregation in the armed forces.

By leading the battles against racial discrimination and segregation within the labor movement itself.

By leading the triumphant 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

And long after his death, Phil Randolph will still be leading as the A. Philip Randolph Institute carries on his work by leading successful voter registration and political education programs in the black community. And the Recruitment & Training Program continues to bring minority apprentices into the skilled trades.

Phil Randolph has left us more than memories. He left us a vision. He took a country divided by segregation and brought people together. He took a good labor movement, marred by discrimination, and made it better. He brought two movements together, overcoming the efforts of those who would keep us apart.

He touched all of us. He changed all of us—and with us, he changed history.

He was the best of men.

Georgine Charges:

All Labor Standards Target Of Davis-Bacon Act Opponents

THE ASSAULT on the Davis-Bacon Act is part of a determined drive to "beat all labor standards," President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. charged in a network radio interview.

Georgine said that the same group of industrialists and anti-union people who fought to kill labor law reform, situs picketing and cargo equity legislation in the last Congress have "banded together—collectively—to try to weaken labor laws of all kinds." He said that the attack on Davis-Bacon and other laws that prevent employers from undercutting wages and conditions to get government contracts threatens workers in the manufacturing, white collar and service industries, as well as in building and construction.

"You would have to be living in a closet not to see an all-out offensive against working people," he observed on Labor News Conference.

In fielding reporters' questions, Georgine rejected the contention that the prevailing wage requirement triggers added inflationary pressures. He pointed out that the determination relates only to the wage that is already being paid in an area. That, he stressed, does not add to the costs nor to the inflation rate. If anything, he asserted, protecting the wage rate from undercutting gives stability to the area.

Citing statistics compiled by the National Association of Homebuilders, Georgine pointed out that the proportionate cost of on-site labor in residential construction has dropped from 35 percent in 1949 to 15 percent in 1979.

"At the same time," he observed, "the cost of real estate has quadrupled; the cost of interest has almost tripled; the cost of materials has gone up substantially."

He suggested that those who want to attack inflation should go after the costs that increased, not those that declined over the years.

"The argument that Davis-Bacon is inflationary is just not true," Georgine stressed.

The BCTD president said opponents of Davis-Bacon and other wage-protection laws are trying to exploit the widespread concern over the current inflation to "rally public opinion against the workers in this country." But, he declared, "they are just blaming the wrong people. Workers and wage rates are not responsible for this inflation, and there isn't an economist in this country—whether he's as conservative as John Birch or as liberal as they come—who will tell you that this inflation is created by wages."

Questioning Georgine on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. and Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post. The program is aired weekly on the Mutual radio network.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

A **FEDERAL LAW** considered so non-controversial that it barely merited congressional debate before its routine approval in 1931 suddenly has become a hot issue.

After 48 years, the business community and its generally Republican, generally conservative friends in Congress have determined that the legislation—the Davis-Bacon Act—has a lot to do with what ails the nation.

The Davis-Bacon Act, oddly enough, was sponsored by two Republicans—Sen. James J. Davis of Pennsylvania and Rep. Robert Low Bacon of New York.

The bill originated with Bacon. After winning approval for construction of a new veterans hospital in his district, he was dismayed to find that, instead of his constituents getting the construction award, it went to an Alabama contractor who had undercut the local bidders.

The Alabamian brought thousands of non-union workers with him from the South. The workers, Bacon told a congressional committee, "were herded onto the job, they were housed in shacks, they were paid a very low wage. . . ."

President Hoover wanted to solve the problem by an administrative order requiring bidders on federal construction projects to maintain local wage scales, but the U.S. Comptroller General ruled that legislation was required. So Bacon introduced his bill, with Davis—a former Secretary of Labor—co-sponsoring it in the Senate. The House passed the measure under suspension of the rules, a procedure ordinarily used to speed action on non-controversial bills, and Hoover quickly signed it into law.

The law required contractors on federal projects to pay locally "prevailing" wages—the same wages paid to private sector workers on similar projects in the same area. It later was expanded to cover private construction funded in full or in part by federal dollars, such as medical facilities, schools or housing for the poor.

The law apparently worked well over the years—well enough that 40 states adopted "little Davis-Bacon" laws that protected their local contractors and workers by putting similar conditions on state-funded construction projects.

THE OPPOSITION'S CHARGE against Davis-Bacon is that it's inflationary, artificially pumping up buidling and construction trade wages. According to a much-disputed report by the General Accounting Office, Davis-Bacon adds $500 million in unnecessary costs to the nation's annual construction tab.

Not so, says Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, who testified on the legislation's behalf before a number of congressional committees. If he were still teaching, declared the former economics professor on one occasion, he would "flunk" the authors of the report for shoddy work. For example, said Marshall, the report detailed what it considered improper wage rates in 12 construction projects out of a possible 17,000, then applied the findings to 120,000 projects.

More important than the question of wage levels, Marshall said, are the questions of quality construction, productivity and stability in the industry—all of which, he warned, would be seriously threatened by repeal or serious weakening of the Act.

Several bills calling for outright repeal of the law have been introduced in Congress. But the major confrontations thus far have come on the state level, where some 30 state legislatures have been urged to repeal their "little" Davis-Bacons, and in congressional committees, where efforts are being made to knock prevailing wage provisions out of dozens of authorization bills.

Supporters of the law on the federal level, at least so far, haven't lost a fight yet. Opponents on several congressional committees have attempted to drop Davis-Bacon provision from defense, housing and other appropriations bills. They've lost on each try, although usually by the slimmest of margins.

The efforts in committee are expected to continue—opponents have more than 50 appropriations bills they can attack. And Davis-Bacon supporters still expect an overall repeal vote to be attempted in this session of Congress.



ALL LABOR STANDARDS could be undermined by the same groups that are leading the fight to repeal the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law, President Robert A. Georgine, center, of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. warned. He was questioned on Labor News Conference by Frank Swoboda, left, of the Washington Post and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

House Urged To Implement Canal Treaties

The AFL-CIO asked House members to vote for legislation to implement provisions of the Panama Canal treaties and warned that defeat of the bill would jeopardize labor standards and benefits of workers still employed on the canal.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young acknowledged that many House members believe both bodies of Congress should have had a direct voice in the ratification process.

But there is "no way" the House can undo the Senate ratification of the treaties, he said. Thus, "the result" of defeating the implementing legislation "would be to preclude the orderly transition and operation of the canal by the United States during the 20 years when the U.S. is still responsible for the operation of the canal."

Young noted that the implementing legislation "contains basic labor protections which were promised when the Panama Canal treaties were negotiated." These include continued application of the Fair Labor Standards Act, labor-management relations procedures for all employees, regardless of whether they hold United States or Panamanian citizenship, and early retirement provisions for employees who are replaced or leave.

Oil Decontrol Facts Outlined

Workers and consumers will be the major sufferers if oil price decontrol continues, the AFL-CIO declares in a new documented fact sheet on the issue.

Calling for continuation of controls, Fact Sheet No. 2 issued by the Dept. of Legislation warns that controls—not windfall profits—are the real issue.

Copies of the fact sheet are available in reasonable quantities without cost from the AFL-CIO Pamphlet Division.



WELCOME TO ISRAEL is extended to President Lester H. Null of the Pottery Workers by Yeruham Meshel, right, secretary general of Histadrut. Null was among a delegation of American labor officials and lawyers visiting the Israeli labor federation.

Dues Exemption Upheld On Religious Grounds

The Supreme Court declined to review a lower court decision that a worker can refuse to pay union dues because of religious beliefs, even though he accepts the union's services and benefits from its representation.

The case involves a Seventh Day Adventist, David Anderson, who was discharged by General Dynamics Corp. in 1975 under terms of the Machinists' union security agreement.

Anderson had been fired twice before—in 1962 and 1968—for refusing to work on Saturdays, the Seventh Day Adventist Sabbath. Each time the IAM fought to have him reinstated.

Instead of paying union dues, Anderson said he would agree to give an equivalent amount to a charity of his choice. IAM District Lodge 50 agreed to the arrangement in part, but it wanted Anderson to forward the payment to the union for distribution to charitable causes, which Anderson refused to do.

AFL-CIO policy in this area, set forth in a 1965 Executive Council statement, is that "unions should accommodate themselves to genuine individual religious scruples" and adopt appropriate procedures.

After Anderson was fired in 1975, he sued the company and the union on charges that his rights of religious belief were violated under provisions of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The U.S. District Court for Southern California ruled that no accommodation to Anderson's religious beliefs was possible without undue hardship to the union, but the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the decision.

In other action, the Supreme Court refused to hear the Machinists' request for review of a decision that IAM Lodge 1894 in New York could not expel a member for propounding Communist theories while campaigning for local office.

A provision in the IAM constitution mandates expulsion of members who advocate or encourage "communism, fascism, nazism, or any other totalitarian philosophy . . . inimical to the IAM or its established policies and laws."

A federal district judge, however, found the union's constitution "vague and overbroad" and ordered reinstatement of an expelled member. The decision was upheld by the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals.

In another case affecting labor, the high court reversed on technical grounds a lower court ruling that struck down the Arizona Agricultural Employment Relations Act as unconstitutional.

The Farm Workers and AFL-CIO had urged the justices to uphold the findings of a three-judge federal district court panel that sustained the UFW challenge to the law. The union argued that the state law restricted organizing efforts and actually encouraged employers to commit unfair labor practices.

The justices were unanimous in their decision that the district court erred in finding key provisions of the state law unconstitutional.

However, the ruling leaves the UFW free to challenge two of the reinstated provisions in state court and renew its challenge of two other provisions in federal court if certain conflicts arise in the future.

Kirkland Cites Danger To Human Freedoms

Philadelphia—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland called on Drexel University's 1,500 graduates to guard against the encroachment of government on human freedoms at the university's commencement.

"The central issue of our time," Kirkland said in the keynote address, "is the role of man in relation to the state in the modern world. We should all keep a careful watch on the state so that it does not go beyond its bounds."

Kirkland represented AFL-CIO President George Meany at Drexel's 92nd commencement, accepting an honorary Doctor of Laws degree for the federation leader. Meany was recently released from the hospital where he was treated for a leg injury and is recuperating at his home.

Kirkland told the graduates and their families that the people's best interests are served when the state's actions coincide with our "basic human values and ideals."

"Sometimes," Kirkland said, "our human values and the interests of the state conflict. Is it too much to ask that our government and other governments operate within the framework of our basic human values?"

Noting abuses of human freedoms in other nations, he urged the U.S. to continue to speak out in support of human rights, whether it is politically expedient or not. He called on the citizens to be vigilant against the power of government and not to ignore the threat of totalitarianism around the globe.

Kirkland cited the role of the labor movement in the fight for greater human freedom.

"Trade unionism has been at the forefront of the fight for democratization of privilege," he said. "The rise of trade unionism centered on giving to many the rights and privileges that had previously been reserved for the few."

Trade unions, he told the graduates, had a large part in creating the present working world—a world of shorter working hours, increased leisure time and expanded educational opportunities for everyone.

Kirkland praised the recent ruling of U.S. District Judge Barrington D. Parker, Jr., that a major part of President Carter's anti-inflation program is unconstitutional. Parker ruled invalid Carter's threat to deny federal contracts to companies that violate the Administration's wage guideline.

"Our founding fathers would have utterly applauded Judge Parker's decision," Kirkland said. "At issue was not whether we should submit to wage controls. . . . At issue was whether the President can put the power of the state into the collective bargaining system."

For Multiemployer Plans:

Labor Backs Goals Of New Pension Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

Seidman and Georgine noted that multiemployer plans have been developed to meet the special needs of industries such as construction, garment, maritime and services where the firms involved are generally small and workers commonly work for a number of employers before reaching retirement age.

If they were not able to take their pension credits with them from one employer to another, they would be unlikely to work for a single company long enough to qualify for a pension.

While most such plans are financially stable because of shared risks, some are in declining industries where pension funds are in precarious balance, and abandonment of obligations would force sharply higher premiums for all multiemployer plans.

Seidman strongly endorsed provisions of the bill that would retroactively require an employer withdrawing from a plan to pay his full share of the plan's unfunded liabilities. The requirement would date back to February, when the bill was introduced, so that firms would not rush to pull out of multiemployer plans before the requirement became law.

He also welcomed the requirement that employers deciding to terminate a plan must continue to fund the program so that all of its obligations based on service up to the plan's termination will be met in full.

While the present law will protect the vested benefits of workers through the insurance program, Seidman noted, the limited employer liability could make a decision to terminate a plan financially attractive to employers in declining industries.

Seidman endorsed the bill's provision allowing reorganization of multiemployer plans as an alternative to avoid termination.

"The present law," he noted, "allows unions and employers two unsatisfactory alternatives — raise contributions excessively or terminate the plan." He termed the reorganization option "a far better alternative."

The AFL-CIO statement endorsed the proposed amortization of benefit improvements over 30 years instead of the 40 years allowed in current law, and other provisions setting time limits to fully fund vested benefits of both retirees and active workers.

"The proposals will strengthen weak plans and prevent financially sound plans from developing problems," Seidman testified. But he urged that the higher costs be phased in gradually to ease the impact.

Seidman said the AFL-CIO is "deeply troubled" by a provision of the bill that would reduce the portion of pension benefits guaranteed by the insurance program.

Under the bill, 100 percent of benefits would be guaranteed only for the first $5 per month per year of service, and 60 percent would be guaranteed for the next $15 per month per year of service.

Based on government estimates, Seidman noted, this is the only alternative to an insurance premium so high that it would jeopardize all multiemployer plans. The legislation "reduces the risk of excessive cost and provides a trial period to evaluate cost experience." But he said the AFL-CIO hopes that the experience will justify a higher guarantee in the future.

Multiemployer plans have been required to pay only a token annual premium of 50 cents which the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. has had discretionary authority to use to keep plans from insolvency.

Under present law, mandatory insurance protection for multiemployer plans was to begin July 1. But the House on June 4 approved by one-sided voice vote a bill postponing the deadline to next May, and the Senate is expected to do likewise.

The delay, which was for a somewhat longer period than the AFL-CIO had advocated, would give Congress time to complete action on the proposed changes in the law.

Labor Studies Center Lists Schedule for June

An institute on advanced negotiating techniques and a workshop on publications design highlight the June schedule at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies, Silver Spring, Md. The schedule:

Advanced Negotiating Techniques in Collective Bargaining—A two-week institute that includes bargaining basics, using calculators, costing benefits, escalator clauses and two simulated bargaining exercises. From Sunday, June 3, to Thursday, June 14.

Publication Design Workshop for Union Editors—A six-day program covering layout, design, typography and photo-editing. From Sunday, June 17, to Friday, June 22.

The AFL-CIO Community Services Dept.; Professional Air Traffic Controllers; Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers; United Garment Workers, and Association of Flight Attendants will use the campus facilities during June for their own training sessions.

In addition, the American Institute for Free Labor Development will have 38 union leaders, 18 from Caribbean countries and 20 from Brazil, on campus all month.

The center will offer two institutes off-campus during the month, organizing techniques at the University of Colorado, Boulder, June 3-8, and labor law at the University of California, Berkeley, June 3-8.

More information on labor studies programs may be obtained from Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Phone 301/431-6400.

Decisive 244-155 Vote:

House Turns Back Davis-Bacon Attack

(Continued from Page 1)

erage were 204 Democrats and 40 Republicans. The anti-labor coalition was made up of 107 Republicans and 48 Democrats.

Before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young sent House members a detailed refutation of the arguments being used by foes of Davis-Bacon. Far from pricing out minority participation in neighborhood rehabilitation projects, Young said, "Davis-Bacon coverage helps minority workers learn skilled trades and find decent jobs." He cited the strong support for the law by both Labor Sec. Ray Marshall and Housing & Urban Development Sec. Patricia Roberts Harris.

Both Marshall and Harris played major roles in defusing the impact of a controversial General Accounting Office report that has been the principal source of ammunition for employer groups seeking repeal of Davis-Bacon.

"Repeal or emasculation of Davis-Bacon," Young wrote House members, "would put Congress on the first step down the road of dismantling almost 50 years of fair labor and human rights legislation."

Lobbyists from building trades unions, joined by a broad spectrum of unions not directly affected, made it clear to House members that this would be a key vote for the entire labor movement.

In vain, during the debate, Hansen tried to assure his colleagues that his amendment was so narrowly limited that it could not be considered an attempt to repeal Davis-Bacon and congressmen who supported him wouldn't have to worry about being branded anti-labor.

Opposing his amendment, Rep. Thomas L. Ashley (D-Ohio), the floor manager for the housing bill, said the Davis-Bacon Act is the only guarantee that fair wages will be paid on federally assisted construction and noted that the law only applies to larger rehabilitation projects, involving eight or more housing units.

As for the impact on Indian reservations, Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.) read a telegram from Peter MacDonald, chairman of the Navajo Tribal Council. It termed Davis-Bacon "one of the few pieces of federal legislation which has been of immediate and genuine benefit to the Navajo wage earner."

The Indian leader saw the "real purpose" of the Hansen amendment as an attempt "to undercut the wages of workers."

In the last Congress, without an advance buildup and without the attack on Davis-Bacon by the General Accounting Office, a similar amendment was introduced to a comparable housing bill. It failed, but by a smaller margin than this year—218-173.

Conservative business groups sought consolation in a vote by the Senate Armed Services Committee to exempt some $1.4 billion of military construction from Davis-Bacon coverage—an amount substantially more than was involved in the housing amendment.

Sen. John Tower (R-Tex.) touted the committee vote as a "breakthrough" towards outright repeal of Davis-Bacon.

But the committee is considered more conservative than the Senate as a whole, and employer spokesmen did not pretend that the one-sided House vote could be reversed in this Congress. Nevertheless, an official of the Associated General Contractors told reporters that despite the House defeat his group will continue to press for repeal of Davis-Bacon on as many fronts as possible.



DEVELOPING PROGRAM to combat tactics of anti-union consultants and union-busting organizations is discussed by the AFL-CIO Standing Committee on Organization & Field Services. The committee, chaired by Federation Vice President Lloyd McBride, center, also explored union organizing campaigns and problem areas.

COPE Names Jane Adams to Western Post

Jane Adams has been appointed western area director of COPE's Volunteers in Politics to succeed Margaret Thornburgh who retired last month, National COPE Director Al Barkan announced. Adams has been on the COPE staff of the Ohio AFL-CIO since 1956.

Mrs. Thornburgh has been involved in labor's political action programs more than 30 years, since the time she held leadership positions in Local 88 of the Glass Bottle Blowers and the Oklahoma AFL. In the mid-1950s she served as a district secretary of the AFL's League for Political Education and as national director of the women's division for the league.

When the national COPE operations were set up in 1955 following the AFL-CIO merger, Mrs. Thornburgh was named western area director of the Women's Activities Dept. and continued to hold that position until the department was redesignated in 1976 as Volunteers in Politics.

Mrs. Thornburgh is a member of the GBBA and the Newspaper Guild.

In helping develop the Ohio AFL-CIO's COPE program, Adams has served the state federation as WAD and VIP director. Adams, who comes out of the UAW, is a member of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and the Newspaper Guild.

She will be based in the AFL-CIO sub-regional office in Denver. The western VIP area encompasses 17 states from the Dakotas to Alaska and Hawaii.

Economic Index Posts Sharp Decline in April

The Commerce Dept. reported that its composite index of leading economic indicators fell a record 3.3 percent in April, another sign of a slowdown in the economy.

The index is considered a key measure of the nation's economic health. The indicators declined in February and March also, but later were revised slightly upward.

Leading the April downturn was a 1.7-hour drop in the length of the average work week, a statistic derived from the government's monthly employment data. The Commerce Dept. said the abnormally large decline was due largely to distortions in the sample survey caused by the trucking industry strike and lockout and the Easter and Passover holidays.

A 6.1-percent decline in new orders for manufactured goods also figured prominently in the drop in the index. The April decline was the largest since a 6.6-percent plunge in December 1974. New factory orders in the first three months of the year rose by an average 2.3 percent.

The April downturn was widespread, with eight of 10 available indicators contributing to the decline. Only stock prices and the money supply rose, with stock prices having the largest upward influence on the index.

Besides the average work week and new factory orders, the index showed declines in building permits, contracts and orders for plant and equipment, the layoff rate of workers, vendor performance, change in total liquid assets, and change in sensitive prices.

The layoff rate rose from 9 to 11 per 1,000 workers during the month.

The sharp decline in new factory orders followed an increase of 3.7 percent in March to an upward revised $150.22 billion and a rise of 1.6 percent in February to $144.89 billion. Orders for durables in April fell 8.5 percent after rising 2.8 percent in March. Orders for non-durables dropped 3 percent after rising 4.7 percent in March.

Hugh D. Clark, Iowa AFL-CIO Chief, Retires

Des Moines, Iowa—Hugh D. Clark retired May 31 as president of the Iowa AFL-CIO and Sec.-Treas. James J. Wengert was appointed interim president until a successor is elected at the state labor federation's convention in August.

Clark, 66, a member of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters since 1940, has headed the State AFL-CIO for the past 13 years. There are more than two years remaining on Clark's current four-year term as president.

Earlier, Clark served the state labor federation as vice president and a member of the executive council. He also had been president and business manager of Plumber & Pipe Fitters Local 66 in Dubuque, secretary of the Dubuque and Iowa Building & Construction Trades Councils and president of the Dubuque AFL-CIO.

Wengert, 45, who comes out of the Packinghouse Workers, was first elected secretary-treasurer of the State AFL-CIO in 1966. He also has held posts in his Packinghouse Workers local and with AFL-CIO central bodies.

To fill Wenkert's position, the state labor federation's executive council named Mark L. Smith as interim secretary-treasurer. Smith, 35, has been program director of labor studies at the University of Iowa for the past five years. He is a member of the American Federation of Teachers.

Firms Refuse to Pay Up For Dumping TV Sets

The U.S. Customs Service has asked the Justice Dept. to collect a $40.7 million past-due bill for dumping duties from a number of Japanese television set manufacturers and major American importers.

The Customs Service took the action after the companies refused to pay the year-old assessment by a May 14 deadline. The assessment, totalling $46.3 million, covers TV sets imported from Japan in 1972 and 1973.

The hold-out companies, including Montgomery Ward and J. C. Penney, refused even to go along with the agency's time-payment plan by paying a part of the bill and signing a promissory note for the remainder.

In response, the Customs Service said that its efforts to collect the duties "have met widespread noncompliance" and that it is turning the case over to the Justice Dept. for collection.

There is no penalty for late payment, the Customs Service said. And if the companies continue to hold out, the Justice Dept. said it could not bring criminal charges against them, but merely seek to collect the duties through civil suits.

The dumping case stems from a 1971 finding by the federal government that American TV manufacturers and workers were being injured by the sale of Japanese TV sets in the United States at prices lower than those charged in Japan.

Only $5.6 million of the $46.3 million bill has been paid since the Customs Service issued the assessment in March 1978. But $5.5 million came from Sears Roebuck, which made the payment under protest.

Among the major Japanese TV manufacturers that have not complied are Matsushita Electric (Panasonic), Hitachi Ltd., Sanyo Electric, Sharp Corp. and Toshiba Corp.

Still pending before the Customs Service is action for the assessment of dumping duties on Japanese TV sets imported between 1974 and 1978, which could exceed $400 million.

Earlier, the labor-industry coalition, COMPACT, had filed a suit in federal court charging the Treasury Dept. and the Customs Service with failing to collect $600 million in dumping duties from the Japanese manufacturers and U.S. importers during the past 11 years.

COMPACT, shorthand for the Committee to Preserve American Color Television, said 30,000 U.S. jobs have been wiped out because of Japanese TV dumping.

Plate Printers Raise Per Capita Payment

Philadelphia—Delegates to the Plate Printers, Die Stampers & Engravers 78th convention voted to increase the union's quarterly per capita payments from $2 to $3.50, but held defense fund payments at $2.65.

Under the restructured financing formula, total membership payments to the international will rise from $4.65 to $6.15 per quarter.

The 30 convention delegates re-elected top officers—President Angelo LoVecchio and Sec.-Treas. James Donegan, Jr.—to new two-year terms.

Stanley Golemba of Local 58 in New York was elected to his first term as first vice president and John M. Kuiack of Local 6 in Ottawa was re-elected second vice president.

Five new executive council members were elected to the nine-member panel. They are Robert Vass of Local 2, Washington, D.C.; Kuiack; Earl Hudgins, Local 24, Washington, D.C.; Richard Evertt, Local 28, New York, Neal Healey, Local 58, New York. William Hoyt of Local 1 in Philadelphia was elected to his first term on the union's advisory council.

The convention reaffirmed its long-standing position of calling on the Treasury Dept. to have all U.S. Savings Bonds printed under union shop conditions.

The union's nearly 400 members in the United States and Canada specialize in the printing of U.S., Canadian and foreign currencies, stock certificates, bonds and bank notes.

Professional Unit Goes Into Service Employees

Harrisburg, Pa.—The Allegheny County Association of Professional Employees has voted to affiliate with Service Employees Local 668.

The organization represents probation officers in domestic relations and juvenile courts and chose to affiliate with a union after its contract negotiations had bogged down.

Employment Growth Slackens:

Jobless Rate Sticks At 5.8 Percent Mark

(Continued from Page 1)

BLS Commissioner Janet L. Norwood told the congressional Joint Economic Committee that the small gain in payroll employment was in sharp contrast to average monthly gains of about 350,000 in the previous six months.

This "weaker demand for labor," as Dr. Norwood put it, was also reflected in other elements of the May jobs report. The average work week for both the total private economy and the manufacturing sector, while rebounding slightly from depressed April levels, was still well below the March figures, for example.

The average work week for all employees last month was 35.6 hours, compared with 35.4 hours in April and 35.9 hours in March. For factory workers, the average number of hours worked was 40.2, compared with 39.2 in April and 40.8 in March.

Factory overtime followed a similar pattern—3.4 hours last month, 2.8 hours in April, and 3.8 hours in March.

Labor turnover data for manufacturing workers also pointed toward a softening in the jobs market, Dr. Norwood said. The factory layoff rate rose by two-tenths of 1 percent between March and April while the rate of new hiring declined three-tenths of 1 percent.

White House Press Sec. Jody Powell said that the May jobs data are "consistent with our view that economic growth is slowing but a recession can be avoided."

Employment in manufacturing edged down for the second month in a row, returning to February's level. And, for the second straight month, the number of industries reporting increased employment was fewer than half—48 percent—of the 172 monitored by BLS. The percentage, which had reached a peak of 80.2 last November, has declined steadily since then.

Among major industries, only construction, transportation, public utilities, and wholesale and retail trade showed sizable over-the-month job gains. A 65,000 increase in construction employment was mostly in highway and street construction, probably due to road repairs after severe winter storms, BLS said.

The nation's jobless rate has hovered in the 5.7 to 5.9 percent range each month since last August. There also have been no clearly persistent trends for any of the major demographic groups within the labor force.

The jobless rate for black workers in May, 11.6 percent, continued to be more than twice that for whites, 5.2 percent, and the teenage rate, 16.8 percent, was more than four times as high as that of adult workers, 3.9 percent.



STRENGTHENING HUMAN INTERESTS in a profit-oriented society was the focus of the three-day National Conference on Religion & Labor that drew more than 100 representatives from union and church groups. Among participants were, from left, Wilbert Williams of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, Msgr. George G. Higgins of the U.S. Catholic Conference, Steve Protulis of the UAW, Sister Judith Justinger of the Center of Concern, which sponsored the conference; Harry Fleischman of the American Jewish Committee and Jim Sessions of Southerners for Economic Justice.

'Sunset' Laws Opposed As Unnecessary Risks

Congress doesn't need the hazardous time-bomb mechanism of so-called "sunset" laws to review the effectiveness of government programs, the AFL-CIO declared at House hearings.

A bill being considered by a Rules Committee panel would cause most federal programs to self-destruct every 10 years unless Congress votes to continue them.

Legislative Director Kenneth Young said the AFL-CIO doesn't quarrel with the apparent intent of such legislation—to examine government programs periodically to determine whether they are being effectively administered and are still needed. That's part of the oversight function of congressional committees, he said, and no new laws are required to do this.

But Young expressed the AFL-CIO's strong opposition to the rigid approach of sunset laws that would risk the lapse of long-established programs that are integral parts of the nation's social fabric. Some examples of special concern to labor, he noted, would be the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The sunset approach, he said, "puts a premium on delay since all that is necessary to kill a program when its authorization comes up is for the committee that has it for review or either house of Congress to do nothing about it and let it lapse."

Another bill before the Rules Committee would require detailed annual reporting on government programs, and its sponsor, Rep. Butler Derick (D-S.C.), has termed it a "sunrise" bill.

Young said the AFL-CIO considers that approach "much less objectionable" than a sunset bill which would keep government programs "in a constant state of confusion and uncertainty."

But he questioned the need for any new legislation when Congress already has a legislative mandate for review of programs.

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Energy Prices Offset Decline In Food Costs

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clining by four-tenths of 1 percent in April.

The 1.3 percent decline in finished consumer food prices was the largest monthly decrease since a 2 percent drop in February 1976. Much of the drop was due to lower meat prices.

Beef and veal prices fell a substantial 6.9 percent from April to May after five consecutive months of large increases. Pork prices fell even more sharply, 10.1 percent.

On the other hand, prices turned up after declining in April for roasted coffee and refined sugar in consumer-size packages. Prices for fish and dairy products also rose.

Prices for producer goods excluding food, meanwhile, rose 1 percent over the month, after rising 1.3 percent in April. Nondurables moved up 1.6 percent, durables seven-tenths of 1 percent.

Gasoline prices continued to rise rapidly, 4.2 percent over the month. Home heating oil prices moved up 5.4 percent. Higher petroleum prices also pushed up prices of industrial chemicals, plastic resins, and other industrial products derived from petroleum.

Increases were also posted for tires and tubes, consumer plastics, leather footwear, and beverages. Prices were also higher for household flatware, luggage and small leather goods, lawnmowers, and jewelry.

Prices for capital equipment rose more slowly than in April, seven-tenths of 1 percent compared with 1.1 percent, but about the same as in March.

2 More States Reject 'Right-to-Work' Laws

(Continued from Page 1)

strong presentations by the state's union members to their elected representatives helped overcome intensive lobbying by the open-shop forces.

Meanwhile in Vermont, the state legislature adjourned for the year with an R-T-W bill still in House committee. A straw vote of the committee indicated overwhelming opposition to the measure, but opponents of R-T-W preferred to keep the bill off the floor. The same measure, however, can be brought up when the legislature reconvenes.

And in Alabama, the Senate turned back a campaign spearheaded by the Chamber of Commerce to make the state's R-T-W statute a provision of the Alabama constitution. In back-to-back votes, the Senate defeated the bill 15 to 14 and 17 to 15.

As it now stands, the Alabama statute can be repealed by the legislature. If it were a part of the constitution, repeal could come only through a statewide referendum.

Earlier this year, R-T-W measures were killed either by committee action or floor votes in the state legislatures of Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Nevada and West Virginia.

And although an open shop bill was passed by both houses of the New Mexico legislature, Democratic Gov. Bruce King vetoed the measure.

Meanwhile, in Connecticut, the State AFL-CIO brought formal charges against the Virginia-based National Right to Work Committee for violating the Connecticut lobbying law.

In a complaint filed with the Connecticut Ethics Commission, State Federation President John J. Driscoll charged that the anti-union group misused its direct-mailing operations to lobby members of the legislature against a labor-backed bill that would give teachers' unions the right to negotiate agency shop clauses in their contracts.

Driscoll told the commission that the thousands of postcards mailed to the legislature by the R-T-W committee meant that the $300 limit for lobbying by an unregistered group was far exceeded.

Despite the all-out effort by the anti-union group to defeat the bill, it passed both houses of the legislature—but only by thin margins, 76 to 66 in the House and 16 to 15 in the Senate.

Train Dispatchers' Pact Wraps Up Rail Talks

The Train Dispatchers, last of the 13 unions in negotiations with the railroad industry, reached a mediated, 39-month agreement covering the union's 2,800 members.

The settlement averted a possible strike that could have followed if the recommendations of a presidential emergency board had not been accepted by the two sides.

As it turned out, the agreement marks the first time that a national rail contract dispute has been mediated to settlement in a 30-day period by a presidential emergency board.

The factfinding panel, appointed by President Carter on May 8, was chaired by James J. Reynolds of Washington, D.C., a former Under Secretary of Labor in the Johnson Administration, and arbitrators Nicholas Zumas of Washington and Ida Klaus of New York.

The agreement between the union and the industry's bargaining arm, the National Railway Labor Conference, does not require membership ratification. Like the agreements between the industry and other rail unions, the Train Dispatchers' settlement will run through March 1981.

Normally, a presidential emergency board makes its recommendations within 30 days after its appointment. The parties have another 30 days to consider its findings. If an agreement is not reached, the union is free to strike.

The Dispatchers settlement, signed on May 30, resolved several key issues, including administration of the union's vacation program, compensation for members who are unable to take meals during their regular work periods, and reimbursement of costs to employees required to travel long distances to attend disciplinary hearings.

Dispatchers primarily are responsible for scheduling and controlling the movement of trains.

United Presbyterian Body Endorses Stevens Boycott

Kansas City—The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church called on its more than 2.5 million members "to refrain from purchasing any goods produced by the J. P. Stevens Co."

It adopted, 345-207, the recommendation of a monitoring committee established last year which visited Stevens plants, met with management and union officials, and interviewed workers and community residents.

The committee reported that a climate of fear inhibits free elections and "regardless of its legality, Stevens's basic tactic of using every means to frustrate collective bargaining is an anathema to the church's position."

The report urged endorsement of the boycott and called on the Stevens management to reconsider its opposition to collective bargaining in the light of religious teachings.

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Federal Workers Protest 2 Years of Pay Cutbacks



FEDERAL WORKERS at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., got an early start on nationwide protests against pay cutbacks. Some 700 of them marched through the city to a rally addressed by Joseph D. Gleason, executive vice president of the Government Employees.

Nationwide Rallies Hit 'Reforms'

By David L. Perlman

Federal workers and their unions joined in a dramatic day of protest against two years of belt-tightening pay restraints topped by a new Administration proposal that would mean lower pay and reduced benefits in years to come.

The nationwide June 14 demonstrations were called by a 10-union coalition representing 1.5 million federal workers, an unprecedented alliance that brought together rival organizations in and out of the AFL-CIO.

At a news briefing at AFL-CIO headquarters on the eve of the Awareness Day protests, coalition leaders said their members bitterly resent being used by both Congress and the Administration as scapegoats for inflation.

The rallies, marches and informational picket lines in cities around the country challenged what the unions see as a manipulated backlash against government employees based on distortions about pay and benefits in the federal service.

"For the second straight year, the President intends to limit the federal pay raises to 5.5 percent," the unions noted in a joint statement, even though the cost of living has risen by more than twice that amount.

Cost-of-living adjustments for retirees have already beeen cut back and "the very existence of the civil service retirement system stands threatened," the unions said.

The final straw, to the coalition partners, was a new White House proposal billed as a "reform" measure. It would scrap the present salary comparability system, which the unions note has already been

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President's Health Plan Falls Short

The Carter Administration unveiled its long-awaited national health plan and AFL-CIO President George Meany expressed labor's sharp disappointment.

Meany found the Administration plan "inadequate, incomplete and inequitable" as did other leaders of a broad national health insurance coalition.

Centerpiece of the Carter plan is the "catastrophic insurance" concept that has been embraced by foes of comprehensive and universal health care. The President spoke of his proposal as "Phase I" of an eventual comprehensive plan, but he did not propose a timetable or ask Congress to make any commitment to future improvements.

The Administration plan would provide full and universal coverage only for prenatal health services, childbirth and infant care for the first year of life.

Otherwise, only the poorest of the poor would receive full coverage under a proposed Healthcare insurance; even families at the federal poverty level would not qualify for benefits until they had paid $2,500 a year in medical expenses.

The elderly, now covered by Medicare, would have modest additional protection over their present entitlement through a limit of $1,250 a year on the out-of-pocket amount they could be required to pay for medical costs.

Many Americans already have the equivalent of catastrophic insurance protection through major medical provisions of health insurance provided through their jobs or as part of membership in a health maintenance organization.

The Administration plan would require all employers to provide catastrophic coverage that would continue 90 days after termination of employment. The employer would be required to pay at least three-fourths of the cost. The worker would pay the remainder unless the company agreed to the full payment.

Individuals who were not employed could purchase the same coverage on their own, and the government would provide various degrees of subsidy for the poor and disabled.

To hold costs down, the Administration plan relies on enactment of the pending hospital cost containment bill and on a requirement that doctors treating patients entitled to Healthcare benefits could be paid only the prevailing level of fees for the service they perform. Private health insurance firms could

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Labor Asks Affirmation:

Court Hears Appeal On Guideline Ruling

The AFL-CIO urged a federal appeals court to uphold a lower court ruling that the Carter Administration does not have the authority to threaten economic sanctions against companies violating the President's anti-inflation guidelines.

Using the same essential argument that led to the May 31 ruling by U.S. District Judge Barrington D. Parker, attorneys for the federation and nine of its affiliated unions asked the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to deny the Administration's appeal and prevent the Council on Wage & Price Stability from administering or enforcing the pay standard of the government's anti-inflation program drawn up last fall.

In his ruling, Judge Parker said the Administration's threat to withhold federal contracts from firms that exceed its 7 percent annual limit on wage and benefit increases turned the guidelines into mandatory controls, which were not authorized under the 1974 statute creating COWPS.

The government's appeal of Parker's decision, presented by Deputy Atty. Gen. Benjamin R. Civiletti, contends that the Carter guidelines "are not inconsistent with any statute but rather constitute a reasonable means of achieving the statutory goals of economy and efficiency in government procurement" spelled out in the 1949 Procurement Act.

The AFL-CIO argues that the 1974 Council on Wage & Price Stability Act "embodies an affirmative congressional policy that inflation is to be combatted by the operation of the free market rather than by government wage-price regulation of any kind."

Those who favored passage of the law creating COWPS "would surely have repudiated in the most explicit terms any suggestion that the Executive could impose wage and price standards on government contractors," the federation declared in its brief filed with the appeals court.

(Continued on Page 2)

Davis-Bacon Foes Renew Repeal Bid

Foes of the Davis-Bacon Act haven't given up their attempt to repeal prevailing wage protection on federally-funded construction, but they didn't get much encouragement at a House Labor subcommittee hearing.

Just a week earlier, the House had decisively rejected an anti-Davis-Bacon amendment to a housing bill. **(Rollcall, Page 6.)** And Subcommittee Chairman Edward P. Beard (D-R.I.), although courteous to employer witnesses, was a union painter before his election to Congress.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young told the panel that the attack on Davis-Bacon is a key phase in an attempt to dismantle the entire fabric of this country's social legislation.

"The business interests of Amer-

(Continued on Page 7)

House Unit Increases Windfall Tax on Oil

The House Ways & Means Committee voted to tax the windfall profits oil companies will reap from decontrol of prices at a higher rate than President Carter had proposed but substantially less than the AFL-CIO had urged.

Labor's position, voiced in testimony before the committee last month, was that present price controls should be maintained—especially in view of the huge profits that oil producers have earned despite controls. The AFL-CIO suggested an excess profits tax on all corporations above a reasonable profit margin.

But if Congress does not block decontrol, the AFL-CIO said, the "most reasonable" of the windfall profits tax proposals was the measure that was co-sponsored by five committee Democrats — William Cotter (Conn.), Raymond Lederer (Pa.), James Shannon (Mass.), Fortney Stark (Calif.) and William Brodhead (Mich.).

Their proposal, designed to recoup 85 percent of windfall profits, was defeated on a 21-11 vote.

After rejecting several Republican-sponsored weakening amendments, the committee approved the proposal by Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.) to set the rate at 70

(Continued on Page 8)

Rubber Union, Goodrich Press Contract Talks

The Rubber Workers and B.F. Goodrich Co. continued efforts to reach a new contract following the union's decision to drop talks with Uniroyal Inc. in the current round of negotiations with the tiremaking industry.

After talks between Uniroyal and the URW got nowhere, exploratory discussions between the union and Goodrich were held at Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service headquarters in Washington.

The Goodrich talks resumed this week and, as the AFL-CIO News went to press, negotiators for both sides said they were "going to try" to reach a settlement.

A Goodrich contract could serve as the basis for new bargaining between the union and Uniroyal, struck May 9 after negotiations foundered over the Carter Administration's wage guidelines.

URW President Peter Bomarito and Peter Pestillo, chief negotiator for Goodrich, told reporters that certain issues still required further

(Continued on Page 8)

Postal Unions Ask Coverage Under OSHA

Postal unions joined in urging Congress to extend full coverage of the Occupational Safety & Health Act to the U.S. Postal Service and its nearly 700,000 employees.

Present law allows OSHA inspection of postal facilities only at management's request, and union witnesses told a House subcommittee that rarely happens.

Letter Carriers President Vincent R. Sombrotto and Postal Workers President Emmet Andrews cited the abnormally high accident rate in the postal service, running at nearly 90,000 job injuries and fatalities a year.

Andrews and other APWU officers cited such hazards as dangerous chemicals used at the Detroit Bulk Mail Center and severe asbestos fiber exposure at a Miami area annex.

Sombrotto noted that a congressional report on conditions at New York City's Morgan Station Mail Facility had termed the establishment a "19th Century factory," but postal officials nevertheless refused to invite OSHA representatives to conduct a safety survey.

"The Postal Service acts as if OSHA is the enemy rather than an agency which is committed to helping employers improve safety and health performance," he testified.

The postal unions are supporting a bill sponsored by Rep. Charles H. Wilson (D-Calif.) to apply all portions of the job safety law to the U.S. Postal Service.



SAFETY LAW coverage should be extended to the U.S. Postal Service, union leaders testified at House hearings. Letter Carriers President Vincent Sombrotto is flanked by Legislative Assistant George Gould, left, and Executive Vice President Tony Huerta.

Variable Rate Scheme For Mortgages Opposed

The AFL-CIO asked Congress to overrule the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and prohibit federally-chartered savings and loan associations from issuing variable rate mortgages that could saddle homebuyers with higher interest rates in future years.

AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter protested at House hearings that the federal agency had changed its regulations to allow variable rate mortgages "before Congress could consider or respond" to President Carter's request last month for legislation authorizing such mortgages.

A House Banking subcommittee headed by Rep. Fernand J. St. Germain (D-R.I.) is considering two bills to force rescission of the regulation. One, by Rep. Frank Annunzio (D-Ill.), would bar variable rate mortgages outright. The other, by St. Germain, would authorize a three-year test of variable rate mortgages in California, where it has been allowed under previous regulations, but with consumer safeguards.

Both bills would also allow graduated payment mortgages which provide lower payments in the early years and higher payments thereafter, a concept the AFL-CIO criticized as increasing the risk of foreclosure for both borrowers and lenders.

As for provisions allowing reverse annuity mortgages, Schechter said these should be approved only with authorization for federally supported consumer counselling through responsible senior citizen groups. Such mortgages allow an elderly homeowner to exchange all or part of the equity in his home for a lifetime income annuity.

In another legislative area, Schechter expressed the AFL-CIO's support for a bill that would allow all types of banks and savings institutions to provide checking and fund transfer services to depositors.

A recent federal appellate court decision severely limited such services, but the court gave Congress until the end of this year to rectify the problem through legislation before the order would take effect.

Schechter said the legislation would operate to the advantage of consumers, but he reiterated the AFL-CIO's strong support for maintaining the differential in interest rate ceilings that work to the advantage of thrift institutions, which traditionally supply the funds for housing construction and purchases.

On a related issue, he said, the AFL-CIO opposes proposals to increase interest rate ceilings generally as both inflationary and a risk to the banking system. Lenders faced with having to pay higher rates on deposits are driven to make riskier loans carrying higher interest rates, he warned. When interest rates on savings deposits were pushed up in 1973-74, Schechter noted, "there was an upsurge of bank failures" in the following two years.

Consumer Body Cites Meany for Leadership

AFL-CIO President George Meany was honored by the Consumer Federation of America with its Philip A. Hart Distinguished Consumer Service Award "for his consistent leadership role in advocating, endorsing, and supporting consumer issues."

The award by the nation's largest consumer organization is named for the late Michigan senator, a leading exponent of the consumer movement.

Meany, who was unable to attend the award ceremony, was cited particularly for his organization and support of consumer price monitoring programs and for his efforts to obtain comprehensive health and safety standards.

CFA, which represents more than 30 million consumers, makes the award annually in recognition of the distinguished service of consumer advocates in the private and public sectors. Also honored were Sen. Howard M. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) and Rep. Abner J. Mikva (D-Ill.)

Awards for outstanding consumer media service at the national and local levels went to Stanley E. Cohen of Advertising Age magazine and to Sharon King of WBZ-TV in Boston.

Meany "organized and supported consumer price monitoring programs to highlight the problems faced by consumers, who must make their controlled paychecks pay for uncontrolled prices," the award citation observed.

"In the current battle against decontrol of oil prices, Meany and the AFL-CIO use every opportunity to highlight the excesses of the oil lobby.

President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers, an AFL-CIO vice president, accepted the award for Meany. Jacob Clayman of the Industrial Union Dept. made the presentation.

Turner noted that Meany, who is recuperating from a recent knee injury, would have accepted the award on behalf of the entire AFL-CIO. But, Turner said, CFA was singling out "George Meany, the person and the personality," and the man himself deserved due honor.

"Without people like George Meany, passing consumer legislation would be even more difficult," Turner said.

Court Hears U.S. Appeal in Guideline Case

(Continued from Page 1)

"The legislative history allows no doubt that the District Court correctly rejected the contention 'that Congress's intent was to disavow only a comprehensive judicially-enforced system of controls rather than prohibit all sanctions in the field,' " the AFL-CIO said.

In renewing that argument, the federation said, government attorneys "simply ignore legislative history. And while they criticize as 'confusing' the District Court's use of the term 'mandatory' to describe wage and price standards which are enforced by the sanction of debarment from government contracts, the District Court's view is entirely realistic and, what is more important, accurately reflects what Congress meant by that term."

Both Parker and the appeals court have granted stays of the District Court ruling until the appeal is considered. The appeals court has expedited its hearing, and a decision by the nine-member body is expected soon.

Convention Delegates Advised:

Chesser to Retire As UTU President

Miami Beach—President Al H. Chesser of the United Transportation Union informed delegates to the union's convention that he will not seek re-election to the top UTU post.

Chesser, 65, told the 1,000 delegates at the opening of the 19-day UTU convention that he would not seek a new four-year term despite the new federal law against mandatory retirements at age 65.

During the second week of the convention, delegates will elect all 32 of the union's officers, including president and secretary-treasurer.

Chesser has served since 1971 as president of UTU, which was formed in 1968 by the merger of four railroad operating unions. He began his career in Texas in 1941 and was an officer of the Railroad Trainmen from 1945 through 1968.

Chesser was national legislative director of UTU at the time he was elected to succeed Charles Luna as president in 1971 and has been a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council since February 1972.

In the 10 years since the UTU was formed, Chesser told the convention, its members have won increases of 124 percent in wages and a fringe benefit package that is now worth $7,069 a year compared to $4,082 in 1972. He also noted breakthroughs in job safety and federal assistance to the industry which has become more urgent in an energy-short America "in which the question of how you get there from here is on everyone's lips."

Chesser also cited UTU resistance to compulsory arbitration, improvements in the structure of Amtrak and Conrail and a higher employer-paid share of retirement plans for UTU members.

Later in the convention, delegates were scheduled to hear major addresses by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall and a variety of government and railroad officials.

The major internal business of the UTU's third convention since merger will focus on a series of proposed amendments designed to substantially rewrite the union's constitution.

Job safety—including wider adoption of exact-fare plans to protect UTU bus drivers—also was scheduled for extensive convention attention, as were the various methods of improving job security.

Chesser told the convention that UTU has spent $3 million in its highly successful public relations program in the last four years and that its political action arm has grown to 75,000 active members.

He said the UTU is committed to a continued legislative program that will continue attempts to resist the coal slurry pipeline and changes in the federal bankruptcy laws for railroad companies.

Actors' Equity Elects Bikel To New Term

New York—Members of Actors' Equity re-elected Theodore Bikel as president, and also chose other officers in a recently concluded mail ballot.

Besides Bikel, the following also were re-elected to serve three-year terms: Barbara Colton, 1st vice president; Nancy Lynch, 2nd vice president; Jeanna Belkin, 3rd vice president; Vincent Beck, 4th vice president; Carl Harms, recording secretary, and Randy Phillips, treasurer.

Elected to five-year terms on the Council, the union's governing board, were Susie Duff, Werner Klemperer, Kevin Daly, Geraldine Kay, Paul A. Corman, Ted Thurston, Bernard Pollock, Arne Gundersen, Justine Johnston, and Doug Carfrae.

Marc Jordan was elected to a two-year term in the Principal category, and Paul Lipson to a one-year term. Councillors elected for five-year terms in the Chorus category were Jane Robertson, Mary Lou Westerfield, and John McNamara. Andy Hostettler was elected to a one-year Chorus term.

Labor, Industry Deplore Specialty Steel Ruling

Labor and industry leaders said they were disappointed by President Carter's "inexplicable" decision to phase out import quotas on specialty steel over the next eight months, but vowed to continue to work for fair international trade.

President Lloyd McBride of the Steelworkers and President Richard P. Simmons of the Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corp., who headed a lobbying effort to extend the curbs for another three years, issued a joint statement saying that Carter's action will leave thousands of workers "defenseless against predatory competition from government-owned and subsidized foreign producers."

"Clearly, with this disappointing decision the Administration has buckled under pressures from abroad and has again failed to enforce the trade laws passed by Congress," they said. "However, we will use every legal means to seek redress from unfair trade practices."

The import quotas were originally imposed by President Ford in 1976. The Carter decision expands the amount of foreign-produced steel allowed into the United States, and eliminates the quotas entirely next February.

Specialty steel includes a broad range of stainless, alloy and tool steel used in nose cones of space vehicles, jet-engine parts, oil-drilling equipment, and other high-technology products. The industry employs about 65,000 workers, mainly in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New York.

Magic Chef Vote Won by Molders

Cleveland, Tenn.—The Molders won a National Labor Relations Board election 667 to 509 to represent 1,300 workers at Magic Chef, Inc. here. Fifty-five votes were challenged.

The victory caps a five month organizing drive at Magic Chef's main plant. The union had been unsuccessful in three earlier representation elections at the facility during the past 10 years.

Rallies Hit 'Reform' Plan:

Federal Employees Protest Pay Cutback

(Continued from Page 1)

ignored by presidential decisions to hold pay raises below comparability with private industry.

Instead, the plan would replace national salary levels with local differentials in which fringe benefits as well as pay would be measured. Changes, all of which would have the effect of reducing pay, would also be made in the setting of local prevailing wages for the government's blue-collar workers.

The proposal has been heartily endorsed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the Administration estimated that it would "save" the government $3 billion a year in payroll costs.

To the unions affected, of course, this is another way of saying that the plan would result in a $3 billion annual pay cut.

President Kenneth Blaylock of the American Federation of Government Employees, largest of the federal worker unions, noted that the President's plan would maintain national pay standards for the top officials of government offices in different parts of the country, so that only the lower-paid workers would be shortchanged.

He and other union spokesmen participating in the press briefing urged the news media not to accept without challenge descriptions of proposed changes as "reforms" and to avoid "serving as public relations mouthpieces for the Administration."

Others who took part in the news briefing were Sec.-Treas. William Lucy of the State, County & Municipal Employees; President John Leyden of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers, and from unions not in the AFL-CIO, Presidents James Peirce of the National Federation of Federal Employees, Kenneth Lyons of the National Association of Government Employees, Vincent J. Connery of the National Treasury Employees, and Vincent Paterno of the Association of Civilian Technicians. Joining in the statement and taking part in the Awareness Day programs were the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept. and the affiliated Machinists & Aerospace Workers.

AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Albert J. Zack read the coalition statement at the group's request and in response to a question told reporters the labor federation supports the federal workers "all the way" in their protest.



COALITION OF UNIONS representing 1.5 million federal workers announces nationwide protests against attempts to cut pay and benefits. President Kenneth Blaylock of the American Federation of Government Employees is at the podium. Seated, from left: President Kenneth Lyons of the National Association of Government Employees, President John Leyden of the Air Traffic Controllers, Sec.-Treas. William Lucy of the State, County & Municipal Employees, President Vincent Paterno of the Association of Civilian Technicians, President Vincent Connery of the National Treasury Employees and President James Peirce of the National Federation of Federal Employees. In the background is AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Albert J. Zack.

Labor Coalition Opposes Broadcast Rule Changes

Six labor organizations have strongly attacked legislation that would rewrite the nation's basic communications law, warning that the proposed changes would increase corporate influence and deny public access to radio and television broadcast time.

They noted that the legislation would end all regulation of radio immediately and of television in ten years; allow public, non-commercial stations to carry paid advertising, and eliminate the public interest as the basis for granting broadcast licenses and judging the performance of licensees.

Joining in the attack were the State, County & Municipal Employees, the Screen Actors Guild, the Steelworkers, the UAW, the Coalition of American Public Employees, and the National Education Association.

Their position coincides with a statement adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its recent meeting.

A primary concern of the labor groups, Steelworkers Legislative Rep. John Powderly told a news briefing, was that the Communications Act rewrite would end the "fairness doctrine," which requires broadcasters to air all sides of controversial issues.

Radio and television stations usually are controlled by a community's business establishment, Powderly said, warning that if that establishment can legally refuse to air the workers' side of a dispute, then labor would be at a great disadvantage.

Screen Actors Guild President Kathleen Nolan warned that the changes are "designed to benefit the few and ignore the rest."

UAW President Douglas Fraser, in an earlier speech before the Personnel Management Association in Toledo, Ohio, said that while the law needs revision, "the goal should be greater responsiveness to the public, rather than less."

Grace Baisinger, national president of the Parent-Teacher Association, a supporter of the labor coalition, saw the rewrite as a threat to Americans' First Amendment rights. "The giant corporations certainly aren't going to relinquish theirs," she declared.

Air Line Employees Win New England Vote

Chicago—Air New England's 150 ticket and reservation agents have voted to have the Air Line Employees Association represent them, ALEA President Victor J. Herbert announced at the union's headquarters here.

Contract negotiations will begin shortly after the new unit elects local officers in each of the system's 16 cities, he said. ALEA is affiliated with the Air Line Pilots, and represents clerical, office, fleet and passenger service workers on 10 domestic airlines.

Food, Commercial Union Draws Warm Greetings

The founding convention of the United Food & Commercial Workers concluded with warm greetings from leaders of labor, government and public life.

Their common theme was that the formulation of the 1.3 million-member AFL-CIO affiliate from the merger of the Retail Clerks and the Meat Cutters would be good for both the trade union movement and the country.

Labor speakers who followed AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland included leaders of two million-member unions outside of the AFL-CIO.

UAW President Douglas Fraser urged a new effort "to make politicians more responsible to the people" and to "make sure that political platforms are kept." The objective, he urged, should be "politics of principle, not of personality."

As for the "stranglehold" of OPEC's control of oil prices and its power over the U.S. economy, "I just can't believe the United States is a helpless giant."

Teamsters Sec.-Treas. Ray Schoessling spoke in a similar vein and reminded the delegates that U.S. oil companies are part of the international cartel.

President Paul Hall of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. told the new union that its successful merger will "make a hell of a difference for the entire labor movement."

America's labor movement is "stronger today," Hall said, and must make its strength fully felt on the political front.

Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez, who has been helped by the two merged unions in earlier struggles, spoke to the delegates of the efforts by the lettuce growers to break the UFW and the importance to the union of the consumer boycott.

President Joyce Miller of the Coalition of Labor Union Women brought greetings to the UFCW which includes in its ranks hundreds of thousands of women workers. Eleanor Smeal, president of the National Organization for Women, and Federation Mediation & Counciliation Service Director Wayne Horvitz were among the other speakers.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall had accompanied President Carter to the opening day program, and Agriculture Sec. Bob Bergland came the next day to remind the delegates that "people who hate labor unions don't have much time for small farmers either."



FOUNDING CONVENTION of the United Food & Commercial Workers is addressed by President Carter. He termed the successful merger of the Retail Clerks and the Meat Cutters a "notable achievement" for both the labor movement and the nation.

Radio, TV Ad Pact Okayed By Musicians

New York—The Musicians approved a new two-year contract covering members' services in the production of television and radio commercials by an overwhelming margin, 1,166 to 93.

AFM President Victor W. Fuentealba announced the results of a mail referendum on the pact, along with its key features, at the union's headquarters here. The contract, reached on April 27 with the joint policy committee of the Association of National Advertisers and the American Association of Advertising Agencies, is retroactive to May 1. Highlights include:

- A 12 percent wage increase for instrumentalists and members engaged in music preparation such as arrangers and accompanists.
- Coupled with the wage rate is an increase in the re-use rate from 71 to 75 percent per spot. This increase also applies to new use and dubbings.
- The rate of employer contribution for pensions for members engaged in making radio commercials rises from 8.5 to 9 percent.
- Additional improvements for doubling, cartage of instruments, and music preparation.

The two sides also agreed to establish a joint union-industry committee to study the feasibility of changes in future contracts for the production of local and retail commercial announcements, with the hope that progress may be made in the union's effort to regain lost work.

Fuentealba noted that a separate agreement between AFM and Canadian advertising agencies and advertisers covers the use of commercials broadcast in Canada only, and performed by Canadian musicians. Under provisions of this pact, rates for sidemen increase from $59 to $63.50 in the first year of the agreement, rising to $67.50 in the second year.

Former AFTRA Head Kenneth Harvey Dies

Norwalk, Conn.—Kenneth Harvey, a former president of the Television & Radio Artists, died here June 6 at the age of 60.

Harvey headed AFTRA for three terms, from 1973 to 1976, and remained an active member of the union's board of directors.

An actor, writer, and director, Harvey starred for seven years in the daytime television series, "Search for Tomorrow."

Strength Through Unity

WHEN THE AFL AND THE CIO merged in 1955, the constitution of the new organization declared that one of its chief goals would be to encourage its affiliated unions to join forces wherever the common interests of their members made it possible.

"Encourage" is the operative word. There was never any question of forcing or pressuring unions to merge. Nobody can do that. Each of the unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO is the private property of its members, and nobody can tell them how to arrange their affairs.

But, as we have known from the beginning, labor's strength lies in unity. Twenty-four years ago when the AFL and the CIO merged it was clear that we urgently needed to strengthen our unity, and today it is clearer still.

Throughout the United States and the world, management has been uniting much more rapidly than labor. Mergers and acquisitions and conglomerations are transforming the face of industry. A stroke of a pen, these days, can throw 20 or more companies into the same basket. And if only a twentieth of the employees of those companies are organized, or if they are organized in 20 different unions, they face a disadvantage.

Workers can't afford to be disorganized any more than they can afford to be unorganized. And if they hope to talk on anything like equal terms with a single, unified, monolithic corporate management, they have to get together.

THERE ARE ONLY two ways to do that. One is to unify their goals and present a united front, as the dozen unions in the electrical industry have done with their Coordinated Bargaining Committee. The other is to unify their goals and pool their resources through physical merger, as you have chosen to do.

Neither way is easy. Brothers and sisters who have been raised in the same house find plenty to disagree about. And when they have grown up under separate roofs, they have to work that much harder to keep in step.

Fortunately, when it comes to the things that matter, the American trade union movement is able to keep in step. On our fundamental needs and aims and goals, we are in full agreement.

Of all the mergers of AFL-CIO unions in recent years, I know of none that didn't work to the benefit of all concerned. All of the unions involved are stronger, more efficient and more effective in the workplace, at the bargaining table, in the legislative halls and in the community.

The mission of this new union—and the mission of the entire labor movement in the last quarter of this century—is to protect the institution of collective bargaining and provide more workers the opportunity to realize democracy on the job.

And we will protect it against those who would destroy it, as well as those who would undermine it through an inequitable and illegal program to compel workers to bear an unfair share of the burden in the fight against the common enemy of inflation.

—From remarks by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at the founding convention of the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union.

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LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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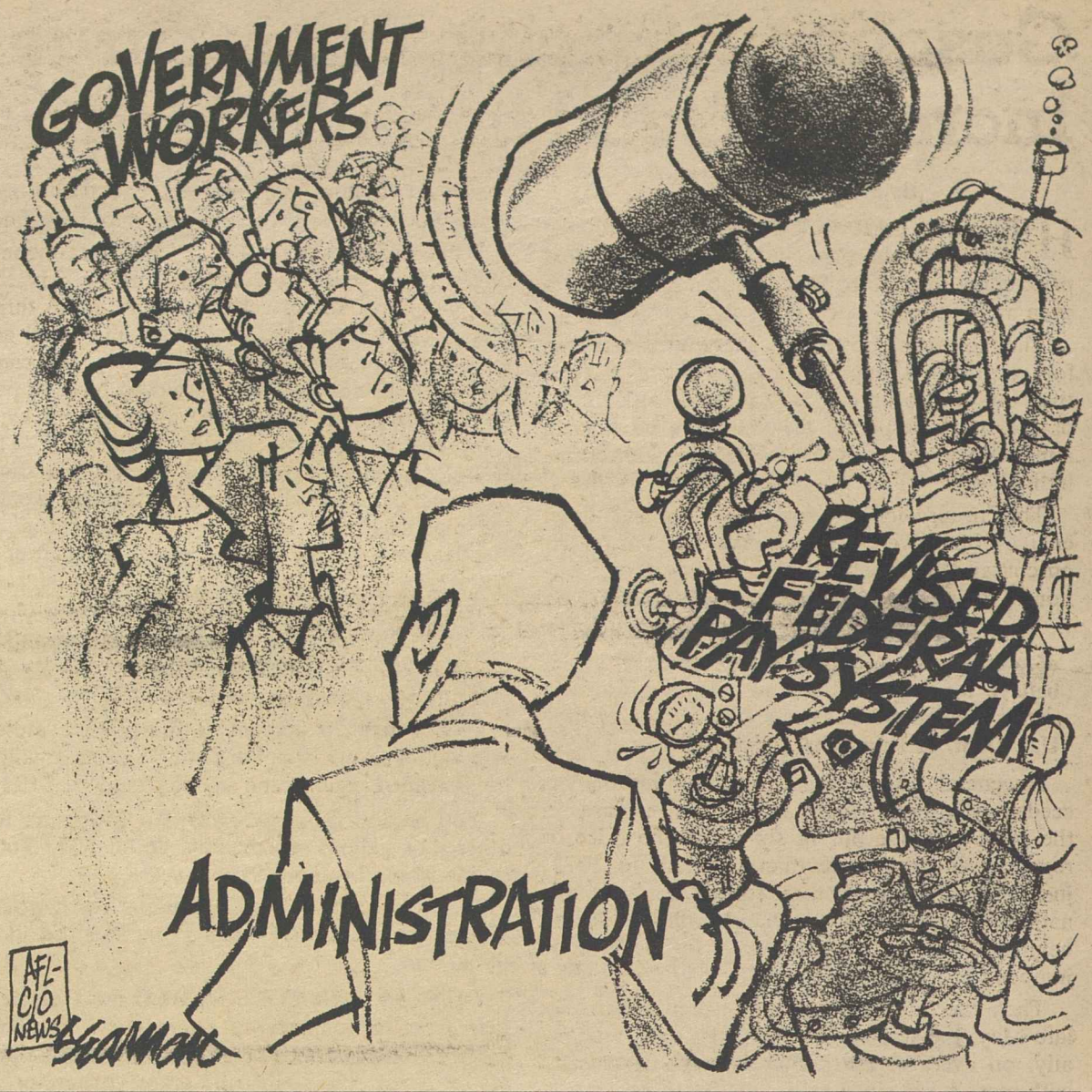
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'Here's How It Works . . .'



10-Year Experience Cited:

Weather Easier to Forecast Than Federal Spending Totals

By Gus Tyler

ALTHOUGH THE WEATHER in my part of the country has been unseasonably bad, neither I nor any of my neighbors blamed the President or Congress. We know that they have little control over the seasons and that we could not make them accountable even if we amended the Constitution to order our statesmen to clear up the climate.

Yet, there are many folk I know and like who believe that Washington can control the budget, and that every time it is out of whack it is due to the bad planning of the government. To cure that disorder, they propose to amend the Constitution.

For all those who think that the budget planners are any better than the weatherman in forecasting, I recommend a quick glance at the actual experiences of the last 10 years, from 1969 to 1978, to see how wrong our lawmakers, aided by the best economists and statisticians in the country, have been in predicting what will happen.

In fiscal 1969 (from June 1968 to June 1969) the government estimated (at the beginning of the year) that we would run a deficit of $8 billion. Instead, we closed the year with a surplus—yes, a surplus—of $3.2 billion. Our reckoning was off by more than $11 billion—about a 6 percent error on the total budget.

How could we have been so wrong? Our income was $9 billion more than expected since we were still riding the boom of a war-stimulated economy; our expenditures were $2 billion less than anticipated.

Now follows 1970—the first year that Nixon's policy of "cooling the economy" made its negative impact. The budget, when submitted to Congress, forecast a surplus of more than $3 billion. At the end of the fiscal year, the deficit was just under $3 billion—a $6 billion error.

What happened? Because of the Nixon-induced recession, income fell $5 billion below expectations, and outgo was $1 billion above.

You might have thought that Washington learned something from that experience. But, no, the next year, 1971, the budget projected a surplus of $1.3 billion, although Nixon was still putting the economy into a deep freeze.

At the year's end, the "surplus" ended up as a deficit of $23 billion—a gross miscalculation of $24 billion.

What happened? Federal receipts were $12 billion below expectations (that's what a recession will do) and outgo rose by $11 billion (that's what inflation will do). You add stagnation to inflation and you get a stagflation that brings in less and takes out more.

Over the 10 years, the "estimate" has been consistently wrong. Even when we ended up as almost correct—in 1977 and 1978 when the bottom line was only one billion off the anticipated amount—we were wrong, very much so. In 1978, for instance, our income was $10 billion above estimated, but so were our expenditures, so we ended up looking good only because our huge error corrected another equally huge error.

Conclusion: A constitutional amendment to balance the budget is worth about as much as a similar amendment to make every day fair and sunny.

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Davis-Bacon Act Proves Its Value

The fundamental principle of the Davis-Bacon Act is as relevant today as it was 48 years ago when it was enacted. The purpose is to ensure that local labor standards are not undermined when the federal government spends large sums of money on construction projects in a community.

It is good for the construction industry; it is good for the communities in which those workers live, and it is conducive to fair and open competition for government contracts by rewarding managerial efficiency rather than the ability to gouge workers' wages.

To emasculate or repeal the Davis-Bacon Act would force contractors to choose between cutting workers' wages or losing out to unfair competitors who would not hesitate to use the federal government's construction activity to drive them out of business.

—Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., at House hearings, June 14, 1979.

How to Buy:

Gasoline Scarcity, Price Surge Increase Trend to Smaller Cars

By Sidney Margolius

HOW ARE CAR OWNERS coping with the latest gas shortage and the unprecedented price surge to close to $1 a gallon and sometimes even more in some places?

They're cutting down noticeably on use of cars for vacations, shopping trips and visits to relatives but less so on car use to get to work. Some of the more desperate drivers are even bribing attendants to get more gas or fighting with others in line.

They're also looking for small cars and diesel engines, but have cut back to some extent on car purchases altogether. They're paying more attention to maintenance, too.

Motorists also are registering a huge volume of protests about the increases. Motorists who believe local gas stations are charging inordinately high prices can use a free hotline of the U.S. Dept. of Energy to complain.

In general, the price hikes have noticeably exceeded even those necessitated by the increases in the price of crude oil. In six years, the price of regular-grade gas more than doubled. In 1973, just before the first shortage threats, gas sold at a national average of 39 cents, according to Runzheimer & Co., auto accountants. In one year, it jumped to 57 cents and by 1978 to 67 cents.

Then the latest price-raising spree began. By late May, the price had gone to 86 cents nationally, on average, but higher in some states and with more hikes since.

Moreover, early in June the head of one of the largest oil companies estimated the price would go up 50 cents more to $1.50 a gallon, as the result of further increases in crude oil prices and decontrol of prices within the United States.

In view of the 15-cent jump in less than six months, it's ironic to note that last January the Energy Dept. estimated that the price of gas would go up 14 to 18 cents over the next two years. The department is widely accused of having mishandled both the price and supply problems.

One of the most noticeable effects of the heightened anxiety over gas costs and availability is on the car market. The demand for small cars has increased noticeably. Some dealers have extended the waiting time for factory-equipped small models from the typical four weeks last year to six weeks now.

Demand for diesel-engine cars, which already was keen this year, is even greater now. Dealers in medium-price makes which offer a diesel option by late May reported they already had a waiting list for 1980-model diesels of as long as six months.

Diesels usually consume about 21 to 38 percent less fuel than conventional engines, and the fuel is somewhat cheaper than unleaded regular although it has gotten more expensive and harder to find.

What might discourage a moderate-income buyer from getting on the waiting lists is the higher cost of diesel cars. You pay more three ways: (1) $300 to $1,000 more for the diesel engine as an option; (2) with tight supply, you can't get the usual discount and may even have to pay a premium; (3) the diesels arrive loaded with even more options than the gasoline-engine cars. The Diesel Automobile Association reports that some manufacturers have been sending diesels through the pipeline "fully loaded" with such extras as electric windows, door locks, "appearance groups" and so on.

Here's how the comparative costs might work out. If you get 18 miles per gallon with a gasoline-engine car and do the normal 10,000 miles a year, you buy 556 gallons of gas a year.

If you save 25 percent of that with a diesel, you would save 139 gallons. At 95 cents a gallon for unleaded regular, the saving would be $133.

You also might save 8 cents a gallon on the other 417 gallons which adds up to $33. Total saving would be about $166 a year.

If you pay $800 more for a diesel car it would take a little under five years to recover the additional cost.

DIESELS ARE CONSIDERED more efficient than gasoline engines in some other respects. Since the diesels have no ignition system, there are no spark plugs, distributor or carburetor to service or replace. On the other hand, you have to be careful to replace filters regularly. Too, diesels are harder to start, especially in cold weather although manufacturers are said to be improving the starting time.

Diesels are smellier, but more seriously, spew more particles into the air. Researcher Jane Harmon learned that the study the Environmental Protection Agency is making to determine if diesel emissions can cause cancer may have results ready by late summer. The problem is that diesels emit between 30 and 70 times more particles than do catalyst-type gasoline engines, and these emissions apparently can penetrate deeply into the lungs.

Diesel engines do meet EPA's other emission standards. The particles have become a matter of investigation because of the expected increase in diesels. The research in progress will tell if the concern is warranted.

The effect of the gas shortage has been noticeable on larger cars, too, but in the opposite direction. New car dealers report a drop in demand for bigger cars, while used large cars now often sell for no more and even less than smaller models from the same manufacturer.

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False Budget Picture:

Administration 'Gimmick' Seen In Slotting Social Security Fund

A SOCIAL INSURANCE expert for the AFL-CIO has charged that the Carter Administration is using the social security program as a "budget gimmick" to make the overall federal deficit appear smaller.

Since use of the Social Security Trust Fund is limited to paying benefits, AFL-CIO Associate Social Security Director Lawrence Smedley contended that including that fund in the consolidated budget presents a false picture of the deficit or surplus condition of total federal income and spending. He said the benefit cuts President Carter has urged might keep the fund at a higher level, but in reality would not reflect the balance of overall federal operations.

Decisions on social security should be made "solely on the merits" of the program and "not be involved . . . in what, in many cases, are political decisions," Smedley declared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Questioned by reporters, Smedley said that while the Congress has already turned down most of the social security benefits cuts pushed by the Carter Administration, the current protections for disabled workers are still threatened by a measure that has cleared the House Ways & Means Committee. He said the coalition of unions, senior citizen organizations and other groups (Save Our Security) that worked successfully to defuse most of the proposed cuts is continuing its efforts to forestall a rollback of disability protections.

It would be "very unfortunate" to dilute or deny disability protections to workers "who have paid into the social security program, in many cases, all of their working lives," he declared. He said there is still a good chance that those cuts will be curtailed or defeated.

Smedley agreed that labelling retirement as "the golden years" is something of a "mockery," in that a large proportion of the elderly have lower incomes, poorer health, poorer housing, are isolated in big cities and are very lonely.

Reporters questioning Smedley on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Al Goldsmith of Washington Insurance Newsletter and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired weekly by Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS, the cost of health care has almost doubled for the average family. In 1973, the average family of four spent $1,138 on health care; by 1978, this had risen to $2,115; by 1983, it is expected to hit $3,600.

In one tragic case disclosed at congressional hearings, a patient entered a medical center in Florida last November and died three weeks later. The center came up with a bill for $77,167.

As a nation, health costs clearly are out of control. The $163 billion spent on health care in 1977 is expected to rise to $204 billion this year, a 25 percent increase.

In 1798, Congress adopted the proposal of Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton and established the Marine Hospital Service, with salaried medical staffs. The aim was to maintain a healthy merchant marine in the event of a sudden need to convert to a fighting navy.

Enlightened self-interest inspired group health programs in a variety of settings. The Central Pacific Railroad created its own health care system in 1868 as it pushed the first railroad across the Sierra Nevada. Other railroads followed suit, as did isolated mining and lumbering companies.

In some cities, immigrants and the working poor often got medical care through a doctor under contract to their fraternal lodge.

The group health approach met similar needs later on. Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia launched a group health plan for New York City employees in the 1940s that grew to cover the metropolitan area.

During World War II, the Kaiser shipyards and steel mill provided group health coverage for 100,000 defense workers and their families. With war's end, the plan was converted into community-based programs in three West Coast urban areas. Now known as Kaiser-Permanente, the plan serves 3.5 million people.

UNIONS HAVE PLAYED an especially important role. The Ladies' Garment Workers pioneered with a group health center in New York in 1913. The Mine Workers brought health care and hospitals to many in Appalachia. The Amalgamated Transit Union got group health expanded in the nation's capital area. The UAW helped found five HMOs, including what is now the Health Alliance Plan of Michigan.

Ironically, it was President Nixon who signed the Health Maintenance Organization Act of 1973, spurring the spread of a group health approach once attacked by organized medicine as "socialistic."

As AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman recently observed, prepaid group health plans or HMOs have grown from only 33 eight years ago to 211 today, serving nearly 8 million people.

Seidman said labor expects that the revised Kennedy-Waxman Health Care for All Americans Act will bring a multifold expansion of HMOs.

President Douglas Fraser of the UAW, whose members participate in 40 HMOs, also saw HMOs as operating best within the context of a genuine national health insurance system.

"As admirable as HMOs are," Fraser told the 1979 Group Health Institute conference, "they exist as oases in the 'wasteland' of traditional medical care services and health insurance schemes. . . . They cannot in themselves reform our basic health system."

Fraser, who heads the Committee for National Health Insurance, urged the HMOs to support national health insurance in their broader self-interest.

HMOs may be the wave of the present, but it will take a rational system of national health insurance to end the waste and maldistribution of health resources and bring decent care to the 50 million people who have inadequate or no health insurance at all.



A FALSE PICTURE of actual federal spending and income results from the Administration's use of the social security program as a budget gimmick, AFL-CIO Associate Social Security Director Lawrence Smedley, center, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Robert Cooney, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Al Goldsmith of Washington Insurance Newsletter. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

House Defeats Attack on Davis-Bacon

The House on June 6 defeated an attack on the Davis-Bacon Act by a key 244-155 vote. It rejected an anti-labor amendment to exempt two federal housing programs from the requirement that prevailing wages be paid on all federally-funded construction.

Right votes (R) against the amendment were cast by 204 Democrats and 40 Republicans. Wrong votes (W) to weaken the law were cast by 107 Republicans and 48 Democrats.

Numerals show congressional districts; AL—at large; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) R
2. Dickinson (R) A
3. Nichols (D) R
4. Bevill (D) R
5. Flippo (D) R
6. Buchanan (R) R
7. Shelby (D) R

ALASKA
AL Young (R) R

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) W
3. Stump (D) W
4. Rudd (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) R
2. Bethune (R) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) A
4. Anthony (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) PR
2. Clausen (R) R
3. Matsui (D) R
4. Fazio (D) R
5. Burton John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Royer (R) R
12. McCloskey (R) R
13. Mineta (D) PR
14. Shumway (R) W
15. Coelho (D) R
16. Panetta (D) R
17. Pashayan (R) R
18. Thomas (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) R
20. Goldwater (R) A
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Beilenson (D) A
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Dornan (R) W
28. Dixon (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) A
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D) R
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Grisham (R) W
34. Lungren (R) W
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Lewis (R) R
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Dannemeyer (R) W
40. Badham (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) R
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Kogovsek (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Kramer (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) A
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Ratchford (D) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL Evans (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Hutto (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) PW
3. Bennett (D) R
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) A
7. Gibbons (D) W
8. Ireland (D) W
9. Nelson (D) PW
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Mica (D) W
12. Stack (D) R
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) R
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) R
4. Levitas (D) R
5. Fowler (D) R
6. Gingrich (R) W
7. McDonald (D) PW
8. Evans (D) A
9. Jenkins (D) W
10. Barnard (D) W

HAWAII
1. Heftel (D) R
2. Akaka (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Stewart (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) R
5. Fary (D) R
6. Hyde (R) R
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane, Philip (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Corcoran (R) W
16. Anderson (R) A
17. O'Brien (R) R
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) R
20. Findley (R) R
21. Madigan (R) R
22. Crane, Dan (R) W
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Benjamin (D) R
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Quayle (R) W
5. Hillis (R) A
6. Evans (D) A
7. Myers (R) A
8. Deckard (R) W
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) W

IOWA
1. Leach (R) W
2. Tauke (R) W
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) W

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Jeffries (R) W
3. Winn (R) W
4. Glickman (D) R
5. Whittaker (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Hopkins (R) W
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Livingston (R) W
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Leach (D) W
5. Huckaby (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) PW
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Snowe (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) W
3. Mikulski (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) A
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Barnes (D) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) A
5. Shannon (D) R
6. Mavroules (D) R
7. Markey (D) A
8. O'Neill (D) Speaker
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Donnelly (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) A
2. Pursell (R) R
3. Wolpe (D) R
4. Stockman (R) W
5. Sawyer (R) W
6. Carr (D) R
7. Kildee (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) A
10. Albosta (D) R
11. Davis (R) R
12. Bonior (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Erdahl (R) A
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Vento (D) R
5. Sabo (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Stangeland (R) W
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Hinson (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Young (D) A
3. Gephardt (D) R
4. Skelton (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Coleman (R) W
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Volkmer (D) R
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Williams (D) R
2. Marlenee (R) W

NEBRASKA
1. Bereuter (R) W
2. Cavanaugh (D) R
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) W

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) PR
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) A
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Hollenbeck (R) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Courter (R) W
14. Guarini (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) R
2. Runnels (D) R

NEW YORK
1. Carney (R) W
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) R
5. Wydler (R) A
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Ferraro (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) A
18. Green (R) W
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Weiss (D) R
21. Garcia (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (D) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Solomon (R) W
30. McEwen (R) R
31. Michell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Lee (R) R
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Lundine (D) R

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Whitley (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) W
6. Preyer (D) W
7. Rose (D) A
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Gudger (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Luken (D) R
3. Hall (D) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Pease (D) R
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Applegate (D) R
19. Williams (R) R
20. Oakar (D) R
21. Stokes (D) A
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Synar (D) R
3. Watkins (D) W
4. Steed (D) R
5. Edwards (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) W
3. Duncan (D) W
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Myers (D) R
2. Gray (D) R
3. Lederer (D) R
4. Dougherty (R) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Kostmayer (D) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) PR
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) A
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Ritter (R) R
16. Walker (R) W
17. Ertel (D) R
18. Walgren (D) R
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Bailey (D) R
22. Murphy (D) R
23. Clinger (R) R
24. Marks (R) R
25. Atkinson (D) R

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) W
4. Campbell (R) W
5. Holland (D) R
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Daschle (D) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) R
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Bouquard (D) A
4. Gore (D) R
5. Boner (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) R
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Hall (D) W
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Mattox (D) R
6. Gramm (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) A
11. Leath (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Wyatt (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) R
16. White (D) W
17. Stenholm (D) W
18. Leland (D) R
19. Hance (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Loeffler (R) W
22. Paul (R) W
23. Kazen (D) R
24. Frost (D) R

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Marriott (R) W

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Trible (R) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) R
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Swift (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Dicks (D) R
7. Lowry (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Rahall (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Petri (R) R
7. Obey (D) R
8. Roth (R) W
9. Sensenbrenner (R) W

WYOMING
AL Cheney (R) W

Labor Voices Disappointment:

Carter's Health Plan Termed Inadequate

(Continued from Page 1)

compete for the non-subsidized catastrophic insurance coverage and for contracts to process claims under Healthcare.

By contrast, the Health Care for All Americans Act introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.) would establish a timetable to phase in a comprehensive program that would cover every resident of the United States, with no distinction between persons whose coverage is paid for as an employer benefit and those whose insurance is subsidized by the government. In a significant difference, costs of all health services would be negotiated and budgeted in advance of a regional basis.

President Carter personally led off a White House briefing on the Administration plan, joined by Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Joseph Califano, Presidential Assistant Stuart Eizenstat and House and Senate members who will try to move the legislation through Congress.

Repeatedly, the Administration leaders hammered at the argument that the Carter plan could be enacted while the Kennedy-Waxman bill supported by the national health insurance coalition could not win congressional approval.

Carter sounded the same note in his formal message to Congress. "The real needs of our people are not served by waiting and hoping for a better tomorrow," he argued.

Meany termed the Kennedy-Waxman bill "far superior to the President's proposal."

He warned that "piecemeal approaches to solving America's health care problems will not work." And costs won't effectively be held down, Meany said, "until all health care is brought under a single national budget, and duplication in technology, services and administrative costs are eliminated."

Meany said Carter's plan "provides little for the poor and elderly, something for infants and pregnant women, but excludes the basic health care expenses of the rest of the population."

Enactment of a program emphasizing only catastrophic coverage would be "a serious blow" to the chances for "a truly comprehensive national health insurance program," he warned.

Two members of the House & Ways Committee—James Corman (D-Calif.), who once co-sponsored with Kennedy an elderly national health security bill, and Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.)—will sponsor the Administration bill in the House.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Russell Long (D-La.), the chief advocate of the catastrophic insurance approach, stopped short of an endorsement of the Carter plan, but indicated he thought a bill could be brought to the floor that included elements of both his proposal and the Administration bill.

Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.) saw enactment of legislation possible only if there is cooperation by all of "the main actors" who, he said, were Carter, Long and Kennedy.

At a news conference, Kennedy said the Administration plan may be "well motivated," but it would set up "separate and unequal systems of care" and is badly flawed by inadequate cost controls.

Douglas Fraser, chairman of the Committee for National Health Insurance and president of the UAW, said the Carter plan "is wrong because it won't accomplish the job that needs doing."

But he welcomed the Administration's entry into the health care debate as a prod to congressional action. Fraser expressed hope that the President will re-examine his position and move closer to a comprehensive program that he has endorsed in principle and that would "far better serve the needs of the American people."



WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE's annual David L. Clendenin Awards memorializing the league's co-founder were presented this year to Joyce D. Miller, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women and a vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, and William M. Ross, executive director of the youth job training program, R-T-P, Inc. Shown at the league's 43rd anniversary dinner are from left, ACTWU President Murray Finley, Miller, AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. President Jacob Clayman, Ross, and Adrienne Critchlow, assistant labor commissioner for New York state.

Energy Coalition Scores Federal Policy Vacuum

Americans for Energy Independence, a broad coalition of business, labor, academic, scientific, consumer, and other organizations, called on the Carter Administration for a firm federal commitment to expanding the nation's energy supply.

In its annual statement of policy, the group charged that the absence of such a commitment to date has created a virtual national energy paralysis, which "prevents our making better use of U.S. coal, uranium, and oil and gas reserves, as well as inhibits the commercialization of non-conventional energy supplements such as gasohol."

AFEI Executive Director Elihu Bergman, who released the policy statement, said the kind of commitment the organization is calling for "requires not only presidential rhetoric but presidential action and follow-through with the full compliance of all members of his Administration."

AFEI's board includes Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride, President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers, President Martin Ward of the Plumbers & Pipefitters, Vice President Evelyn DuBrow of the Ladies' Garment Workers, and President Joseph D. Keenan of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept. Keenan also serves as AFEI president.

The AFEI urged priority treatment for developing known domestic energy sources backed by proven technologies and production capabilities, advancing new technologies that have the most promising near-term potential, and prompt streamlining of regulatory procedures to expedite this goal.

Bergman applauded Carter's recent statements recognizing the regulatory "quagmire" facing energy development but questioned if the President "appreciates the extent to which his Administration has contributed to this mess."

"Our doubts are underscored by the fact that the President has yet to specify a single regulatory reform to which he will commit his Administration," he said.

In the absence of effective energy policies, the United States now is experiencing huge oil imports, a stagnating economy, a battered dollar, a pattern of record balance-of-trade deficits, declining exports markets, increasing inflation, and high unemployment, the AFEI statement said.

Davis-Bacon Foes Renew Repeal Bid

(Continued from Page 1)

ica are attacking not only the Davis-Bacon Act but also the Service Contract Act, Occupational Safety & Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Civil Rights Act." And all, Young noted, "under the pretense of fighting inflation."

Both Young and President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. cited the abundance of data that refutes charges that the Davis-Bacon Act has forced up construction costs. In fact, Georgine told the subcommittee, the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage determinations made by the Labor Dept. have actually been below the wage provided in applicable collective bargaining agreements in 57 percent of the nation's counties.

But "the convenience of criticizing the Davis-Bacon Act," Georgine said, allows the industry "to distract attention from the conditions which actually exert inflationary pressures" including both land costs and the high cost of borrowing money.

While profits of banks and building materials producers have risen sharply, he testified, "the proportion of the total cost of housing attributable to on-site labor has dramatically decreased over the past three decades."

Young said that government contracting "might be done a little cheaper in the short run" if the array of labor standards and safety laws were scrapped, "but only if the government surrenders social responsibility."

As a further factor, he suggested, "it is an economic fact of life that the better skilled and highly productive workers go to employers that pay the better wages."

Los Angeles Group Joins with AFSCME

Los Angeles—The All City Employees Association, an independent group representing nearly 6,000 city employees here, has affiliated with the State, County & Municipal Employees union.

The move was adopted unanimously by the group's executive board. ACEA became AFSCME Local 3090 upon affiliation.

Field's Stores Assailed For Abuse of 'Lie' Tests

Marshall Field & Co. department stores in Chicago are abusing the basic rights of their employees by subjecting them to demeaning lie-detector tests, the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. has charged.

As a result of these two- to three-hour long interrogations, seven employees were fired, seven others suspended and two resigned. The Field's employees are non-union, the department noted.

Department Sec.-Treas. Robert F. Harbrant said that workers who fail the company's polygraph examinations are subject to immediate suspension even though the "lie-detector" tests are considered less than 70 percent accurate.

"The kind of campaign of intimidation and interrogation Field's has launched goes against the basic principles of our society," Harbrant said.

Because of the poor accuracy of "lie-detector" tests, Harbrant said that many of Field's 500 employees could be branded as dishonest or deceptive without good reason.

He urged business leaders to join in efforts to curb abuses in the use of polygraph tests and other psychological examinations in workplaces, noting that more than half of the nation's retail employers use some sort of "lie-detector" test on their workers. As many as 400,000 tests were administered by private firms last year, according to a recent survey.

Retailers have been the greatest users—and abusers—of the devices, but the survey also indicates that one-fifth of all large firms are using "lie-detectors," Harbrant pointed out.

Argentine Role Denounced in Airline Strike

New York—The Transport Workers, on strike against Argentine Airlines, charged the Argentine government with extending its "arrogant, anti-union, anti-civil rights attitudes" to their employees in the United States.

The carrier, which is wholly owned and operated by the Argentinian military regime, is represented by the New York law firm of Poletti, Friedin, Prashker, Feldman & Gartner in negotiations with the union.

TWUA President William G. Lindner said management has demanded the surrender of long-held contract provisions as a condition to renewing its previous agreement with the union. These include removing previously covered employees from the contract's jurisdiction, imposing forced overtime on employees, and replacing full-time workers with part-time help.

"Since the carrier is owned and operated by the Argentine government," Lindner observed, "strike-related loss of operating revenue probably is not of major concern to management."

The strike involves flight dispatchers, clerical, customer service and maintenance employees represented by the union, and has halted all of the airline's operations between South America and Miami, New York, and Los Angeles. The walkout began May 11.

32¢ Boost Set For Fieldcrest Textile Units

Charlotte, N.C. — Members of the Clothing & Textile Workers employed at five Fieldcrest mills in the South approved a new agreement providing general wage increases averaging 32 cents an hour.

Scott Hoyman, director of ACTWU's Southern Division, said the raise—obtained in a wage reopener of an existing contract—is the first increase in southern textile wages to go into effect this year. Over 7,500 workers are covered by the pact, which will expire on Mar. 1, 1981.

Hoyman said a significant feature of the settlement permits the union to make a further proposal for wage increases in November.

The Fieldcrest bargaining units are in Fieldale, Va., Eden and Stokesdale, N.C., Columbus, Ga., and Phenix City, Ala.

Ways and Means Committee:

House Unit Raises Windfall Oil Tax

(Continued from Page 1)

percent of the profits subject to the windfall tax, as compared with the 50 percent proposed by Carter. The President, however, had said he would support a tougher tax if Congress chose to enact one.

On the 22-14 vote, all committee Republicans and two oil state Democrats voted against the Rostenkowski proposal, which would raise $26.5 billion over the five years until decontrol is completed as compared with $20.6 billion in the Carter proposal. The committee also voted to make permanent a tax on "old oil" that Carter wanted to end after five years, but to ease the tax rate for newly-discovered oil.

The battle is expected to be refought when the bill comes before the full House, with labor supporting efforts to raise the rate above the committee version.

The committee left for future consideration the issue of earmarking the windfall tax revenue to relieve a part of the heavy financial burden that decontrol will impose on most Americans.

On the House floor, meanwhile, four days of debate failed to reach a final vote on the Administration's bill to establish a Cabinet Dept. of Education, and the issue was put off until a later date.

The Senate-passed bill is opposed by the AFL-CIO and the American Federation of Teachers, but supported by the National Education Association.

Already-divided party and ideological lineups in the House were further muddled by adoption of an anti-busing amendment opposed by labor and civil rights groups. The House did, however, reject another labor-opposed amendment that would have transferred CETA youth employment programs from the Labor Dept. to the proposed new Education Dept.

In a letter to House members at the start of debate, the AFL-CIO protested that carving up the present Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare wouldn't improve the education of any children. But it would "isolate education from the vital concerns of income maintenance, child care and health services that we believe are crucial to an effective education program."

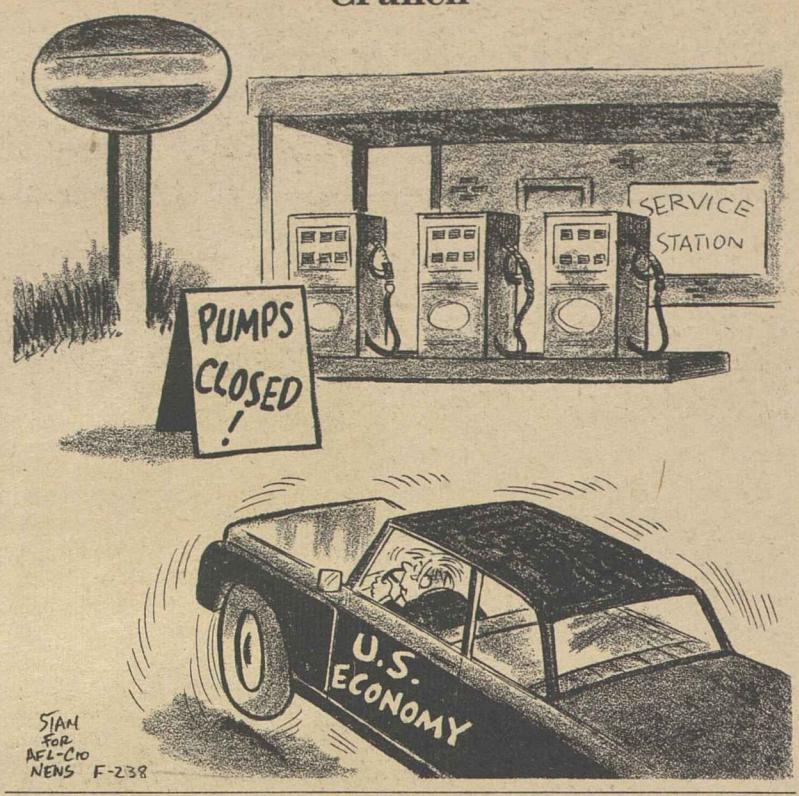
In other congressional actions:

- The Senate voted to force the lifting of economic sanctions against Rhodesia, a position that both President Carter and the AFL-CIO oppose as premature.

Before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young asked senators to support the Administration position. In an earlier letter to Carter, AFL-CIO President George Meany listed the "essential steps" that wou'd bring Rhodesia closer to majority rule. These include the elimination of the minority veto in government, retirement of Ian Smith, vigorous training and placement of black Rhodesians in the civil service, free trade union guarantees and assurances of due process of law.

- The House defeated a legislative appropriations bill in the aftermath of a politically sensitive battle over congressional pay. First it voted to cut a proposed 7 percent raise for members of Congress and other top officials to the 5.5 percent level to which ordinary government workers will be held. But then, after defeating by voice vote an amendment to delete the raise entirely, the House killed the entire bill on a 232-186 rollcall vote.

Crunch



U.S.-Japanese Unions Explore Current Issues

Representatives of the AFL-CIO and the Japanese Confederation of Labor (Domei) meeting in Washington warned of the threat of communism to free workers in Asia as well as in other parts of the world and scored the denial of human rights and the repression of trade union freedoms by many governments.

In a joint statement following their 11th annual meeting, the two groups also deplored the "politically motivated distortions, the disregard of original aims and purposes, and the lack of universal application of conventions in international organizations" such as the International Labor Organization.

A U.S. tripartite committee has been set up to monitor and review ILO developments related to the restoration of that organization to a position of importance to workers in every part of the world, the AFL-CIO noted. The committee, which meets regularly, has the power to recommend to President Carter U.S. reaffiliation in the ILO when it is satisfied with the operations of the United Nations agency.

"It is the hope of the AFL-CIO that this favorable condition can be achieved soon," the joint statement observed. Domei said it hoped for the early return of the United States to the ILO and pledged its best efforts to correct the current situation in the ILO and in other international organizations.

The Japanese labor group also expressed hope that the AFL-CIO would return to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions to strengthen the international free labor movement.

Signed by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Domei President Seiji Amaike, the joint statement summarized the views of the two labor organizations on a number of other subjects of mutual interest, including the economy, trade relations, energy, multinational corporations, and trade union cooperation in Asia.

The two parties noted that a great deal of attention has been focused on the inequitable trade relationship between Japan and the United States and its consequences. The meeting affirmed that fair international trade should contribute to economic growth, expansion of employment, and the betterment of people's livelihood.

"To maintain a strong and orderly system of fair trade, there must be international cooperation, adherence to rules and laws established by national governments, and the application of fair labor standards," the statement said.

Representing the AFL-CIO at the five-day meeting were Vice Presidents J. C. Turner and Martin J. Ward; Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to Federation President George Meany; Rudy Oswald, director of the Dept. of Research; Ernest S. Lee, director of the Dept. of International Affairs; Machinists Vice President George Poulin; Morris Paladino, executive director of the Asian-American Free Labor Institute, and International Affairs Rep. James Ellenberger.

Domei was represented by Vice Presidents Ichiro Shioji, Koichiro Hashimoto and Yoshikazu Tanaka, Assistant Gen. Sec. Masao Uenishi, Director Masao Aihara of the International Affairs Bureau, and Naotake Kaihara, member of the International Affairs Committee.

Rubber Union Presses Talks With Goodrich

(Continued from Page 1)

discussion before a settlement could be reached, but they said they were optimistic.

Pestillo declined to say whether his company would be strictly bound by the Administration's 7 percent annual pay standard, but observed that the guidelines have been "badly battered" in recent months. Bommarito said that as far as he was concerned "the guidelines don't exist."

As the Goodrich talks entered their critical stage, officials of the union and the AFL-CIO were arguing against an Administration appeal of a lower court decision that ruled the government cannot legally impose economic sanctions against firms that violate its wage-price guidelines. **(Story, Page 1.)**

Bommarito has charged that Uniroyal reneged on a tentative agreement Apr. 18 after being pressured by the Administration to settle within the guidelines.

Uniroyal and URW negotiators met in the Akron, Ohio, suburb of Fairlawn June 12, but the discussion was confined to local issues. Bargaining committees of Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., and Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., also continued to discuss non-economic issues.

The Big Four rubber firms employ a total of about 55,000 URW members whose contracts expired on Apr. 21. Work has continued at all companies except Uniroyal.

Job Training Grant Renewed for Carpenters

The Labor Dept. has renewed funding for a 32-state training program operated by the Carpenters to prepare economically disadvantaged persons for apprenticeship.

The new contract, for $1.48 million, will enable the union to provide training for 660 persons, with a recruitment emphasis on Vietnam-era veterans, minority group applicants and women.

Machinists Stand Firm On United Airlines Pact

The Machinists have rejected as "an unwarranted intrusion into the collective bargaining process" the Administration's contention that its recently negotiated contract with United Airlines was in "probable noncompliance" with the government's wage guidelines.

IAM President William W. Winpisinger said in a letter to the government's Council on Wage & Price Stability that the union is not and never has been party to the "voluntary" guidelines, and felt no obligation to abide by them.

The guidelines, which were invalidated by a federal judge last month because of their mandatory sanctions against firms holding government contracts, call for a 7 percent ceiling on wages.

Meanwhile, the union turned down a tentative settlement with Northwest Airlines covering 3,500 workers. The pact was rejected by about two-thirds of members voting in the ratification process.

The United agreement ended an eight-week strike by some 18,000 IAM mechanics, baggage handlers, and other ground-crew personnel on May 28. The United membership had twice previously rejected tentative accords.

COWPS, which notified both the airline and the union of the probable noncompliance, said the notice does not represent a final determination that the parties had violated the guidelines. The parties were given 10 working days from the date of receipt of the notice, June 7, to respond before a final ruling is made.

The union has held the position that the United contract is exempt from the guidelines because it fits the definition of a "tandem" agreement—that is, an agreement based on an industry pattern agreement concluded before the guidelines were issued last fall. In this case, the Machinists' pattern contract was set with Trans World Airlines.

Besides the United-Machinists agreement, COWPS cited five oil firms for possible violations of the government's price guideline calling for firms to limit increases to half a percentage point less than their 1976-77 increases.

IUD Warns of Threat To Standard of Living

The labor movement faces the major task of stemming the erosion of workers' living standards and basic protections, President Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. said in issuing the call for the IUD's 13th convention.

Some 400 delegates are expected for the two-day convention in San Francisco, Sept. 19-20. Meetings of the IUD executive board and executive council will precede the convention.

Since the last convention two years ago, Clayman said, the twin assaults of inflation and outmoded U.S. foreign trade policies have hurt the American economy.

"At the same time," Clayman observed, "the New Right has seized upon the individual desperation and mass discontent caused by these economic failings to boldly and vociferously attack the trade union movement's ability to protect and extend the living standards of American working people."

He said little progress has been made to advance the national economic interest, noting that unemployment remains high, imports continue to erode the country's manufacturing base, and the buying power of workers and those living on fixed incomes continues to shrink.

Meanwhile, corporations are rolling up record profits and the costs of basic necessities soar beyond the reach of many, Clayman said.

"The response of some of our governmental leaders has been inadequate," he stressed. "We see a national anti-inflation program which puts the major burden of sacrifice on working people" and a so-called national energy policy that fosters inflation without providing a solution to the fuel crisis.

At the same time, Clayman said, inflation is being used as an excuse to encourage the surge of imports that ravage industries, jobs and communities. But instead of careful and systematic planning to solve these problems, "we too often see chaos and indecision in our national councils."

He noted that vital social and economic programs are under attack on Capitol Hill as right-wing and anti-labor forces pressure members of Congress.

Clayman said the labor movement must strengthen its political operations to counteract the vast sums being spent by business and the right wing while educating union members on labor's goals.

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Rubber Workers' Pattern Posts 'Substantial' Gains

Limited Bill Opposed on Health Care

The AFL-CIO urged the Senate Finance Committee to give a full hearing to a labor-supported comprehensive health care bill instead of trying to push through inadequate catastrophic insurance legislation.

Committee Chairman Russell B. Long (D-La.) is seeking quick agreement on what he terms a "consensus bill." But Long made it clear that the heart of such a bill would be the limited catastrophic insurance proposal that he has sponsored.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young told the Senate panel that the supposedly low-cost catastrophic insurance approach would actually "greatly accelerate the already unacceptably high inflation in health care costs."

Catastrophic insurance would leave most health care needs unmet and require substantial out-of-pocket payments, Young noted. But by providing a virtual blank check for the most costly forms of medical treatment, he warned, it would distort the allocation of health services and push up costs for everyone.

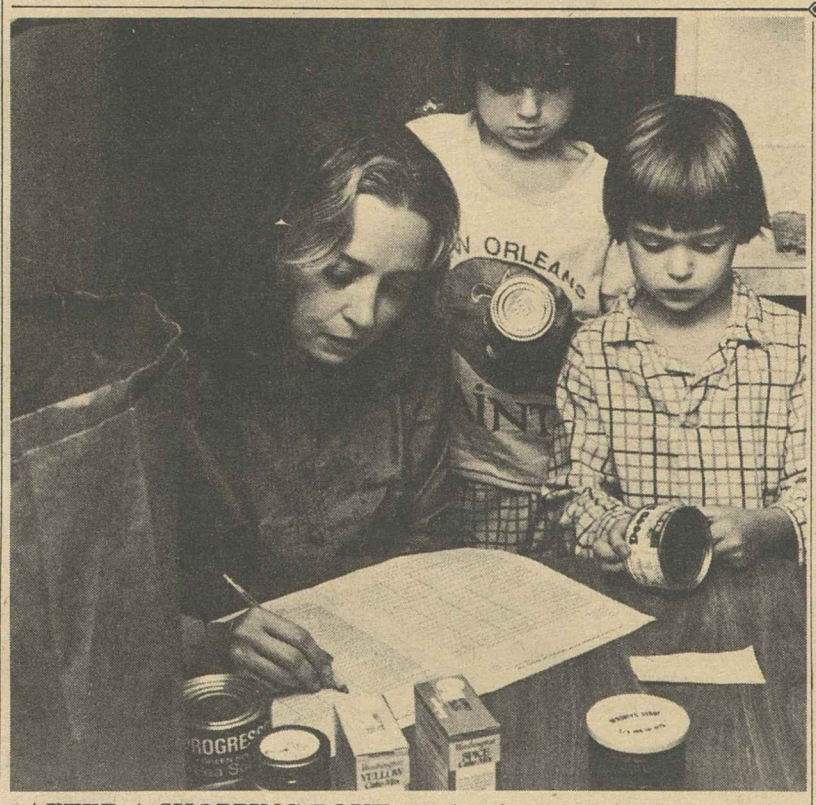
The AFL-CIO and other members of the coalition supporting the comprehensive health care bill introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) joined in urging the Senate committee not to plunge into a limited approach on the sole basis that it would involve less federal funding.

"We support a comprehensive program because it gives physicians lower cost alternatives to expensive hospitalization," Young testified. It would therefore be "less expensive in the long run."

Labor supports a universal program, he said, because "access to health care should be a right of all citizens."

Young traced labor's long commitment to the concept of "a comprehensive and universal national health insurance program," dating back before the merger of the AFL and the CIO and reiterated at every convention of the federation.

He expressed "deep disappointment" that the Senate committee had apparently chosen to limit consideration of a comprehensive bill "to a one-morning panel discussion." But "we do want to take this brief opportunity to make it clear that the AFL-CIO does not consider a catastrophic insurance proposal to be a viable legislative compromise program."



AFTER A SHOPPING BOUT at a local supermarket, housewife Lillian Carter of Bethesda, Md., fills out a Price Watch form with the help of her two sons. Similar reports are being made by thousands of AFL-CIO Price Watch volunteers across the country who are keeping tabs on surging costs. **(Story, Page 7.)**

Goodrich, Uniroyal Agree on New Terms

By James M. Shevis

The Rubber Workers reached tentative agreement on new three-year contracts providing substantial wage and benefit gains for workers at two of the nation's Big Four tiremakers, B. F. Goodrich and Uniroyal, and looked toward quick settlement with the rest of the industry.

As URW officials readied the contracts for ratification by the union's Goodrich and Uniroyal members, a process expected to take a week to 10 days, the tempo of negotiations with Goodyear and Firestone—the two other major companies that bargain with the union on a national basis—accelerated.

URW President Peter Bommarito said he hoped to wind up the talks by the end of this week, adding that he has "confidence" in Goodyear's willingness ultimately to accept the industry pattern settlement represented by the Goodrich agreement. Goodyear, the world's largest tiremaker, employs about 40 percent of the 55,000 URW members covered under the contracts with the Big Four.

The talks with Firestone are largely a formality since the company agreed in February to meet the pattern agreement's terms.

Uniroyal, whose employees struck May 9 after talks became deadlocked, issued a public apology for reneging on a tentative accord reached in April shortly before the union's contracts with the Big Four were about to expire.

"It is evident that both sides understood that a tentative agreement was reached Apr. 18," Uniroyal said in a statement. "The company regrets the misunderstandings and confusion that subsequently arose. Mr. Bommarito and his policy committee have our apologies for this unfortunate misunderstanding which was not their fault at all."

At the time of the "misunder-

(Continued on Page 3)

Canal Pact Cleared By House Vote

The House voted 224-202 for a labor-supported bill to carry out provisions of the Panama Canal treaty and provide for the operation of the waterway until Panama assumes full control in the year 2000.

Two key votes were of special concern to the AFL-CIO and its affiliates who represent the bulk of workers in what is now the Canal Zone.

By a 277-142 margin, the House approved the more generous package of early retirement rights and cost-of-living allowance that had in effect been negotiated at the same time as the treaty.

An amendment sought by the Post Office & Civil Service Committee would have cut back these promised benefits to the levels provided to government workers in the United States.

On Oct. 1, 1979, when the treaty takes effect, the Panama Canal Co. will be replaced by a Panama Canal Commission, which will have five U.S. and four Panamanian members and will operate and maintain the canal under the direction of the U.S. Dept. of Defense during the 20-year transition period.

(Continued on Page 8)

Court Bars Blanket Ban:

Union Solicitations Upheld in Hospitals

The Supreme Court has struck down a Nashville, Tenn., hospital's blanket no-solicitation rule aimed at blocking the union organization efforts of its workers.

The court ruled that while union representatives may be barred from corridors and sitting rooms on floors occupied by patients, they have the right to solicit new members in other areas generally used by the public, specifically the cafeteria, gift shop, and first-floor lobbies.

In upholding a National Labor Relations Board order that the hospital's "no-solicitation" rule was too broad, the court said experience in other cases "makes clear that solicitation in at least some of the public areas of hospitals often will not adversely affect patient care or disturb patients."

The court cited a 1978 case involving Beth Israel Hospital in Boston to back up its opinion. There the high court had ruled that union supporters have the right to distribute leaflets in the hospital cafeteria used predominantly by employees.

Both the Nashville and Boston cases involved organizing efforts by the Service Employees union, and the union was supported in its appeal by the AFL-CIO.

The nonprofit Baptist Hospital in Nashville, a 600-bed institution employing 1,000 workers, revised its rule on solicitation shortly after the union embarked on a membership drive in August 1974. The revised rule read, in part:

"No solicitations of any kind, including solicitation for memberships or subscriptions, will be permitted by employees at any time, including work time and nonwork time, in any area of the hospital which is accessible to or utilized

(Continued on Page 3)

Energy Mobilization Pressed by Coalition

Americans for Energy Independence called on President Carter to establish an Energy Mobilization Board to better cope with the growing energy crisis.

A coalition of business, labor, academic, consumer, scientific, and other organizations, AFEI said that "part of the blame for the public's skepticism about the existence of an energy crisis stems from the lack of a clearly spelled-out energy program."

There is now a lack of central focus among federal agencies, as well as state and local governments, on common energy policies and proposals, Chairman Robert R. Nathan of AFEI's executive committee said.

"Confusion and chaos rather than progress toward greater energy independence of the United States will continue to prevail until and unless there is an organizational structure designed to assure the setting of specific goals, the formulation of energy policies, the coordination between the various branches of government, and the expeditious implementation of appropriate policies and programs," he said.

The body proposed by AFEI would encompass many of the responsibilities and powers of the

(Continued on Page 6)

Pilots Hit Procedures For Certifying Aircraft

The Federal Aviation Administration could lessen the risk of future air disasters by doing a better job of certifying new aircraft designs for commercial service, the Air Line Pilots testified at House hearings.

ALPA President John J. O'Donnell expressed confidence that the causes of the Chicago DC-10 crash will be remedied and the aircraft made fully safe. But he is "much less confident" that the FAA will correct the "basic deficiencies" in its aircraft certification process.

O'Donnell told a Government Operations subcommittee investigating airline safety that a key problem is the FAA's reliance on the manufacturer's statements and the lack of a critical independent scrutiny.

Only after certification do pilots get an opportunity to examine what the manufacturer and the FAA have agreed on, O'Donnell said. "We spend a great deal of time and effort in correcting problems that arise after an aircraft enters service."

(Continued on Page 3)



AT CONFERENCE on technonlogical change in St. Louis, Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts presides over a panel discussion. At left is Jack Golodner, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees, which sponsored the program. At right are President Fred J. Kroll of the Railway & Airline Clerks and President Rodney A. Bower of the Professional & Technical Engineers.

Soviet Pentecostalists Backed in Asylum Plea

The AFL-CIO has urged the State Dept. to order the U.S. embassy in Moscow to grant asylum to seven Pentecostal Christians who took refuge in the embassy a year ago.

In a letter to Sec. of State Cyrus Vance, Federation President George Meany charged that U.S. Ambassador Malcolm Toon has ignored the families and, "on more than one occasion, has prevailed upon U.S. senators visiting in Moscow not to see the Christians or to talk of their plight."

The seven Pentecostalists include five members of the Vashchenko family and two members of the Chmykhalov family, who fled to the American embassy on June 27, 1978, after watching 17-year-old John Vashchenko being choked and dragged away by Soviet guards outside the U.S. complex.

Meany, who learned further details of the situation in a visit at his home with Soviet dissidents Vladimir Bukovsky and Alexander Ginzburg, said in his letter to Vance that, if the families were evicted from the embassy, all protection for them would evaporate.

Ginzburg informed Meany of a statement, circulated on behalf of some 30,000 Pentecostalists inside the Soviet Union, calling for retention of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, which would make granting of most-favored-nation status to the USSR conditional upon assurances by Soviet authorities of free emigration.

"The Jackson-Vanik Amendment is thus far the only leverage exerting pressure on the Soviet government in the question of emigration from the USSR," the statement observed.

Ginzburg and Bukovsky also expressed concern for the health of Igor Ogurtsov, who is in the 12th year of a 20-year sentence for his religious activity. Exiled Soviet dissident Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn has appealed to the West to protest the Soviet government's treatment of Ogurtsov.

Meany noted in his letter to Vance that he had learned that an American consular official regularly attempts to coerce the Vashchenko and Chmykhalov families into leaving the U.S. embassy in Moscow, a situation that Meany described as "disturbing."

"As a demonstration of our government's policy of human rights and belief in religious freedom," he wrote Vance, "I urge you to instruct Ambassador Toon to continue to grant asylum to these people and to make every representation to the Soviet Union to allow them to emigrate to the United Sates."

OPEIU Chooses Kelly To Succeed Coughlin

New York—The executive board of the Office & Professional Employees has elected John Kelly to succeed President Howard Coughlin, who will retire Aug. 1.

Kelly, 51, has been business manager since 1977 of Local 153 in New York—OPEIU's largest local with a membership of nearly 14,000—and a vice president of the international for the past 10 years.

Coughlin, 66, has been president of the OPEIU since 1953. One year remains in Coughlin's current three-year term, which Kelly will fill until the union's next convention in June 1980.

Coughlin has been a member of the OPEIU and its predecessor—the American Federation of Office Employees—since 1937. He served as an AFL organizer from 1942 to 1945, when he became business manager of Local 153. He was elected a vice president of the international in 1951 and as its top officer two years later.

Coughlin also served on the U.S. worker delegation to International Labor Organization conferences and on presidential advisory committees on equal employment and youth jobs programs. He also is chairman of the executive board of the American Arbitration Association.

Kelly had been an organizer with the Retail Clerks for two years before joining the OPEIU in 1948. He has held a number of positions with Local 153, including shop steward, organizer, assistant business manager and secretary-treasurer.

At St. Louis Conference:

Unions Explore Technology's Impact on Jobs, Bargaining

St. Louis—A call for a national strategy addressing the human impact of automation emerged from a three-day conference on technological change sponsored by the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees.

The 150 participants heard prominent experts from labor, government and business speak on aspects of technological development and, in discussion sessions, offered their own views on how the problems engendered by technology may be solved or modified.

U.S. labor, in general, "has taken an open and constructive view of technology over the years," pointed out Dr. Eli Ginzberg, chairman of the National Commission for Employment Policy, in providing an overview of the subject.

He warned, however, that while in the past "workers benefitted from increased productivity and didn't have to worry very much about job losses" due to expansion of the economy, those days are over.

He predicted more worker displacement by machines in the future, resulting from a combination of slower industrial growth and a geometrical expansion of technological innovation.

Noting that U.S. employment has shifted overwhelmingly from manufacturing into the service sector in recent years, Dr. Ginzberg said he foresees "more movement by employers toward introducing technology in service and white collar areas."

Visions of a "technological explosion" to come were described to the conference by a panel of computer specialists, engineers and corporate representatives who generally were sanguine about new developments and their potential benefits.

Labor spokesmen took a somewhat different view. Thomas R. Donohue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, cautioned that "our concern must be people, and what this new technology does to people . . . because the scientific community has more than enough resources to remind us what technology does for people."

"Surely there are countless benefits of technology," Donohue said, "benefits which can be shared by all. Assuring that all share in these benefits is a responsibility of the labor movement." He warned against "posturing ourselves like ostriches—with our heads in the sand until the last moment."

President Glenn Watts of the Communications Workers, in leading a panel discussion on "coping with technological change," described the problems of lost jobs and reduced job content CWA members have experienced in the highly automated telecommunications industry.

The union has attempted to protect members at the bargaining table by negotiating programs to supplement the incomes of workers whose jobs are downgraded and by forming joint committees with employers to discuss new technological processes before implementation.

President Fred Kroll of the Railway & Airline Clerks, another panelist, noted that automation helped bring about massive post-war job losses in the railroad industry, "a 65-percent drop" in employment since 1944.

Among protections negotiated by BRAC, he said, are guarantees of notification before changes are introduced, provisions for national attrition in layoffs, early retirement opportunities and maintenance of fringe benefits for displaced workers.

Willian Schroeder, vice president of the Graphic Arts Union, noted that "technological change has always been with us, but the rate of change today is just phenomenal." GAIU, he said, has emphasized early retirement and retraining programs at the bargaining table to minimize layoffs and help workers adjust to new conditions.

The need for unions to develop stronger education and training efforts was stressed by another panelist, Reese Hammond, education director for the Operating Engineers. "It is absolutely essential to maintain educational options for our people in the face of technological change," he said.

AFL-CIO Economist Elizabeth Jager warned that the United States is serving up its technological expertise to other countries too openhandedly, further exacerbating unemployment at home. She urged federal regulation over the export of technology, similar to the policies of Japan, Germany and other industrial nations.

Government programs addressing worker displacement caused by automation were reviewed by Ernest Green, assistant U.S. secretary of labor for employment and training. Green called for a partnership with organized labor in creating "a comprehensive policy approach to move toward a situation where all workers who are displaced from their jobs involuntarily will be afforded the possibility of being retrained and, where necessary, relocated to new employment."

The conferees participated in six workshops to debate and discuss such issues as new bargaining approaches, contract protections, education and retraining, the export of technology and other government policies related to technological change.

In summarizing the conference, Dept. Director Jack Golodner told the participants: "If we've learned anything here, we've learned that we can't sit back and let the so-called experts decide the future for us. Labor must participate in the debate on how new technologies will be applied, and insist that the human element be considered a major part of that debate."

Labor must "help formulate new bargaining objectives and new legislative initiatives" directed at the problems resulting from new technology, he said.

Others addressing the conference included President Rodney Bower of the Professional & Technical Engineers, who chairs the DPE's Committee on Scientific, Technical & Engineering Personnel; Golodner's assistant, Dennis Chamot, and Tom Moss from the staff of Rep. George Brown (D-Calif.).

Oil Union's Top Officers Announce Retirements

Denver—The two top officers of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers—President A. F. Grospiron and Sec.-Treas. Anthony Sabatine—have announced they will not seek re-election at the union's convention in August, OCAW's Union News reported.

Grospiron and Sabatine have been elected officers of the union since the 1960s. Both are 63 years old. Under the OCAW constitution, union officers face mandatory retirement at age 65.

Grospiron and Sabatine announced plans to retire at the union's recent executive board meeting, the Union News said.

Subsequently, OCAW's two incumbent vice presidents, Robert F. Goss and Anthony Mazzocchi, announced their intention to run for the top office at the union's convention which will open Aug. 13 in Hollywood, Fla.

International Rep. Robert V. Palmer of Beaumont, Tex., has announced his candidacy for the secretary-treasurer's post.

There are currently six announced candidates for the two vice president positions. They are B. C. Emrick, director of OCAW District 3; Ernest Rousselle, international representative; John Bates, international representative; Michael Ricigliano, assistant to Vice President Goss; Ray West, research and education director, and L. Calvin Moore, legislative and citizenship director.

Grospiron served OCAW as secretary-treasurer for three years before he was elected to his first term as president in 1965. He has been on the AFL-CIO Executive Council since 1969 and is chairman of the federation's Standing Committee on Safety & Occupational Health.

Grospiron has been a member of OCAW since 1942 when he helped organize Local 4-449 at the Amoco Chemicals Corp. plant in Texas City, Tex. He held a number of elected positions with the local, including president in 1944-51 and secretary-treasurer in 1951-62.

Sabatine has been active in union affairs more than 37 years, since starting work at a Carborundum Co. plant in Niagara Falls, N.Y., in 1941. He held a number of positions with Local 8-12058, which was among a group of locals that pulled out of the former District 50 of the Mine Workers to form the United Gas, Coke & Chemical Workers. The UGCCW merged with OCAW in 1955. Sabatine served as a district director from 1959 to 1965 when he was elected an international vice president. He held that post until he was elected secretary-treasurer in 1975.

Meany Fellowship Renewed by MDA

New York—Dr. Leonard A. Stein has been awarded the George Meany Postdoctoral Fellowship for research in neuromuscular disease for the second year in a row by the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

The $17,500 award will continue to support Dr. Stein's studies of the chemistry of muscular function at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

Stein is the fifth recipient of the Meany fellowship, which the MDA established in 1968 to honor the president of the AFL-CIO.

Uniroyal Pact Follows:

Goodrich Settlement Sets Rubber Pattern

(Continued from Page 1)

standing," Bommarito charged — and Uniroyal later conceded—that the firm backed away from the agreement under Carter Administration pressure to comply with the government's 7 percent annual limit on wage increases.

A federal district judge ruled last month that the pay guideline, with its threat to debar companies that violate it from federal contracts, is unconstitutional. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia is weighing the Administration's appeal of the lower court ruling.

The Goodrich contract, which was concluded on June 15 with the assistance of federal mediators, covers some 9,600 workers at six plants. The Uniroyal pact, reached three days later, affects some 8,300 workers at 11 plants.

Bommarito said that both pacts provide for "substantial" benefits to members. The URW Big Four Advisory Committee voted to designate the Goodrich settlement as the pattern for contracts with Firestone and Goodyear.

The highlights of the Goodrich pact include increased job security, an improved cost-of-living escalator provision, improved retirement benefits, and increased seniority protection.

The Uniroyal agreement, while paralleling the Goodrich settlement in most other respects, provides for a possibly slightly higher wage increase.

The agreements also contain a "neutrality" clause in which the companies pledge not to oppose union organizing drives at new tire plants. The pacts also provide for worker protection against plant closings.

Under both accords, workers would receive a general wage increase totaling 72 cents an hour over three years. In addition, the companies agreed to an advance payment of cost-of-living wage increases amounting to 15 cents an hour each year.

The agreement with Goodrich provides for recovery by the company of up to 5 cents of the advance COL payment if inflation fails to rise to anticipated levels. The Uniroyal contract contains no such recovery clause in the first year. Union negotiators sought the latter point to compensate workers who lost wages during the six-week strike.

The contracts also improve the cost-of-living clauses in the second and third years when adjustments will be made at the rate of 1 cent an hour for every .26 rise in the government's consumer price index instead of the current 1 cent an hour for each .3 increase.

Pension benefits for current employees would rise to $15 from $12.50 a month for each year of service. Workers already retired would have their pensions increased $1 a month for each year of service.

The breakthrough in the rubber industry negotiations followed the union's decision to drop its discussions with Uniroyal—originally the lead company in the URW's strategy—and initiate "exploratory talks" with Goodrich. Bommarito charged that Uniroyal's credibility at the bargaining table had eroded to the point of "making negotiations practically impossible."

Goodrich and URW officials came together in Washington at the invitation of Director Wayne L. Horvitz of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, who had concluded that the weeks of fruitless talks with Uniroyal had been "poisoned" by the dispute over the Apr. 18 settlement. Bommarito described the subsequent talks with Goodrich as "difficult, yet candid and professionally handled."

Shortly after the agreement with Uniroyal was announced on June 18, Bommarito ordered the striking workers to return to their jobs. URW members at the other major tire companies involved in the negotiations had stayed on their jobs even though their contracts had expired.



FEDERAL WORKERS in 40 cities demonstrated against 5.5 percent pay ceilings and new proposals to reduce future salaries and benefits. In a Washington, D.C., park across from the White House, Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) tells a noon rally that she agrees with their protest.

Court Bars Hospital's Broad Solicitation Ban

(Continued from Page 1)

by the public." The rule, in effect, limited organizing to employee lounges and restrooms, vending machine areas, utility and laundry rooms, and nurses' stations.

The NLRB, responding to an unfair practice charge by SEIU Local 150-T, issued an order saying the hospital rule violated the federal labor law to the extent that it prohibited organizing efforts by employees during their nonwork time in areas of the hospital "other than immediate patient care"—that is, patients' rooms and operating rooms.

The Nashville hospital had sought to justify the rule with testimony from two physicians that union activity might be a "disturbing influence" on patients.

The 6th U.S. Court of Appeals denied enforcement of the NLRB order, and upheld the hospital's rule.

The Supreme Court decision, written by Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., said the appeals court correctly concluded that the NLRB lacked evidence to support its order affecting the corridors and sitting rooms on floors having patients' rooms or operating or therapy facilities.

"There was, however, substantial evidence in the record to support the NLRB's conclusion that (the hospital) had not justified the prohibition of union solicitation in the cafeteria, gift shop, and lobbies on the first floor of the hospital," the high court said.

"While there was no evidence directly contradicting the expert testimony offered by respondent as to the importance of a tranquil hospital atmosphere to successful patient care, nevertheless, when viewed as a whole, the evidence presented by respondent may be regarded fairly as insufficient to rebut the NLRB's presumption that the needs of essential patient care do not require the banning of all solicitation in such areas."

Separate concurring opinions were filed by Justices Harry A. Blackmun and William J. Brennan, Jr., and Chief Justice Warren E. Burger.

Pilots Assail FAA Testing Of Aircraft

(Continued from Page 1)

Allowing interested parties including pilots to participate in the certification process, O'Donnell suggested, would "greatly reduce the chances that a weakness in aircraft design will go undetected through certification and lead to a fatal accident."

O'Donnell was critical of the FAA's lack of technical criteria for evaluation of new design features being developed by aircraft manufacturers.

One example is a proposed replacement of metal cables by electricity-conducting wires linked to hydraulic lines to enable the pilot to move the aircraft control surfaces. "Either an electrical or a hydraulic failure could result in loss of control," he testified.

O'Donnell told the panel that these problems can probably be remedied. But the union is concerned that "the FAA is not preparing the criteria it will need to evaluate these technologies and their possible deficiencies."

In another forum, addressing the Society of Airline Analysts, O'Donnel said the basic problem is "the mutually protective relationship that has developed between the FAA, which is the regulator, and the manufacturers it regulates. Development of such a relationship was almost inevitable considering the dual missions of the FAA."

Thus, "under the Federal Aviation Act, the agency must both encourage development of civil aviation and promote flight safety. These two worthy goals easily lead to conflict. What happens then is that safety suffers when it is weighed against economic factors."

Federal Workers Stage Nationwide Pay Protest

Nearly 100,000 federal employees took part in a multi-union day of protest against rigid pay ceilings and new Administration proposals that would cut back pay and benefits in future years.

A coalition of unions in and out of the AFL-CIO cooperated in the rallies and marches that were held from coast to coast—from Kittery, Me., to San Diego.

The American Federation of Government Employees, representing the largest group of federal workers, tallied 40 cities where June 14 "Awareness Day" demonstrations were held.

In Washington, some 5,000 workers held a noon rally across from the White House and shouted their approval of speakers from the cooperating unions and from Congress who served notice that federal employees won't tamely allow themselves to be made scapegoats for political failures.

Even bigger gatherings were reported in Baltimore, Philadelphia and Boston. And busloads of government workers from all sections of the South came to President Carter's home town of Plains, Ga., for a rally adjacent to the railroad station.

Despite double-digit inflation, the pay adjustment for federal workers is being held for the second year in a row to 5.5 percent, far below the "comparability level" that is supposed to keep their wages in line with private industry.

Federal workers are also concerned over the possible loss of benefits if their retirement system is merged with social security. And the Administration has proposed a pay "reform" that would scrap national wage levels in favor of local standards of both salaries and fringe benefits.

Two members of Congress who came to the Washington rally spoke the sentiments of the protesters:

"It is unfair and unjust for federal employees to carry the anti-inflation fight by themselves," Rep. Michael D. Barnes (D-Md.) said. And Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) added, "We have to stop treating you like doormats that everybody can wipe their feet on."

Earlier, union members had paraded in front of the White House with placards carrying such messages as "5.5 Percent Won't Buy $1 Gasoline" and "As Prices Go Up, Our Wages Go Down."

In addition to AFGE, the cooperating groups included the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept., the State, County & Municipal Employees, Machinists & Aerospace Workers, Air Traffic Controllers, Professional & Technical Engineers, and the unaffiliated National Federation of Federal Employees, National Association of Government Employees, National Treasury Employees Union and Association of Civilian Technicians.

Jewish Congress Joins In J. P. Stevens Boycott

New York—The American Jewish Congress joined the national boycott of J. P. Stevens & Co., the giant textile firm that refuses to bargain with its workers.

"Despite numerous condemnations by federal courts and administrative agencies, Stevens has continued to conduct its operations so as to prevent the unionization of its workforce," the Jewish human rights organization said.

"In doing so, it has effectively denied its employees rights which for the last two generations have been part of the American system of employee-employer relations."

The boycott, begun three years ago by the Clothing & Textile Workers to obtain economic justice for Stevens employees, is endorsed by the AFL-CIO and a growing number of religious and civic groups, including the National Council of Churches, the NAACP, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and the National Organization of Women.

Move Hit for 1-House Veto Of Regulations

Federal regulations shouldn't be subjected to legislative veto by a single house of Congress, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young wrote members of the Senate.

When the Senate takes up a bill dealing with Federal Trade Commission programs, an amendment will probably be offered to allow either the House or the Senate to disapprove any FTC regulation.

Young urged senators to vote against any such amendment, warning that it threatens both the regulatory and legislative processes.

Procedurally, he said, the one-house veto "is a potential nightmare." With every FTC regulation subject to challenge, the Senate could be swamped "with continuous veto fights" and repeated pressure from "single-issue economic interests" seeking to change regulations.

Young warned that if a precedent is set with the FTC, it could then be applied to other regulatory agencies and to government departments in general, virtually immobilizing the basic legislative functions of Congress.

Strengthen the Railroads

NO GROUP IN AMERICA has a clearer grasp of the destructive nature of inflation than its working people. They are the ones who have to pay those soaring prices out of earnings that shrink a little more and have to stretch a little farther every time they go to the supermarket.

I doubt that there is a single member of this or any other union who does not agree that inflation is the gravest domestic problem this country faces. I doubt that there is any who doesn't agree that inflation must be stopped and who isn't prepared to make sacrifices to stop it.

But those sacrifices must do more than inflate profit statements. They must have meaning. There must be equity. There must be equality of sacrifice. There must be even-handed justice on the part of the Administration and the Congress. And this, so far, we have not had.

One of the chief sources of inflation is the energy crisis, which the Administration has chosen to deal with by increasing the profits of domestic oil suppliers to the level imposed by the OPEC cartel. The battle to retain some semblance of rational limits on the profits available to the oil companies is being waged in the Congress, and the AFL-CIO is doing everything in its power to help win that battle.

BUT THERE IS ANOTHER side to the energy crisis that involves a battle that must be won in the name of common sense and the national interest.

Long before there was an energy crisis, the AFL-CIO argued that America's railroads urgently needed attention. They needed refinancing, restructuring and rebuilding from the roadbed up in order to give America the balanced transportation system she needed.

In the light of everything that has happened since then, it is obvious that prescription would have prevented some severe problems.

The proposal to cut back Amtrak passenger service should now be a dead letter. With hundreds of new passengers standing in the aisles and thousands more clamoring for space and service that are unavailable, logic would dictate that this is the time to strengthen—not weaken—the one and the only transport system that can meet America's needs.

In the face of painful shortages of gasoline to operate private vehicles, critical shortages of diesel fuel to run the trucks on which too many shippers have become too dependent, and in the face of new problems that have grounded a large share of wide-bodied jet aircraft that have captured a major and growing share of passenger traffic, it's time to take a new look at the railroads.

There are thousands upon thousands of stranded travelers who are doing just that, and who would dearly love to have a ride they can count on. It is long past time for America to correct the blunders of the past and not only restore the railroads but make them better and more efficient than ever before.

From an address by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to the United Transportation Union convention.

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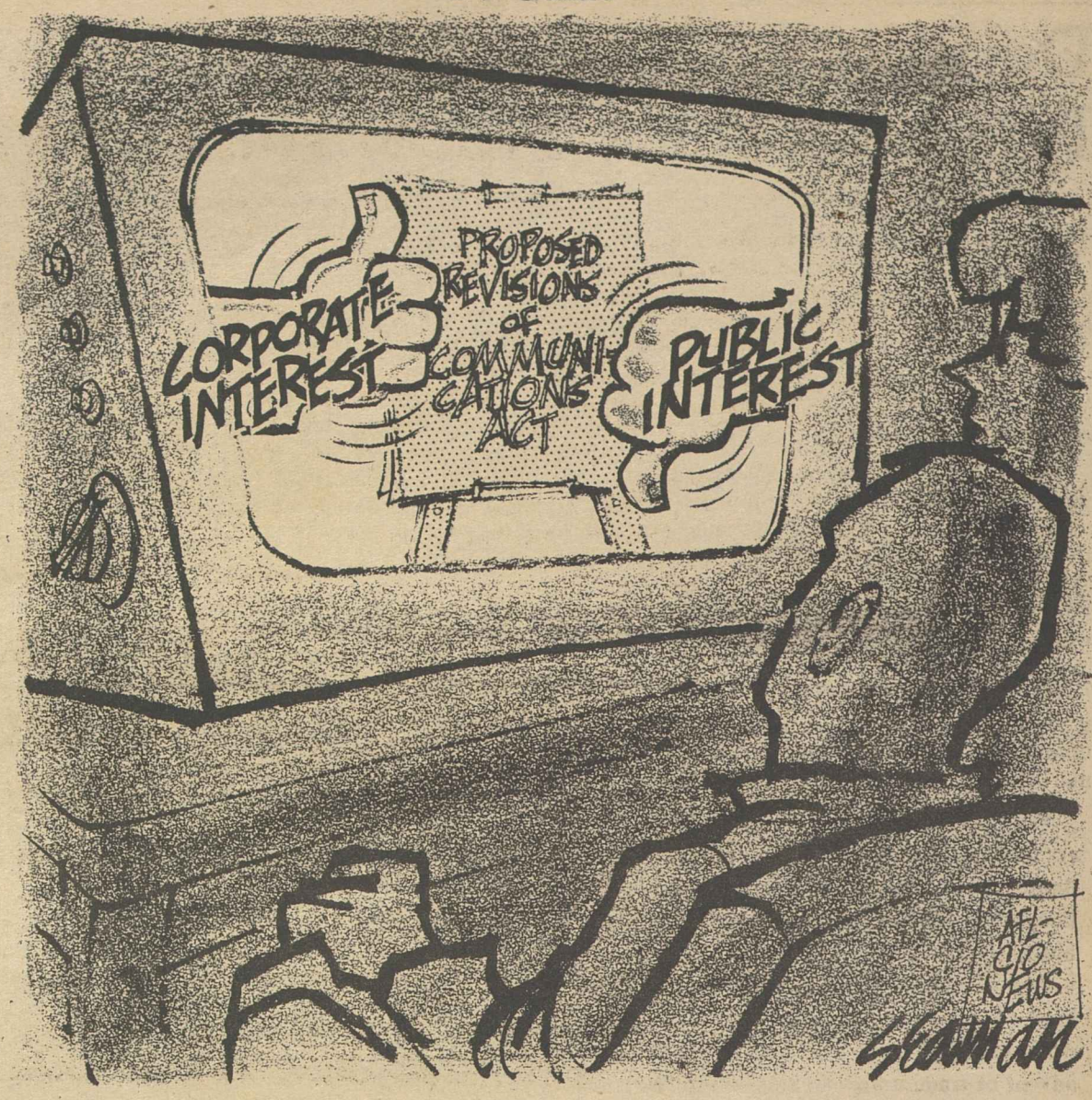
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TV Guide



Another Giveaway:

Plan to Deregulate Airwaves Would Abandon Public's Rights

By Gus Tyler

IN 1927, Congress made a big mistake in its Radio Act of that year—a mistake that has cost us much in dollars and cents. Right now Congress is about to compound that error to make a major mistake that may cost us much in terms of our freedom to hear the truth.

In the 1927 act, Congress renounced its right to ownership over the air waves. No surprise in that decision in a time when business was in the saddle. As a consequence, the radio and TV industry has had access to these valuable waves, channel by channel, to coin themselves multi-billions of income every year while paying the federal government only a few petty pennies to cover the piddling costs of regulation.

If we had charged for the monopolies over channels, we could count annual revenues in the hundreds of millions if not billions—to the cheers of an overtaxed people. But we didn't and we don't and—unless we change the law—probably can't.

We did, however, retain one important prerogative. We could regulate the industry in a variety of important ways.

But now there is a bill before Congress that would give to the media the power that goes with monopoly over a channel without imposing the responsibilities that go with such power.

Right now, the broadcasters have to come before the bar of public judgment to get a renewal of license. That means that a station or network, like any official charged with a public responsibility, must account to the people. If a station is unworthy of the trust, the license is not renewed.

The proposed bill would grant a channel in perpetuity. Once a broadcaster got his hands on it, he could treat it as his personal property forever.

The bill would also remove many of the controls that the public now has over stations to see to it that they give some of their time to serving the public interest. After all, if the people make the resource (the air waves) available, the broadcaster should repay the generosity with programs that serve the needs of people.

Up to now, a station was expected to provide news, to display concern for community, to beam some programming to the care of the sick, of kids, of elderly. Under the bill, all that would be out.

Up to now, a station had to maintain a modicum of balance when discussing controversial public issues. The "fairness" doctrine required a proper apportioning of time. Under the new bill, that is out.

Up to now, a station could not line up with one party or one candidate to the neglect of another party or other candidates. There had to be equal time. Now that would be out, and a station could become the unbridled and unabashed advocate of a party or a person.

The broadcasters say that they should have this right in the same way that other media—like newspapers or magazines—have. But there is a difference: the number of printed publications is not limited by the limited number of channels for broadcast. Anybody can start up a paper—printed or mimeographed or Xeroxed—and may circulate it anywhere to anyone. But the number of channels is limited in any one area.

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A Strategy to Deal With Automation

The time is now—for trade unionists, for government, for industry—to develop a strategy for dealing with technological change in a creative manner that minimizes injury while providing the benefits of technological advances.

The creative tool which we in labor bring to this process is collective bargaining.

If employers are willing to sit down with the unions representing their employees, then they will find a partner. If employers recognize that the labor movement does not oppose technology, but that we oppose throwing people on a scrapheap, they will find understanding.

I hope employers will sit down because there is a lot to talk about.

—Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, at St. Louis conference on the impact of technological change.

Another Academic Theory:

Dog-Eat-Dog Job Competition Prescribed for Black Workers

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

WALTER E. WILLIAMS, associate professor of economics at Temple University, argued recently in a Wall Street Journal column later reprinted in the Washington Star that blacks don't need a "political savior . . . massive social spending . . . or government largesse and paternalism." What they need, he said, is "the opportunity to compete in the market."

What Prof. Williams really means—in fact, what he proceeds to say very pointedly in so many words—is that the federal minimum wage law, the Davis-Bacon Act, and all other laws that "restrict competition" in the work place should be repealed. Then, and only then, he says, will black workers be able to make their way into the mainstream of American economic life. He also says, in effect, that black workers would be better off if there were no unions in the United States, for unions, by definition, limit competition in the marketplace.

With friends like Prof. Williams, black workers don't need any enemies. In the name of unlimited free competition (which even the National Association of Manufacturers would blush to advocate so blatantly in 1979) he would condemn black workers to the same kind of dog-eat-dog competition that workers were exposed to in this country before the advent of trade unionism and before the enactment of protective labor legislation. He is quite explicit about this matter.

In the good old days, he says, white immigrant workers "faced a relatively open economic system." They were very fortunate, he contends. Yes, he admits, there were sweatshops, there was piece work, there was no protective legislation (and few unions, he might have added), but "one could be unskilled and still get a job and ultimately learn skills."

He forgot to add that one could do all this at substandard wages, under horrendously bad working conditions, and without benefit of a union grievance procedure. He also forgot to say that those allegedly fortunate immigrants (the ungrateful wretches) lost no time in organizing themselves into unions and strongly supported the enactment of the very kind of protective legislation which Williams would now deny to black workers.

Let's take a closer look at the professor's Alice-in-Wonderland economic logic. Like many other opponents of the minimum wage legislation, Williams says that employment inevitably declines after increases in the minimum wage go into effect and that black workers are the main victims of increased unemployment. The fact is, however, that civilian employment was 4.3 million higher in March 1979 than in December 1977, the month prior to the first increase in the minimum wage under the 1977 amendments. There were 25,000 more black teenagers employed in March 1979 than in December 1977, and unemployment of black teenagers has declined by 46,000.

There is really no point, however, in arguing with Prof. Williams over statistics. His opposition to minimum wage legislation is based not so much on factual "evidence" as on philosophical arguments. As noted above, he believes that any law which limits competition in the workplace (regardless, I take it, of how this law works out in practice) is simply wrong—period. Ditto for unions. Since they limit free competition in the workplace, they are, by definition, bad for the nation and bad, in particular, for black workers—period. QED.

PROF. WILLIAMS'S convoluted argument against the trade union movement is an insult to the intelligence of black workers. He would have them believe that they would be better off if there were no unions in the United States.

In point of fact, however, black union members fare considerably better than non-union blacks. Not only are their incomes much higher, but within the ranks of union members, the income gap between blacks and whites is less than among non-union workers.

Anyone who argues, then, that the best way of helping black workers to achieve a decent standard of living is to weaken or undermine the trade union movement is doing these workers a great disservice. Again, with friends like that, black workers need no enemies. They already have enough enemies on the employer's side in certain segments of American industry, notably, for example, in the Southern textile industry where companies like J. P. Stevens, for obvious self-serving reasons, are hell-bent on keeping them out of unions. Black workers, like their white brothers and sisters in the work force, can see through this kind of illogical nonsense. They know far better than Prof. Williams does which side their bread is buttered on.

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Surge in Joblessness Feared:

Administration Seen Ignoring Warning Signals on Recession

THE CARTER Administration seems unaware that severe unemployment problems will develop quickly if the economy skids into recession later this year, as now appears likely, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald warned.

Oswald stressed that the current jobless rate hangs a full percentage point higher than it was in the months just prior to the 1974-75 recession that put nearly one worker in ten on the unemployment rolls. He said that the Administration's continued prediction of "just a slight slowdown of growth" isn't consistent with the three-month decline in leading economic indicators—a circumstance that most often signals "a recession within three to nine months after such a fall takes place."

A steep downturn, "starting from a much higher rate of unemployment than we had five years ago," is almost certain to produce "a much heavier toll on Americans" than the squeeze they suffered then, he warned. Oswald made the statements on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

The federation's chief economist said the Administration's failure to have in place plans and policies to set into motion if the present situation worsens runs the risk that a downturn can't be stemmed before it begins to "build on itself" and deepen. A rapid increase of unemployment now could spell real trouble for many families that now have one or more wage-earner and are carrying a "high level of debt, much more than at any previous time," Oswald said.

"If they are out of work, they cannot maintain the payments on those debts," he declared, adding, "that will lead to bankruptcies, repossessions, and aggravate a downturn substantially more than was the case in previous downturns."

Reporters questioning Oswald on Labor News Conference were Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and is aired weekly on the Mutual radio network.



How to Buy:

Appliance Shoppers Weigh Energy Costs

By Sidney Margolius

BY THE END OF THIS YEAR the Federal Trade Commission is expected to require labels on the larger appliances that will reveal their comparative operating costs. The new labels will be a real help now that operating expenses have become as vital or more so than the initial cost of household equipment.

But since the labels won't be in use for some time, and the early-summer appliance sales and clearances are on hand, here are currently available facts on energy-saving features of some equipment.

In general, one widespread important development is electric ignition in place of pilot lights for such gas equipment as ranges, water heaters and dryers.

RANGES: Electric ignition usually adds $30 to $40 to the purchase price of a gas range. The electric device replaces the gas pilot light in both oven and cooktop and ignites the gas only when you're ready to cook. It's estimated that electric ignition saves 30 percent to as much as 50 percent of the gas used in cooking.

Electric ranges are available with self-cleaning, continuous cleaning and conventional ovens, which you simply clean by hand.

The self-cleaning or pyrolitic models use high heat and clean most thoroughly reducing food debris to a fine ash. But this type does use a little more electricity. Each cleaning probably costs 12 to 16 cents in electricity, depending on local rates. The available oven space also is reduced a little because of the additional insulation required by the high heat of self-cleaning ovens.

On the other hand, the additional insulation tends to save fuel when using the oven.

The continuous-cleaning or "catalytic" ranges cost $100 to $150 less than the self-cleaning type to buy, and also cost less to operate. The continuous-cleaning ranges clean each time you use the oven by constant oxydization of the oven debris.

Microwave ovens save power since they cook in a third to a fourth of conventional time. But some manufacturers have made hard-to-believe claims for energy conservation, such as "save up to 75 percent."

A portable or table-top broiler, electric skillet or other small appliance you already own can save energy over using an oven or even a surface unit, because the small appliances have enclosed heating elements. Pressure cookers, too, take only one-third the that a typical family of four will use.

WATER HEATERS: Your hot-water heater is probably the biggest fuel user of any appliance in your home, especially if you have a separate heater.

In gas heaters, for example, a large utility company estimates that a typical family of four will use about 37,200 cubic feet of gas a year. That's a whopping four times as much as the same family would use for its cooking range.

Real savings are possible with better-grade heaters. But before buying anything, if your water-heating costs seem high, first ask the utility company for a survey. Also compare costs with those of neighbors. Your difficulty may be an old tank with worn-out insulation.

It also would pay to choose a heater that has adjustable controls to provide the lowest recommended temperature for washers. A heater with two elements also provides faster recovery than one element. One way you can reduce some of the standby loss is by wrapping glass fiber insulation around the piping.

DRYERS: Many families now avoid using their clothes dryers for any but the most essential purposes or rainy days, to conserve fuel. If you're in the market for a new gas dryer, note that one with electric ignition or with a mini-pilot can save as much as 4,800 cubic feet of gas a year over one with a full pilot. Electric ignition also is considered to be safer.

In general gas dryers cost less to operate than electric and also are a little faster, testers report.



WITH RECESSION SIGNS growing stronger, the Carter Administration seems unaware that severe unemployment problems will develop quickly if the economy takes a sharp downturn, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, center, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were David Prosten, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

House Urged To Bar Cut in Disability Aid

A bill that would reduce future social security disability benefits would create "serious injustices" and should be rejected, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young wrote House members.

The disability cutback is the only element of the Administration's proposals for elimination of existing security benefits to be approved by a congressional committee and cleared for floor action.

While it includes some desirable features that would make it easier for disabled workers to re-enter the labor force, Young stressed that the positive elements are clearly overshadowed by the proposed benefit cuts.

The bill would set a cap on disability family benefits of 80 percent of average earnings before disability or 150 percent of the individual benefit, whichever is lower.

It also would eliminate for younger disabled workers the present option that social security beneficiaries have of dropping the five years of lowest earnings in computing benefits.

The effect, the AFL-CIO charged, would be to freeze many disabled workers and their families into permanent poverty.

An AFL-CIO fact sheet sent to House members noted that disability insurance awards have dropped to the lowest rate in two decades and the disability trust fund is running a surplus. Thus, "there is no pressing need to adopt proposals, which would impose unnecessary suffering" in an attempt to curb a theoretical possibility of abuse of the program.



PRESIDENT-ELECT Fred A. Hardin, right, of the United Transportation Union is congratulated by UTU President Al H. Chesser at the union's convention in Miami Beach, Fla. Chesser, who has headed the UTU since 1971, did not seek re-election.

National Board Sought To Control Grain Trade

The AFL-CIO joined with family farm organizations in support of legislation to regulate grain exports and avoid market disruptions created by speculators and international grain trading companies.

A bill co-sponsored by 31 House members would establish a National Grain Board empowered to negotiate export sales.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said such a board is needed because farm exports are now handled "almost exclusively by five big profiteering international grain trading companies . . . usually to the disadvantage of family farmers and often against the national interest in terms of food price inflation and national security."

In a letter to the House Agriculture subcommittee which is considering the bill, Young said negotiations on a government-to-government basis are needed in dealings with Communist and other totalitarian nations. He cited the domestic price inflation and market disruption caused by the 1972 grain sales to Soviet Russia.

"The role of commodity speculators, who add to inflation in food prices through paper profits, must be regulated to increase the farmer's share of the food dollar without driving up consumer prices."

The AFL-CIO statement urged that U.S. agricultural policy be geared to encourage enough production to meet both foreign and domestic demand. But effective export controls are needed "during times of inflationary shortages and upward pressures on prices," it stressed.

Young also expressed the AFL-CIO's concern at the growth of corporate agribusiness "which is driving many farm families out of agriculture" and purchase of U.S. farmland "at alarming rates" by foreign corporations and wealthy individuals from oil-rich nations.

Among the organizations with which the AFL-CIO is allied in support of the National Grain Board bill are the National Farmers Union, the American Agricultural Movement and the Family Farm Coalition.

Broadcast Rule Revision Bypasses Public Interest

A proposed rewriting of the nation's communications laws could make broadcasters less responsive to the public interest, the AFL-CIO and its Dept. for Professional Employees cautioned at Senate hearings.

Department Director Jack Golodner voiced special concern at a proposal to extend licenses of radio stations indefinitely instead of requiring periodic relicensing.

While the Federal Communications Commission has seldom used its authority to deny renewal, Golodner noted, the opportunity for local citizens to challenge a license renewal "has led to programming more responsible to public needs, provision for more women and minorities to participate in the communications process, and greater accessibility to the means of communications by local citizens, viewers and listeners."

Golodner, who also spoke for the AFL-CIO at the Senate hearings, said the legislation being considered by the communications subcommittee suffers from "a misplaced confidence" that the profit motive of broadcasters is adequate to protect the public interest.

He welcomed, however, the principle that would be established under one bill before the panel of having fees paid by commercial users of the airwaves subsidize part of the cost of public broadcasting.

In another area, Golodner expressed the concern of the performing unions at the advent of television "superstations" which in effect become national stations by having their signals beamed by satellite to cable television stations in all parts of the nation.

He pointed out that the payment to a performer for a television commercial shown in Atlanta for 13 weeks is $163.65, while the comparable national rate is about $1,000. But Channel 17 in Atlanta beams signals that are picked up for cable television use in 46 states. Likewise a Channel 17 newscaster will be paid about one-third the network rate, but his broadcast can be picked up in nearly as many locations.

3 Unionists Cited By History Group

Spokane, Wash. — Three trade unionists were honored here with awards from the Pacific Northwest Labor History Association for their efforts to promote interest in the union movement's history.

They are Robert Macfarlane, who recently retired as president of the Idaho AFL-CIO; Dan Bandmann of the Steelworkers in Spokane, a member of the Washington State AFL-CIO executive board since the merger; and Ken Webster of the Iron Workers in Spokane, long active in labor community service and political programs.

Ross Rieder of the state federation's COPE staff was re-elected as president of the association. Also elected were Nellie Fox, political education and legislative director for the Oregon AFL-CIO, as vice-president; Harry Stockinger, retired member of the Machinists in Seattle, treasurer, and Joanne Temcov of Seattle, recording secretary.

District 1199 Wins L.I. Hospital Vote

Brooklyn, N.Y.—District 1199 National Hospital & Nursing Home Employees won a National Labor Relations Board election at Long Island College Hospital to represent a unit of 814 service workers.

District 1199, a division of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union, received 391 votes, while 270 ballots were cast for no union. The service workers at the hospital had not been represented by a union prior to the election.

The bargaining unit includes nurses' aides, orderlies, dietary and other workers.

To Succeed Chesser:

UTU Picks Hardin As New President

Miami Beach, Fla.—Delegates to the United Transportation Union convention elected Fred A. Hardin as president to succeed Al H. Chesser, who declined to seek another four-year term.

Chesser, 65, who has headed the 200,000-member UTU since 1971, announced his plans to step down in opening the union's third convention, his current term expires at the end of the year.

Hardin, 61, a vice president of the UTU since it was formed 10 years ago with the merger of four railroad operating unions, was elected overwhelmingly by the more than 1,000 convention delegates. He received 904 ballots to 93 for Ronald F. Bartos of Chicago Local 1398.

Delegates also re-elected UTU Sec.-Treas. John H. Shepherd to a new four-year term by acclamation. Elections for the union's 40 vice presidents will also be conducted during the 19-day convention.

In a major address to the convention, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told the delegates that railroads need the government's attention more than ever because of the energy crisis. **(Excerpts, Page 4.)**

The proposal by the Dept. of Transportation to cut back Amtrak passenger service "should now be a dead letter," Kirkland said.

"With hundreds of new passengers standing in the aisles and thousands more clamoring for space and service that are unavailable, logic would dictate that this is the time to strengthen, not weaken, the one and the only transportation system that can meet America's needs," he declared.

Citing the fuel shortages affecting private automobiles and over-the-road shippers while a number of wide-bodied jets have been grounded to add to the transportation crunch, Kirkland said "it's time to take a new look at the railroads."

The convention adopted a resolution in the form of a telegram to President Carter and Transportation Sec. Brock Adams condemning the government's proposal to dismantle the Amtrak system. It also called on Carter to require Navy Sec. W. Graham Claytor to divest his stock holdings in Southern Railroad to avoid any conflict of interest and to stop participating in railroad bargaining while serving as a government executive.

The convention approved funding of a UTU feasibility study aimed at preserving the troubled Milwaukee Road by converting it into a "mobile pipeline" to ferry Alaskan crude oil to the Midwest. When the study is completed, it will be submitted to Congress and the White House for consideration and implementation.

Survival of the Milwaukee Road is essential for the preservation of jobs, to maintain needed rail capacity and to improve oil deliveries, the delegates contended.

Chesser, who has been on the AFL-CIO Executive Council since 1971, joined the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen in 1941 when he went to work for the Sante Fe Railroad. He served as secretary-treasurer and legislative representative of BRT Lodge 608 in Amarillo, Tex., in 1945-56. He later served on the BRT Texas legislative board before becoming national legislative representative for the BRT in 1962.

When the UTU was formed in 1969 by the merger of the BRT, Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen, Railway Conductors & Brakemen and the Switchmen, Chesser became the new union's national legislative director. He was elected president two years later.

President-elect Hardin was born in Greenville, S.C., and began railroading as a brakeman on the Southern Railroad in 1940. He served as a BRT local officer in the 1940s and '50's before he was elected BRT general chairman for the Southern system in 1963. He became a vice president of the BRT in 1968 and was elected a vice president of the UTU following the merger of the four unions in 1969.

Mobilization Plan Urged To Solve Energy Crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

War Production Board, the Office of War Mobilization, and the Office of War Mobilization & Reconversion which existed during World War II.

President Joseph D. Keenan of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Services Trades Dept. is president of the AFEI, and its board of directors includes Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride. President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers, President Martin Ward of the Plumbers & Pipefitters and Vice President Evelyn DuBrow of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

Nathan, who served as chairman of the War Production Board's planning committee and later as deputy director of the Office of War Mobilization & Reconversion, warned that the current gasoline shortage will seem like "child's play when compared with the shortages in the next few years."

"Our entire economy, not to speak of our national security, is in a precarious state," he said. "We must not engage in energy rhetoric, but we must organize to achieve maximum success in conserving our energy resources, expanding supplies from presently available sources and intensifying our research and development efforts to speed access to new sources."

Under AFEI's plan, the Energy Mobilization Board would be composed of the Secretaries of Energy, Interior, Transportation, State and Treasury, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, and the director of the Office of Management & Budget. Vice President Mondale would serve as board chairman.

Among its functions, the board would present the President "ambitious but feasible annual quantitative goals" on energy for at least the next decade. Non-governmental interests could be involved in its decisions through various advisory committees.

If the President does not create such an organization promptly, AFEI recommended that Congress enact legislation providing for its establishment.

Conservative Threat Cited:

Black Leaders Spur Fight Against Apathy

Detroit—Black trade unionists must lead the fight against political despair and apathy in their communities or face a resurgence of conservatism in the 1980 elections, Executive Director Norman Hill told 1,500 participants in the A. Philip Randolph Institute's 10th national conference.

The institute, which has over 180 local affiliates in 37 states, works closely with the AFL-CIO and civil rights organizations in developing voter registration and labor support activities in minority communities.

Citing deep disappointment with Congress and the Carter Administration, Hill warned that "a destructive sense of skepticism" is sweeping the black community.

"Political withdrawal and retreat seem to make good sense," he said. "But in reality, withdrawal is the same as surrender. And our enemies will have little mercy for those of us who voluntarily cast aside our political weapons."

Hill noted that the growth of single issue groups and corporate political action committees has contributed to the conservative drift in American politics.

"While we are certainly unable to match the conservatives dollar-for-dollar, we are in an excellent position to match them vote-for-vote," Hill declared. "After all, there are more poor people and workers in this country than corporate executives. A vote from a poor, illiterate black man in rural North Carolina counts just as much as a vote from a GM executive in Michigan."

Hill called on local institute groups to begin early in preparing for the 1980 elections.

President Kenneth Blaylock of the Government Employees, in an address to the conference, cited the business and conservative attacks on labor and minority groups, and reminded the institute leaders that political action is essential in the fight for survival.

Blaylock also paid tribute to A. Philip Randolph, the president emeritus of the Sleeping Car Porters who died on May 16. He said his union has a "special debt" to Randolph for leading the battle for the integration of the federal work force in 1941.

President Martin Ward of the Plumbers & Pipefitters related the achievements and character traits of Randolph to today's issues.

Recalling the 12-year struggle leading to the Pullman Company's recognition of the Sleeping Car Porters, Ward said he "was most impressed by Randolph's endurance in the face of tremendous adversity.

"It is this quality of Randolph, this bedrock belief in the eventual triumph of his cause and his ideals that strikes me as truly inspiring."

During the three-day conference institute activists participated in workshops on the AFL-CIO's Operation Price Watch, grass roots legislative activity, and the Davis-Bacon Act.

Other conference speakers included Institute President Bayard Rustin, NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks, Michigan AFL-CIO President William Marshall, Director Alexis Herman of the Labor Dept.'s Women's Bureau, AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William Pollard, and COPE Director Al Barkan.



PRICE MONITOR Frances Boone, wife of Carpenters' Jobs Corps field coordinator Henry Boone, checks clothing price tags at a department store in Falls Church, Va.

Price Watch Volunteers Find No Easing of Consumer Squeeze

Prices continue to surge ahead on all kinds of consumer goods and services, AFL-CIO Price Watch volunteers are reporting from across the country.

Skyrocketing fuel and food costs are a prime concern of the monitors who are keeping tabs on the inflationary price trend. But reports coming into the federation's Dept. of Community Services are also reflecting sharp hikes in utility rates, insurance premiums, rent, and medical care charges.

The reports have been compiled and analyzed by the Community Services staff and relayed to Chairman Alfred E. Kahn of the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability.

The mid-June compilation of Price Watch reports is the second in a series of findings forwarded to COWPS for investigation.

After receiving the AFL-CIO price reports last month, Kahn said in a letter to Community Services Director Leo Perlis that the COWPS staff "is already at work following up on these leads."

However, since the price guidelines went into effect last October only a handful of companies have been accused of violations. And after subsequent investigations all but a few have been cleared of the charges.

What is baffling the monitors is the complexity of the price regulations by which firms have jacked up prices far in excess of the originally announced guidelines but were still declared to be in conformity with the guidelines by COWPS.

For example, U.S. Steel Corp. recently announced its third price increase since the guidelines went into effect last October. The three announced price boosts add up to more than 9.5 percent. And this does not account for any additional price hikes that may have been implemented without formal announcements.

But even with the three price hikes exceeding 9.5 percent, COWPS determined that U.S. Steel was not in violation of the price guidelines since the company supposedly is keeping its profit margin below the rate it had in the third quarter of 1978.

A number of other firms also have been granted profit margin exemptions by COWPS. The companies include Chevron USA Inc., Ashland Oil Co., Sohio, Phillips Petroleum Co., Gulf Oil Corp. chemical division, Shell Oil Co., K-Mart Corp. and Container Corp. of America.

In the mid-June report to COWPS, one monitor cites the high cost of hospital treatment as reported by a mother from Trucksville, Pa. She described how her son had been struck by a golf club while playing:

"He received a laceration on the left side of his face near the eye and forehead. He was treated in the accident room and released. The total charges were $825."

Other reports from AFL-CIO monitors focus on the increasing costs of food, fuel, rents and insurance.

Food

Beef price increases, according to two monitors in Greenville, S.C. averaged 59 cents a pound between January and May of this year.

Prices on a selected list of supermarket items in Richfield, Minn., climbed sharply from April to June: A dozen eggs from 79 cents to 89 cents; a pound of bacon from $1.45 to $1.59, and three pounds of apples from $1.35 to $1.49.

At the Big Star supermarket in Norfolk, Va., May prices were up over the month on a pound of chicken fryer parts from 49 to 69 cents; a jar of peanut butter from 99 cents to $1.27; five pounds of sugar from $1.29 to $1.39, and a half-gallon of ice cream from $1.39 to $1.59.

On some of the same items in Wolcott, Conn., June prices showed even larger over-the-month boosts as chicken parts rose from 49 cents to 89 cents per pound; five pounds of sugar went from $1.29 to $1.69, and ice cream from $1.69 to $2.29 per half-gallon.

Energy and Utilities

According to R. A. P. of Plymouth, Wis., the price for a gallon of unleaded regular gasoline at O'Conner's Big Top rose from 81.9 cents on May 26 to 96.9 cents on June 8.

A Texaco station at Jackson Heights in Queens, N.Y., jacked up the price of unleaded gasoline overnight on May 25 from 93 cents to $1.30 a gallon.

In Greenville, S.C., electric power rates were increased 10.3 percent between last September and April 1979, while water usage rates rose 10.1 percent during the same period.

S.W.S. of Blue Springs, Mo., reported a comparable unit of natural gas increased from $1.74 in April 1978 to $2.35 this April. Water usage charges for a comparable amount rose from $1.30 to $2.35 over the year.

Rents

In Minneapolis, L.B.H. reported that the charge for a two-bedroom apartment will rise from $170 to $280 a month on July 1.

J.F. of Dallas said that the rate for a three-bedroom apartment increased from $250 last October to $335 Apr. 1.

In Flushing, N.Y., H.D.E. reported that for a one-bedroom flat in a building operated by the city Housing Authority rent was increased in June from $169.75 to $196.75 per month.

Insurance

The South Carolina Insurance Commission, according to monitors J.C.A. and B.K., recently approved auto premium increases ranging from 15 to 32.2 percent for three insurance firms.

And D.Z. of Phoenix, Ariz., reported that although he made no claims and his status remained the same, his auto insurance premium was raised 17.6 percent between last December and June 1979.

R-T-W Clause Opposed In Arkansas Constitution

Hot Springs, Ark.—Delegates to the 12th biennial convention of the Arkansas State AFL-CIO voted to support a new state constitution only if it omits "right-to-work" language and retains the present 10 percent limit on usury.

The 1979 state constitutional convention has taken a preliminary vote to keep the present RTW provision. No recommendation has been made on the usury provision.

The present "right-to-work" law "interferes with the freedom to contract between Arkansas employers and unions, has no place in the basic constitution, and represents an economic backwardness which our state needs to change," the resolution declared.

The measure also called for the proposed constitution to keep the present system of electing judges, the initiative and referendum procedures, and permanent voter registration.

Also during the three-day convention, delegates approved a four-cent monthly increase in per capita payments, raising the tax to 27 cents beginning on July 1. The tax will rise to 30 cents a month on Jan. 1, 1980. There has not been a dues increase since 1962.

The delegates re-elected by acclamation President J. Bill Becker, Sec.-Treas. E. J. Jacobs, Vice President George H. Ellison, and members of the Executive Council.

Among the speakers at the convention, Paperworkers President Wayne Glenn charged that "the oil crisis is a contrived situation to drive up prices." Glenn charged that "the oil companies' greed knows no bounds," and called for nationalization of the industry "if they don't shape up."

Other speakers included Gov. Bill Clinton and Al Barkan, national director of the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education.

Over 50 resolutions were acted upon. Delegates adopted proposals asking for import quotas on cheaply made foreign goods, expanded efforts to organize working women and to encourage them to participate in union activities and policy making, a ban on polygraph tests by employers as a condition of employment, and wider unemployment insurance coverage.

Labor Reporter Robert Lewin Dies

Chicago—Robert M. Lewin, who was one of the nation's most respected labor reporters, died here June 17 at the age of 74. He had retired from the Chicago Daily News but continued to write for newspapers and magazines.

AFL-CIO President George Meany said Lewin's reporting "set a standard of excellence" and reflected his "phenomenal" knowledge of the labor movement.

Actors' Group Elects O'Neal To New Term

New York—Frederick O'Neal was re-elected president of the Associated Actors & Artistes of America at the union's ninth biennial convention here.

Harold M. Hoffman was re-elected treasurer. Also re-elected as vice presidents were Chester Migden, DeLloyd Tibbs, H. O'Neil Shanks, and Donald Grody. Alan J. Nelson was elected to replace Penny Singleton as a vice president, and Sanford I. Wolff was renamed executive secretary.

The 4-As, as the union is commonly called, embraces Actors' Equity, Television & Radio Artists, Variety Artists, Musical Artists, Hebrew Actors, Italian Actors, Screen Extras, and Puerto Rican Artists & Technicians.

Crippling Amendments Killed:

House Vote Clears Panama Canal Pact

(Continued from Page 1)

By a closer 220-200 vote, the House in effect rejected an amendment sought by conservative groups that would have so mangled the intent of the treaty as to put its validity in doubt. It would have required Panama to pay large sums to the United States before receiving any toll revenues.

Chairman John M. Murphy (D-N.Y.) of the Merchant Marine Committee, who was floor manager of the bill, successfully defused the anti-treaty amendment by Rep. George V. Hansen (R-Ida.) with a substitute version eliminating its worst features.

In a letter to House members, Legislative Director Kenneth Young expressed the AFL-CIO's strong support for the legislation and stressed that defeating or gutting it would "preclude the orderly transition and operation of the canal by the United States" during the 20-year period provided in the treaty.

In other congressional developments:

Kroll Urges Reversal of Amtrak Cuts

President Fred J. Kroll of the Railway & Airline Clerks urged Transportation Sec. Brock Adams to reverse the government's "mindless plan" to cut Amtrak's operations nearly in half at a time when the energy shortage is "driving Americans into an increasing state of frustration."

In a telegram to Adams, Kroll said the proposed cutback "would not only cripple Amtrak but endanger the future of rail passenger service in the United States for years to come."

Kroll said that it is "incomprehensible" to BRAC members and the public how the federal government in general and the Transportation Dept. in particular could "stubbornly and unrealistically" go ahead with plans to curtail Amtrak service during the current gasoline energy shortage.

The National Railroad Passenger Corp., as Amtrak is formally known, has experienced a recent surge in ridership and reservations as more travelers leave their cars at home.

"The continued effort to cripple Amtrak will be dangerous in itself," Kroll said. "It will be equally dangerous as evidence of a government utterly unresponsive to the needs of the individual citizen and the society as a whole."

- The House set aside the controversial Dept. of Education bill, with a number of amendments still to be acted on before a vote on final passage. With high-priority appropriations bills scheduled for House action, final voting on the bill to set up a new Cabinet department is not likely until after the July 4 recess.

The Administration supports but the AFL-CIO opposes the move to carve education functions out of the present Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

- The House Ways & Means Committee gave final approval to a somewhat toughened version of President Carter's windfall profits tax and moved to take up another Administration proposal to limit the extent to which oil and gas companies can avoid U.S. income taxes by claiming foreign tax credits.

In both areas, the AFL-CIO has sought stronger legislation than the Administration proposed.

- The Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee approved hospital cost containment legislation strongly backed by the Administration and the AFL-CIO, but opposed by the hospital industry lobby. The committee vote was 11-4, but stronger opposition is expected in the Senate Finance Committee, which shares jurisdiction over portions of the legislation.

- President Carter formally sent to Congress a complex package of legislation to implement multinational trade agreements affecting a broad spectrum of the nation's economy. Under rules set down in the 1974 Trade Act, Congress must approve or disapprove the legislation within 90 working days but cannot amend it. However, key congressional committees had drafts of the legislation before them for some weeks and have held hearings to give interested groups an opportunity to seek changes before an unamendable bill was formally submitted. The House Ways & Means Committee gave the final version a unanimous endorsement.

- The House Rules Committee cleared for floor action an emergency food stamp funding bill to prevent a cutoff of benefits this summer when the existing appropriation is exhausted. The rise in food costs and larger number of eligible recipients made the added funds necessary.



MEMORIAL SERVICE at AFL-CIO headquarters honors William M. DuChessi, executive vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, who died recently of cancer. Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, offers his tribute. Others who spoke included Vice President Walter F. Mondale, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and top officials of the union.

ILG Pattern Extended to Cover 27,000

New York—The Ladies' Garment Workers extended their recent agreement with the outerwear industry to provide substantial wage and fringe-benefit improvements for an additional 27,000 employees.

The newly covered workers include 11,000 employees in the children's dress industry, 11,000 in the children's coat and snowsuit industry, and 5,000 in the rainwear industry.

They will receive the same contract benefits negotiated earlier for nearly 130,000 workers engaged in the manufacture of women's skirts, sportswear, blouses, dresses, coats, and suits. The terms include an immediate 5 percent wage increase, another 5 percent in October, 8 percent in June 1980, and 7 percent in June 1981.

The three-year agreement also provides for an 11th paid holiday next year, a 2 percent payroll increase in employer contributions for pensions, and an increase of 1 percent of payroll in contributions to health and welfare benefits and prescription-drug coverage.

Meanwhile, the union continued to negotiate with the accessories and knitwear industries. Accessories contracts covering 7,000 workers were slated to expire at mid-June. Negotiations for new knitwear agreements covering 15,000 workers were reported stalled over non-economic issues.

Judge Throws Out Suit To Hamper COPE Role

A federal judge dismissed an attempt by officials of the National Right to Work Committee to compel the Federal Election Commission to curtail campaign contributions to labor-endorsed candidates for Congress.

U.S. District Judge Charles R. Richey said there was "not a scintilla of evidence" to back up the allegation that candidates who received contributions from the voluntary political funds of more than one union violated the law, and that the bipartisan election commission was derelict in not taking action against them.

The anti-union group contended that the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education in effect controlled the separate funds of the autonomous affiliates of the AFL-CIO. Therefore, it argued, the separate contributions should be lumped together and counted towards the $5,000 limit a candidate may receive from any single political action committee.

If the "right-to-work" reasoning had been sustained, labor-endorsed candidates would be limited to a single contribution from all unions in the AFL-CIO, but employer-supported candidates could continue to get separate contributions from hundreds of corporation political action funds.

The Federal Election Commission was unanimous last November in rejecting the National Right to Work Committee's complaint that candidates for the House and Senate had received "huge illegal contributions from the big labor bosses."

The anti-union group filed suit to compel the FEC to act on its complaints, and Judge Richey last April denied an initial motion to dismiss the complaint.

But after reviewing the facts, Judge Richey found that the election commission's rejection of the complaint was "eminently reasonable" and he granted the FEC's motion for a summary judgment.

As for the formal complaints filed by the right-to-work officials, Judge Richey bluntly termed them "a shambles" which were marred with both legal and factual errors and contained nothing to back up assertions.

Neither the AFL-CIO, COPE, nor any union group was a direct party to the case, and the judge earlier in the proceedings refused to allow the "right-to-work" group to question the AFL-CIO on its political activities, declaring that would be "an unwarranted intrusion" that would violate the federation's constitutional rights.

Court Upholds Child Labor Pesticide Ban

San Francisco—The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a federal district court ruling that allowed strawberry growers to use children 10 and 11 years old to pick berries treated with pesticides that pose a health threat to the youngsters.

The appeals court decision vacates a preliminary injunction against portions of Labor Dept. regulations that prohibit the hiring of the youngsters if the growers use the chemicals Captan and Benomyl, which are suspected cancer-causing agents.

Under federal child labor law, farm employers are required to obtain a waiver from the Labor Dept. to hire children below age 12. But the Labor Dept. had refused to issue the waivers to growers who use the chemical.

Strawberry growers in Washington and Oregon challenged the regulation in U.S. District Court in Tacoma, Wash., last month to win a preliminary injunction against waiver restrictions.

As a result of the appeals court ruling, Assistant Labor Sec. Donald Elisburg noted that the Labor Dept. regulations remain fully in effect.

Earlier in June, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ruled that the Labor Dept. acted reasonably in issuing regulations regarding waivers for children 10 and 11 years old to handharvest crops. Waivers are not permitted for children under age 10.

Elizabeth Smith Named To Key ACTWU Post

New York—Elizabeth M. Smith has been appointed legislative and political education director of the Clothing & Textile Workers.

Miss Smith has been with ACTWU's Washington offices since 1977, serving as legislative representative and assistant to Legislative Director William M. DuChessi, who died last month.

Prior to joining ACTWU, she had been on various congressional staffs for 16 years.

Wrong Approach



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High Court Decision Backs Affirmative Action on Jobs



JOB PRESSURES DAY, sponsored by the Communications Workers to protest speedups and on-the-job harassments, resulted in nationwide demonstrations and scenes like this when Washington, D.C., phone company employees spotted a union brother on a cable-splicing assignment.

Labor Hails Ruling As 'Total Victory'

By David L. Perlman

The Supreme Court upheld a voluntary affirmative action agreement negotiated by the Steelworkers and agreed with the AFL-CIO that a union and an employer can set up a plan to overcome racial imbalance even if neither party has been guilty of past discrimination.

"We are delighted with the decision," AFL-CIO President George Meany said. It allows unions and employers to use the collective bargaining process to speed up "elimination of the vestiges of centuries of racial injustice."

The 5-2 decision, rejecting a "reverse discrimination" charge brought by a white worker at a Kaiser Aluminum plant in Louisiana, was hailed as "a total victory" by the Steelworkers.

It validates similar affirmative action training agreements with other aluminum producers and the major steel and container companies, the union said, and will encourage voluntary action elsewhere.

The national agreement with Kaiser that was tested in the Supreme Court sought to remedy a virtual absence of blacks in skilled craft jobs at a number of plants. The imbalance reflected the lack of opportunities for minorities in the communities and not illegal discrimination at the hiring gate, which could have been corrected by a court order.

At the bargaining table, the union and the company agreed to set up in-plant training programs that would give both black and white production workers an opportunity to acquire higher-paid skills.

The agreement set aside 50 per-

(Continued on Page 3)

Fuel Costs Feed New Price Jump

By James M. Shevis

Higher prices for gasoline and fuel oil contributed heavily to another 1 percent rise in the government's consumer price index in May as inflation continued to plague an economy threatened with its third recession of the decade.

The May increase marked the fifth straight month in which the CPI has risen by 1 percent or more. Consumer prices have climbed 10.9 percent during the past 12 months, and at an annual 13.5 percent rate in the past three months.

The continuing surge in prices kept workers from getting ahead in their constant battle with inflation. Real spendable earnings, or take-home pay adjusted for inflation since 1967, were virtually unchanged during the month, but over the year, they showed a decline of 3.3 percent.

The average production worker with three dependents had real

(Continued on Page 6)

Company Pressed to Bargain:

Labor Board Sustains Vote For Steel Union at Shipyard

The Steelworkers called on the Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. to come to the bargaining table for prompt negotiations on an initial contract now that the National Labor Relations Board has completely validated an election in which the union won the right to represent the shipyard's 18,000 workers.

"Surely the company must now realize that further legal appeals are futile, and can only serve to impose hardships on its workers and their families, as well as the entire community," USWA President Lloyd McBride declared.

In its decision, which upheld the May 2 finding of NLRB Administrative Law Judge Melvin J. Welles, the board renewed its December 1978 order requiring the company to negotiate in good faith with the Steelworkers for a collective bargaining agreement.

The shipyard, a subsidiary of Tenneco, Inc., has steadfastly refused to negotiate with the union since the latter won a representation election over an entrenched "company" union on Jan. 31, 1978.

Arguing that "chain-voting" and other "irregularities" occurred during the election, the company asked the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to review the board's bargaining order.

The court refused to set aside the election, rejecting all company challenges except on the limited issue of chain voting, which it sent back to the NLRB.

Judge Welles's ruling, which has now been upheld by a three-member NLRB panel, resolved the final issue in favor of the Steelworkers.

"The entire set-up of the plant, the polling places, the logistics and schedule and procedure used in voting at this election make the likelihood that chain voting resulted from the presence of unmarked ballots in voting booths virtually non-existent," Welles said.

In chain voting, a voter enters a polling place with a pre-marked ballot, then takes a blank ballot from the booth to be marked for another voter.

Welles also dismissed contentions by the company and the independent union, the Peninsula

(Continued on Page 7)

Speedy Review Sought Of Guidelines Decision

The AFL-CIO formally petitioned the Supreme Court to review a ruling by the U.S. Appeals Court for the District of Columbia upholding the Administration's position that it may withhold federal contracts from businesses that exceed the government's wage and price guidelines.

The federation asked the high court to expedite consideration of the case because of its "extraordinary public significance." AFL-CIO attorneys asked the court to decide before adjourning for the summer whether to grant its petition.

Failing that, labor asked the court to provide for a briefing during the summer with arguments at the October session.

"For if the proceedings on the petition are allowed to run their normal course, the petition could not be acted upon until October," the federation pointed out. "If the petition were then granted, the case would not be ready for argument until late 1979—if the briefing schedule were accelerated—or early 1980."

Such delay of a final resolution

(Continued on Page 3)

Economic Policy Seen Tilted Against Workers

An unfair and ineffective economic policy that has eroded the buying power of America's workers is also destroying the "social consensus" needed to make an anti-inflation program work, the AFL-CIO warned.

Research Director Rudy Oswald gave labor's critical assessment of the Administration's anti-inflation strategy in testimony before the Joint Economic Committee of Congress and a task force of the House Budget Committee.

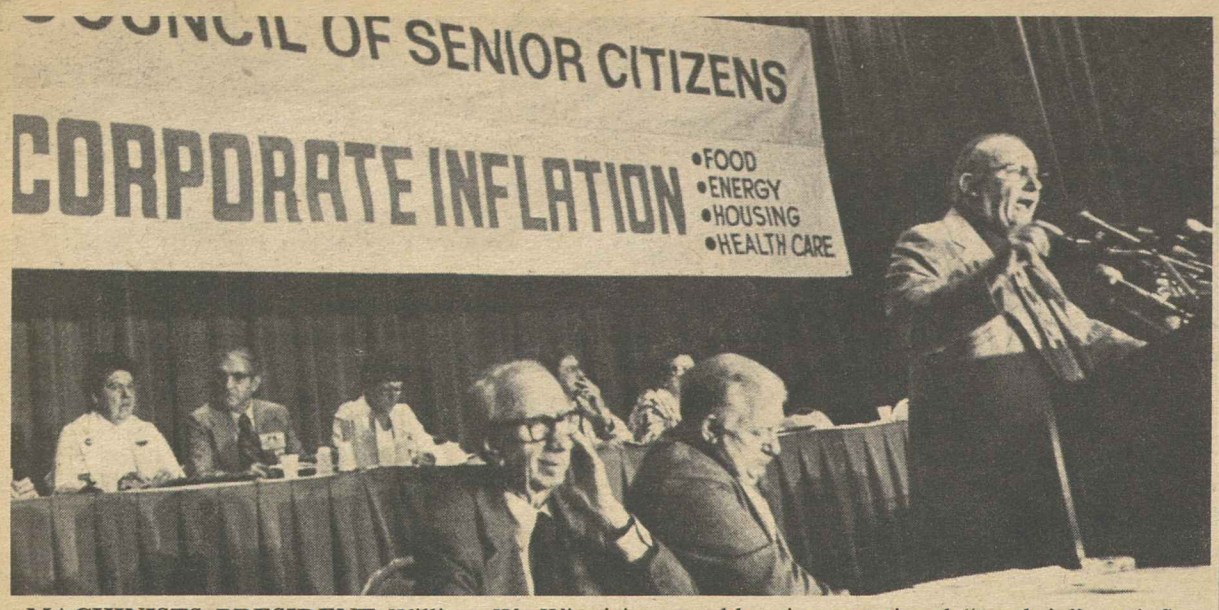
The "key factors" in the inflationary spiral have been food, energy, medical care, housing and interest rates, Oswald stressed. Yet these elements are virtually untouched by the Administration's muddled price guidelines and are at most only marginally affected by labor costs.

Meanwhile, as of April, "real weekly earnings are down 4.5 percent from a year ago" and since last October real wages have declined at an annual rate of 5.5 percent.

"Business profits have risen at annual rates of 25 to 35 percent during the last six months," Oswald noted, and prices have gone up faster than before the guidelines were established.

To compound the economic failures, "unemployment is at histor-

(Continued on Page 7)



MACHINISTS PRESIDENT William W. Winpisinger, addressing a national "teach-in" on inflation held in conjunction with the biennial legislative conference of the National Council of Senior Citizens, charged that major oil firms have contrived gasoline and oil shortages to "jack up prices and blackmail" the American people and Congress into taking the lid off oil and gas prices. Seated, left, are NCSC President James Carbray and Executive Director William Hutton.

'Teach-In' Speakers Say:

Corporate Influence Feeds Inflation Fire

Speakers at the first national "teach-in" on inflation warned that the current price spiral threatening the nation's economy won't be broken unless government first moves to curb growing corporate power.

"The pressures that fuel the new inflation are not going to go away," the sponsoring organization, COIN, declared in a statement.

"They will be managed either by the special interests seeking private gain or by prudent government policies in the public interest. If recent history is a guide to what more corporate influence will mean, inflation is unlikely to be slowed."

COIN (Consumers Opposed to Inflation in the Necessities)—a coalition of consumer, labor, civil rights, environmental, and senior citizens groups—unveiled a "common-sense" approach to the inflation problem concentrated on the four basic consumption areas where prices have been rising fastest: food, housing, health care, and energy.

"The necessities are where inflation is really pinching, and where it has to be stopped," COIN cofounder and economist Gar Alperovitz stressed at the rally, held in conjunction with the biennial legislative conference of the National Council of Senior Citizens.

COIN called for a "sectoral" anti-inflation strategy tailored to deal with the special nature and problems of each necessity area. In addition to a long-range program of structural reforms in each sector, COIN called on the Carter Administration and Congress to take immediate steps in each sector which it said could, when taken together, cut three points off the government's consumer price index within 18 months and break the momentum of inflation.

The near-term actions include stopping the scheduled oil price decontrol, specific credit allocation to bring down interest rates for moderate income housing, hospital cost containment, and an innovative proposal of tax credits to retailers who reduce food prices.

Among the major speakers, Machinists President William W. Winpisinger assailed President Carter's anti-inflation program for its many shortcomings in the energy field. He noted that the Administration program does not cover the price of oil and gasoline—the most explosive items in the current price spiral.

"How can he profess to be against inflation, and exclude oil prices from his program? How can he profess to fight inflation and take the price lid off natural gas and oil and gasoline?" Winpisinger asked. He said COIN's recommendations help point the way to lower energy prices.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald took note of the thousands of older Americans attending the Senior Citizens conference and the group's special one-day constitutional convention.

"No group in America has a clearer grasp of the destructive nature of inflation than its retirees and its working people," he said. "They are the ones who have to pay those soaring prices out of earnings and provisions that shrink a little more and have to stretch a little farther every time they go to the supermarket.

"We must set the record straight as to the causes of inflation," Oswald declared. "It is not the government regulations, it is not the government deficits, it is not the 'greedy' workers. But it is the special factors pushing up food, energy, housing, and medical care costs.

"It is also the unwarranted price increases, the mounting corporate profits and the inflationary psychology on the loose in America today that must be arrested by an overall equitable controls program that controls the income of everybody and the price of everything."

The AFL-CIO is working closely with members of COIN in expanding the federation's price-monitoring program to spot inflationary price trends in the overall economy. The price-watch findings are relayed to Chairman Alfred E. Kahn of the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability for investigation.

Director Henry B. Schechter of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Urban Affairs told the meeting that serious housing shortages are behind today's inflated home prices and rents. In April, he noted, the median price of existing homes sold was $54,700, or 13 percent above a year ago, while the median price for new homes sold was $62,400, or 17 percent more than a year earlier. Rents are almost 7 percent above a year ago, he added.

"The housing supply must be increased," Schechter said. "As the 1979 decline in housing construction continues, it will most likely lead to a general economic recession.

"Increased output of (federally) assisted housing, therefore, can serve both to overcome the short housing supply that feeds inflation and provide an economic stimulus to counteract recession."

Besides extending price controls on domestic crude oil, COIN recommended creation of a new federal agency to compete with private companies for exploration and leasing rights of offshore Outer Continental Shelf oil; bargain with the Arab oil cartel; negotiate for oil from non-cartel countries such as Mexico, and develop oil, gas, shale, and coal deposits on publicly-owned lands.

'Lie Detector' Tests Outlawed in Maine

Augusta, Me.—A new state law that goes into effect this fall will make it illegal for employers in Maine to insist—or even suggest—that their employees and job applicants be subjected to "lie detector" tests as a condition of employment.

The labor-backed measure, which was passed earlier this year by the state legislature and signed into law by Gov. Joseph E. Brennan (D), also places strong restrictions on polygraph operators and establishes more rigid qualifications for licensing.

"As one who has been a longtime supporter of labor," Brennan said in signing the legislation, "I was pleased that with this law we're able to further the protection of the rights and individual dignity of the working people of Maine."

The new law prohibits employers from using "lie detectors" in preemployment screening of job applicants or for periodic screening of current employees.

One section of the statute states that a polygraph operator's license can be suspended or revoked "for conducting a polygraph examination of a person when he has reason to believe the examination is intended to interfere with or prevent the lawful organizational activities of a labor union."

The law covers all sorts of "lie detector" gadgets, including polygraphs, deceptographs, psychological stress evaluators and any related instruments.

With the new law, Maine joins 16 other states that have enacted legislation restricting the use of the polygraph.

NLRB Limits Remedy Of Bargaining Order

The National Labor Relations Board has voted not to issue a bargaining order in a case it said involved "outrageous" and "pervasive" unfair labor practices by an employer during a union organizing campaign.

Since a 1969 Supreme Court decision, the board had regularly ruled that such serious violations by employers could warrant an NLRB order to the employer to bargain. Such an order was perceived as the only realistic way to overcome an employer's illegal tactics and a "poisoned" election atmosphere.

In a new decision, however, the board ruled 3-2 that a new election, rather than a bargaining order, would be a proper remedy.

The board majority justified the decision on the basis that the union, Teamsters Local 205, never had demonstrated support by a majority of the employees in the case through either signed cards or a vote. Local 205 lost a 1974 election at the United Dairy Farmers Cooperative Association of Pittsburgh, 14 to 12.

An NLRB administrative law judge had ruled that employer tactics, including the firing of some workers and threats to others, made a fair election impossible. The judge invoked the 1969 NLRB vs. Gissel Packing Co. decision and ordered the firm to bargain with the Teamsters.

The company appealed the decision. While all five members of the board agreed the firm was guilty of serious unfair labor practices, they differed on the remedy.

Members Betty S. Murphy and John C. Truesdale said that, while the board has the power to issue a bargaining order in some circumstances, in the case in question it would be more proper to conduct a new election rather than risk denying workers their choice for or against representation.

Member John Penello said the board should never depart from the principle of majority rule and order collective bargaining. The board's remedial authority, he said, is limited to the majority rule doctrine.

Chairman John H. Fanning and Member Howard Jenkins, Jr., defended the use of the bargaining order in circumstances where an employer's flagrant misconduct has made it impossible to determine the wishes of an "uncoerced majority" of employees.

The risk of imposing minority preference, they said, is as great from withholding a remedial bargaining order as from granting one.



Court Orders Sex Equality In Welfare Aid

A unanimous Supreme Court has made it easier for needy families to qualify for welfare in the 26 states that allow benefits in two-parent households because the father is unemployed.

Under the court's ruling, the same eligibility requirements would be applied to a household where a mother has lost her job and her husband's income is so low that the family meets the need test for AFDC—aid to families with dependent children.

The present law, providing matching federal funds for states that choose to allow benefits if a father is unemployed, amounts to an unconstitutional sex discrimination, the court found. It was based, Justice Harry A. Blackman wrote, on a sexual stereotype that assumes the father has the primary obligation to work while the mother's employment role, if any, would be secondary.

The court divided on whether to strike down the law, as four justices advocated, or to direct a change in the eligibility rules as a five-judge majority decided on the ground that "suspending the program's operation would impose hardship on beneficiaries whom Congress plainly meant to protect."

The ruling does not, however, have any effect on the 24 states that do not allow welfare payments to two-parent families.

Article XX Sanctions Imposed Against ARA

AFL-CIO President George Meany has notified all affiliates that the American Radio Association has been found to be in noncompliance with the decision of an impartial umpire under the AFL-CIO's internal disputes procedures and is therefore subject to sanctions under the federation's constitution.

The finding was reached by a subcommittee of the AFL-CIO Executive Council consisting of Vice Presidents John J. O'Donnell, Fred J. Kroll and George Hardy.

The findings, Meany said, followed the refusal of the union "to withdraw from a raid at Farrell Lines, Inc." The decision of the impartial umpire had found this action to be a violation of Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution.

Meany said that effective June 20, 1979, the ARA would be subject to the following provisions of Sec. 15 of Article XX:

"1. The non-complying affiliate shall not be entitled to file any complaint or appear in a complaining capacity in any proceeding under this article until such noncompliance is remedied or excused as provided in Sec. 16;

"2. The federation shall, upon request, supply every appropriate assistance and aid to any organization resisting the action determined to be in violation of this article;

"3. The federation shall appropriately publicize the fact that the affiliate is not in compliance with the constitution;

"4. No affiliate shall support or render assistance to the action determined to be in violation of this article."

In addition to the American Radio Association, the following unions are currently in non-compliance with an impartial umpire's decision: International Typographical Union and the Graphic Arts International Union.

Meany Hails Ruling:

High Court Decision Backs Affirmative Action on Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

cent of the training slots for underrepresented minority workers until their ratio in skilled jobs matched their proportion in the community.

Once in the program, all trainees had to meet the same rigorous standards that require an average of three years of on-the-job training, supplemented by classroom instruction and home study.

A divided federal appellate court agreed with the reverse discrimination charge of a white worker, Brian F. Weber, who didn't have the seniority for one of the training slots open to white workers but had longer service than several black workers accepted for the program.

The Steelworkers and the AFL-CIO contended in a joint brief to the Supreme Court and in oral argument that the imbalance in skilled jobs was undesirable and voluntary efforts to remedy it should not be blocked by a narrow reading of the Civil Rights Act that distorts the law's intent.

While the path it took may not have been required by law, the union said, it was certainly not prohibited by law. And the fact remains that the affirmative action program "created opportunities for both black and white USWA members which neither would have enjoyed otherwise."

Justice William Brennan, writing for the Supreme Court majority, found as the AFL-CIO had urged that Congress had "left employers and unions in the private sector free to take . . . race-conscious steps to eliminate manifest racial imbalance in traditionally segregated job categories."

Since the agreement does not involve state action and was adopted voluntarily, he said, the only issue before the court was whether Title VII of the Civil Rights Act—the fair employment provision—forbids such a plan.

It does not, the court majority concluded, and "it would be ironic indeed if a law triggered by a nation's concern over centuries of racial injustice" were used to prevent voluntary, private measures to overcome inequities.

Brennan cautioned against an assumption that all affirmative action plans would be upheld by the court, and his decision declined to "define in detail the line of demarcation between permissible and impermissible affirmative action plans."

But he did give a strong indication of the criteria the Supreme Court would apply by noting that the purpose of the Kaiser plan "mirrors" the intent of the Civil Rights Act, "to break down old patterns of racial segregation and hierarchy."

Furthermore, the program "does not unnecessarily trammel the interests of the white employees" and "does not require the discharge of white workers and their replacement with new black hires."

It provides an opportunity for whites as well as blacks, and its racial quota is a temporary measure to be dropped after the racial imbalance has been eliminated.

Dissenting from the opinion were Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Justice William H. Rehnquist, who contended that the court majority was substituting its own views of desirable social conduct for the specific language of the law. Justices Lewis F. Powell, Jr., who has been ill, and John Paul Stevens did not participate in the case.

Meany said the reasoning of the Supreme Court majority exactly paralleled the AFL-CIO understanding of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

He found the decision "a victory for all who, like the AFL-CIO, believe in racial justice and who are committed to private voluntary action to end discrimination."

Leon Lynch, Steelworkers vice president for human affairs, expressed appreciation to all of the organizations that backed the union's position in the case and said the decision will enable unions and employers to adopt similar programs "without having to worry about reverse discrimination suits."

The Supreme Court decision makes a clear distinction between the Weber case, involving a voluntary affirmative action agreement in the private sector, and the earlier Bakke case in which the court overturned a governmental quota system involving admission to a state medical school.

While the AFL-CIO did not take a position on the Bakke case, an Executive Council statement following the Supreme Court decision stressed the federation's continuing commitment to affirmative action.

That council statement, which set the stage for the AFL-CIO to join the Steelworkers in defending the negotiated job training program, urged "aggressive, positive efforts to integrate, instead of mere passive agreement not to discriminate."



SKILLS TRAINING to prepare Navajo Indians to be apprentice Sheet Metal Workers is conducted at Mexican Hat, Utah, under an agreement with the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. and the Navajo Tribe. The program is administered by the Human Resources Development Institute. From left are instructor Clendon Barnes, trainee Steven Keams, President Edward J. Carlough of the Sheet Metal Workers and Executive Director Mike Arnold of HRDI.

Department Store Vote Key Victory for Clerks

Local 400 of the Food & Commercial Workers scored a major victory in winning the right to represent nearly 6,000 employees of Woodward & Lothrop department stores in the Washington, D.C., area.

Unofficial returns in the National Labor Relations Board election showed that Local 400 was chosen by a vote of 2,407 to 660 for the Independent Union of Woodward & Lothrop Employees, which has represented the store's workers for the past 39 years. Another 973 ballots were cast for no union.

The UFCW local views the election victory as a key breakthrough that could spur organizing efforts at other area department stores, including Hecht's, Lord & Taylor, Garfinckel's and Bloomingdales.

Local 400 President Thomas R. McNutt said the immediate priority will be to negotiate a new contract for the Woodward & Lothrop employees, but he added that organizing drives at other area retailers would follow shortly.

The current contract covering workers at 14 stores and two warehouses expires June 30.

The Washington organizing drive was undertaken early this year with the strong support of the Retail Clerks International Union, which merged earlier this month with the Meat Cutters to form the 1.3-million-member UFCW.

With the addition of the nearly 6,000 more members, McNutt said that Local 400 represents nearly 23,000 workers in the Washington area. About 60 percent of the membership is with supermarkets and the remainder is with nonfood retail and service operations.

Local 400 had been turned back in an organizing drive at Woodward & Lothrop three years ago and was required under NLRB rules to wait until the contract with the unaffiliated union was about to expire before seeking a new election.

Speedy Review Sought Of Guidelines Decision

(Continued from Page 1)

of the dispute involved in the case would be contrary to the public interest, the AFL-CIO declared.

The appellate court reversed a federal district judge's finding that the withholding of federal contracts by President Carter was unconstitutional since Congress had not given him such enforcement powers.

Federation President George Meany said that "we are obviously disappointed" by the appeals court ruling but, in view of the importance of the issues involved in the case, hoped the government would cooperate in seeking to expedite a review of the decision by the Supreme Court.

The 6-3 appellate court decision, written by Chief Judge J. Skelly Wright, said that the withholding of federal contracts was authorized by the 1947 Procurement Act requiring the government to consider economy and efficiency in making procurements from private firms.

In a dissenting opinion, however, Judge George E. MacKinnon suggested that the reasoning of the majority implies power of "limitless nature" in Administration purchasing activities.

"Indeed, it is not unreasonable to ask why under the majority's reasoning the President could not direct the Secretary of Commerce to seize control of the oil companies doing business with the federal government."

Another dissenter, Judge Roger Robb, said that "no amount of sophisticated and metaphysical argument can convince me that compliance under threat of such massive economic sanctions is voluntary."

Under the Administration's anti-inflation program, companies declared to have violated the guidelines are ineligible for government contracts exceeding $5 million. The AFL-CIO and the directly-affected unions that joined in the lawsuit maintained that the threat of contract debarment turns the President's guidelines into a mandatory program contrary to the intent of Congress.

Major Gains Won in New Bakery Pact

Palm Springs, Calif.—The Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers won substantial wage and benefit gains in a new two-year agreement covering some 5,500 workers at five major wholesale bread and cake companies on the West Coast.

Firms involved in the settlement are ITT Continental Baking Co., American Bakeries, Campbell-Taggart, Interstate Brands, and Growwheat.

The agreement provides wage increases totaling $43.80 a week over the life of the contract and improved health and pension benefits.

An across-the-board weekly wage increase of $23.80 is set for the first year of the pact and $20 for the second year. Pension benefits will be increased $50 a month, to a total of $550, effective May 4, 1980.

Pension Law Changes Sought to Aid Survival of Multiemployer Plans

Representatives of workers covered by multiemployer pension plans asked the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee to approve legislation designed to prevent the financial problems of a few declining industries from endangering the big majority of financially healthy pension programs.

The AFL-CIO and the National Coordinating Committee for Multiemployer Pension Plans endorsed the bill drawn up by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp., the federal agency that administers the pension insurance program.

Congress recently extended the date for mandatory coverage of multiemployer pension plans 10 months, to May 1, 1980, to allow time to act on the proposed changes in the insurance law.

Committee Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), a chief sponsor of the original 1974 pension reform legislation, agreed at the start of hearings that problems have arisen in multiemployer programs in industries or localities with a declining workforce and substantial obligations to persons already retired.

AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Kenneth Meiklejohn, joined by Associate Social Security Director Lawrence Smedley, strongly backed a section of the bill that would retroactively require a company withdrawing from participation in a multiemployer plan to meet its share of the plan's vested liabilities at the time of its withdrawal.

Retroactivity to the date the bill was introduced will make it possible "to reach back and catch those employers who leave before the law's passage," the AFL-CIO witnesses noted.

With reluctance, the federation accepted the necessity to cut back on the government guaranty of vested pension benefits in order to keep insurance premiums at a practical level.

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. proposal calls for 100 percent insurance for the first $5 per month for each year of service and 60 percent of the next $15 per month for each year of service. By contrast, single-employer plans guarantee 100 percent of vested benefits.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, who testified for the proposal, said it will provide the most protection for low-wage workers. He warned that the requirement for 100 percent protection would result in more plans becoming insolvent.

President Robert A. Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., who testified as chairman of the multiemployer pension plan committee, said a cutback in the termination insurance guaranty is necessary to keep premium costs for multiemployer plans from soaring above the level for single-company plans.

The pension agency estimated that a multiemployer premium of $2.60 a year per participant, the same as now paid by single-employer plans, could finance the insurance cost. The bill would phase it in over five years, rising from the present rate of 50 cents a year.

But if legislation is not enacted, the AFL-CIO statement noted, the multiemployer insurance cost could rise to $80, resulting in "a falling domino effect which would jeopardize the continuation of the multiemployer pension plan system as it exists today."

Working Together

LOOKING BACK OVER the struggles of the 25 years since the Brown decision, the men and women of the trade union movement take pride in the progress America has made toward racial justice. Working together, the labor movement and the civil rights movement have largely succeeded in wiping out the legal and legislative sanctions that perpetuated injustice.

But we are painfully aware of how much remains to be done to secure equal, quality education for all our children and to secure equal rights, equal opportunity and a decent measure of economic justice for Americans of both sexes and all races.

The AFL-CIO remains fully dedicated to achieving those goals, and we are convinced that no more effective instrument exists for pursuing them than the mutual understanding and unity of purpose that have been forged between the leaders and members of the AFL-CIO and the NAACP.

The coordinated activities of our two organizations in voter-registration and voter-education campaigns have become an important force for social and political change, and we intend to do all we can to make them more effective still.

The progress that workers and minorities have made is menaced by a revival of reactionary forces ranging from the Ku Klux Klan to "Proposition 13" evangelists to professional union busters, and it is essential that we present a unified front against those who would tear down the social and economic programs designed to move America ahead.

We have to continue the fight against bigotry. We have to step up our fight against the dismantling of educational and social programs. We have to work together for job-creating programs aimed at full employment and equal opportunity for all.

Together, we can do much that neither organization could ever do alone. I have every confidence that in the future, as in the past, our two organizations will unite in the struggle to make the American dream of justice and equality a reality.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany in a letter to the NAACP's 70th convention.

Victory for Racial Justice

OBVIOUSLY WE ARE delighted with the decision. The majority has ruled exactly as we contended in our brief, filed jointly with the United Steelworkers of America. It has interpreted Title VII exactly as we did when we supported its passage in the Congress.

Additionally, the decision shows that, through collective bargaining, unions and employers can take positive, constructive actions which are in the national interest and which will accelerate elimination of the vestiges of centuries of racial injustice.

The decision is a victory for all who, like the AFL-CIO, believe in racial justice and who are committed to private voluntary action to end discrimination.

—AFL-CIO comment on decision in Weber case.

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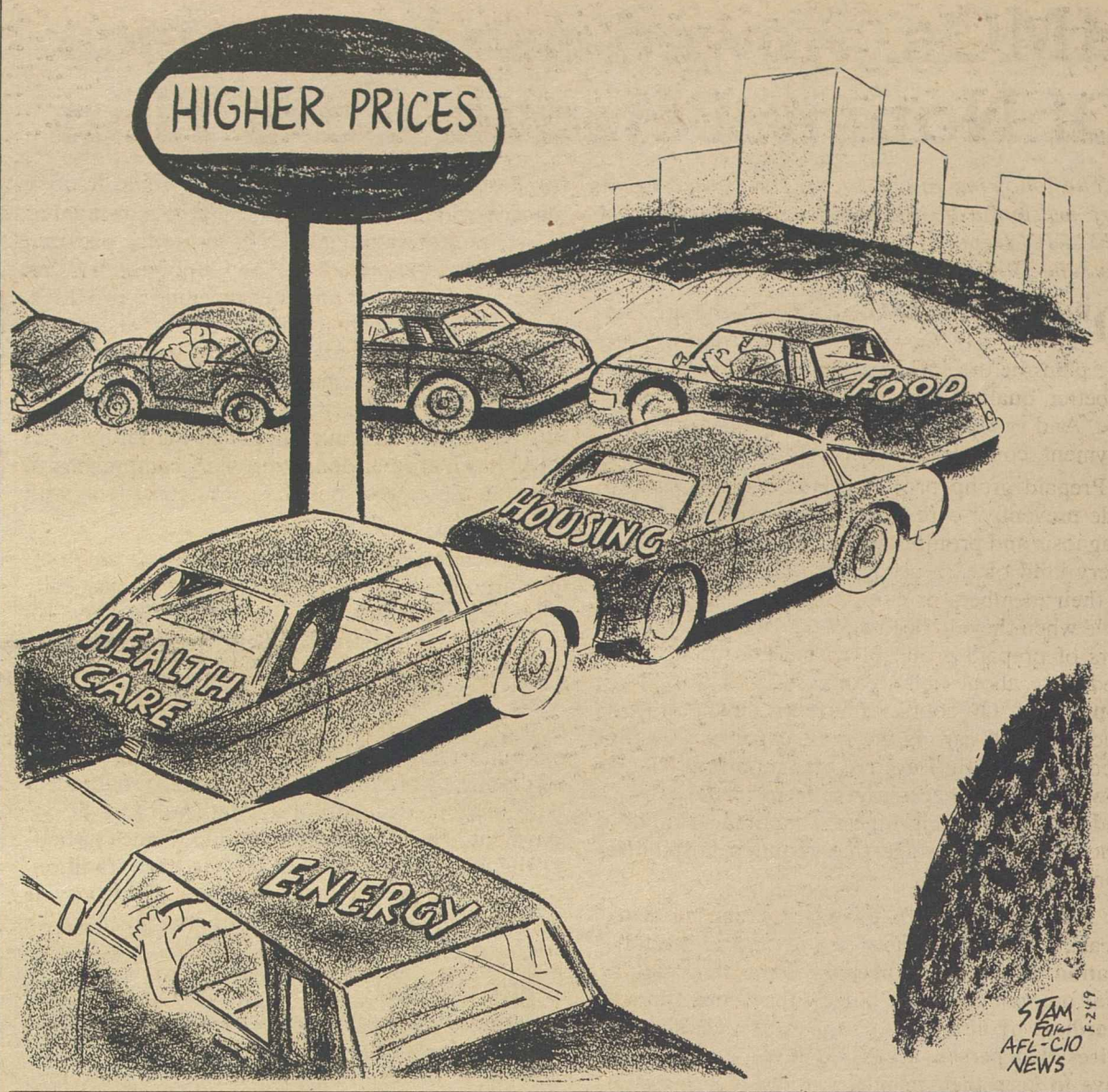
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Guzzlers



The Search for Alternatives:

Synthetic Fuels Could Liberate Nation from Tyranny of OPEC

By Gus Tyler

WE'RE ABOUT TO strike the first big blow to liberate ourselves from those Arab sheikhs. President Carter and congressional leaders have agreed to push for legislation to do with "synthetic fuels" what we did with space travel: do the impossible quickly.

The first effort will be to convert solid coal into a gaseous or liquid state, so the fuel can be transported by pipe lines and can be poured into engines. At the same time, we will start squeezing oil out of shale and tar sands and distilling alcohol or methane gas out of garbage or out of easy-to-grow plants with high potential for yielding fuel.

In the present state of the art, the amounts produced will be small. But the impact will be large, because we will be on our way to doing what should have been done long ago: finding real alternatives to oil.

The kind of "synthetic fuels" that Carter and congressmen are talking about are only samplings of possible alternatives to oil. We can draw power from the sun, the wind, waterfalls and dams, the bowels of the earth—and we can store the resultant energy for use when we need it.

Up to recently, these alternative sources of energy were pooh-poohed as too exotic, too expensive, and too piddling to be worthy of the attention of practical and intelligent folk. But events—excruciating events—are forcing us to reexamine the prejudices within us and the potential out there.

These "exotic" sources are no more exotic today than nuclear energy was when I went to college. We were taught that the atom was the smallest possible particle of matter and that it could not be divided. To have suggested that the atom could be split was heresy and to suggest that someday the splitting of the atom would be the source of the least expensive form of electricity would have been written off as madness.

As to the cost of these "exotic" energies, the argument has lost much of its impact as the cost of oil continues to rise. Even the inexpensive nuclear energy becomes increasingly costly as reactors have to be checked and changed to be made safer.

The cost of the exotics, moreover, once we get into them, is bound to come down. When computers were first manufactured they cost about 100 times what they do now. If we bring down the cost of a solar installation by just one order of magnitude—from $500 to $50—just about every household could afford one.

As to the magnitude of the output from exotic sources, even small results from each source will add up to a big sum for the country as a whole. If we can heat and cool our homes with solar energy, power factories with gas from garbage and electricity from running waters, fuel our cars with gasohol (a mixture of gas and alcohol) or with liquid coal, generate power by the wind and tide, we will have liberated our land from the tyranny of OPEC and we will have liberated our grandchildren from the fear of planetary depletion.

Impact of Inflation Heavy on Retirees

No group in America has a clearer grasp of the destructive nature of inflation than retirees and working people. They are the ones who have to pay those soaring prices out of earnings and income that shrink a little more and have to stretch a little farther every time they go to the supermarket.

What is most offensive and most unfair about this situation is that we have no way on earth to tell whether or not those galloping price increases add up to a violation of the Administration's price guidelines. And neither has anyone else.

Those guidelines are so hazy, so filled with loopholes, exclusions and alternative standards of measurement that they are totally meaningless.

I doubt that there is anyone who doesn't agree that inflation must be stopped and who isn't prepared to make sacrifices to stop it.

But those sacrifices must do more than inflate profit statements. The tremendous profit boom is clearly related to the double-digit growth of the price index. Losses in real wages have thus far simply fed that growing stream of corporate profits rather than yielding any consequence in price restraint.

—AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald at "teach-in" of Consumers Opposed to Inflation in the Necessities (COIN).

Advantages Stressed:

HMOs Viewed as Centerpiece Of National Health Care Plan

The following comments on HMOs and health care legislation by Bert Seidman, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security, appeared in the June 1979 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

ORGANIZED LABOR FAVORS the development of HMOs—called prepaid group practice plans before 1971—because group plans offer a better quality of medical care than solo practice. And group practice, in combination with prepayment, controls costs better than fee for service.

Prepaid group practice plans can and do provide preventive care, physical examinations, early diagnosis and prompt treatment—in fact, virtually every kind of care needed to maintain the health of their members or cure them as quickly as possible when they do become sick. That is why members of prepaid group plans have to be hospitalized only about half as often as the rest of the population. Of course, this cuts down on costs since hospital care is the most expensive form of medical care. But, even more important, it cuts down on the unnecessary suffering patients must undergo when their illness is untreated until it reaches an acute stage that requires hospitalization.

The reason HMOs have less unneeded medical care such as unneeded and costly hospitalization or surgery is because these plans pay a flat amount for each person they care for regardless of how few or how many health services that person needs. So there is an incentive to keep their members well and when they do become sick, to give them the services they need to restore their health.

The care HMO members get is better because in group practice, physicians pool their skills for the benefit of patients and work in a cooperative rather than a competitive setting. Group health doctors can readily consult with their colleagues, and the course of treatment for difficult and serious cases is determined in consultation with the relevant specialists.

Of course, quality of care, important as it is, is not the whole story of the desirability of joining an HMO. Most people make judgments on the basis of dollars and cents—whether it is the family's groceries, a used car, or medical service. So it's important for HMOs to keep their premiums as low as they can. It's also important in their approach to workers to get across the point that when both premiums and out-of-pocket expenses are taken into account, membership in an HMO is always a better buy.

A major reason the labor movement wants to encourage rapid expansion of HMOs is to make them the centerpiece of the universal and comprehensive national health insurance program labor supports. We expect HMOs to grow and flourish under national health insurance. One reason labor insists that the national health insurance program should be comprehensive and universal is that trade union families and other members of HMOs have benefited from the comprehensive services HMOs offer. The national health insurance program must contain incentives for people to join HMOs and specific provisions aimed at assuring that HMOs can do even better in the future what they have always done—provide comprehensive care at the lowest possible cost consistent with high quality.

All kinds of national health proposals are floating around. The AFL-CIO has enthusiastically endorsed the newly revised Health Care for All Americans Act introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.). The bill would result in a multifold expansion of HMOs because the new program emphasizes prevention and early diagnosis and treatment of disease by providing the financing for outpatient care without deductibles and other forms of copayment. Thus the program would finance virtually the whole range of care HMOs have traditionally offered. For the first time, they could provide care for all Americans—old or young, black or white, rich or poor.

PREVENTIVE CARE, prompt attention to symptoms, early diagnosis and treatment reduce costly hospitalization and acute illness and therefore save money. For this reason, full coverage for outpatient services without cost sharing, such as HMOs provide, would make them highly competitive in the medical market place in comparison with traditional fee-for-service medicine.

The proposal would also establish a health resources development fund to help operating HMOs to expand and to start new ones.

In contrast, the Carter Administration's approach is piecemeal, without a specific timetable for implementation, which we are convinced means it would be left legislatively unachievable. The Administration's recently announced Phase I appears so meager and fragmented that it would not bring improved health care to most of the American people. The inherent danger in the Administration's approach is that a piecemeal, misdirected first step would be a roadblock to achieving a truly comprehensive national health plan.

There is just one way to make adequate health care at reasonable cost a right of every American —early enactment and the quickest possible implementation of universal comprehensive national health insurance.

Unions Stress Flexibility:

Easing of Job Pressures Keyed To Rational Management Policy

REASONABLE FLEXIBILITY and a measure of judgment in the way work is performed is becoming an increasingly important goal for American workers, President Glenn E. Watts of the Communications Workers declared.

Watts said that while wages and job security, "especially in the form of adequate pensions" and earlier retirement, rank as the top goals of workers, relief from such job pressures as "absentee-control programs, forced overtime and supervision beyond the point of reasonableness" probably falls third among the priorities of both unionized and non-organized employees. He said that the CWA's recent "Job Pressures Day" and the union's in-depth study of non-economic situations and practices that workers are "ouched about" are the result of the mounting concern about such items voiced by CWA members at conventions and other union meetings.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Watts said that relief from some of the job pressures that workers feel can be reached in the collective bargaining agreement. He said that in the area of absentee-control programs, for example, the union will probably renew its proposal for optional days off at the discretion of the employee in future contract talks.

He said that many workers feel strongly that such programs are now "too restrictive—do not leave workers enough latitude" in days and reasons for being away from the job. He said that permitting workers "on very short notice and on their own initiative" to take a limited number of days off from work would relieve one of the job pressures that most workers feel.

The AFL-CIO vice president noted that while female workers may feel some on-the-job pressures more than male workers, they are not looking for special accommodation. He pointed out that certain job requirements that have been created out of the past and are not essential to performance of particular jobs could be changed or eliminated without impairing productivity, efficiency or quality.

Eliminating job pressures, he said, holds advantages for employers as well as employees, and "to the extent that management can accommodate changes in the patterns of work and still get business done, they're interested in it" in the telephone industry.



By Press Associates, Inc.

FOR THE PAST COUPLE of decades experts have been trying to document, define and measure "white collar crime." The most conservative estimate is that white collar crime robs the American people of about $44 billion a year. Some experts put white collar crime at $100 billion a year. The late Sen. Philip Hart estimated that when corporate antitrust violations such as price-fixing are added in, white collar crime exceeds $200 billion a year.

Hart went on to calculate that some 30 to 35 percent of the prices of goods sold in America could be accounted for by business crimes such as price-fixing, bribery, kickbacks and fraud.

Experts testifying in congressional hearings expressed alarm about the corrosive effect of white collar crime on American values and institutions.

Prof. Gilbert Geis of the University of California at Irvine pointed out that people are usually united in their moral condemnation of muggings and other street crimes.

"White collar crime, on the contrary," Geis said, "breeds social malaise. It creates distrust, cynicism and greed."

Some say that white collar crime involves only money whereas street crime threatens life and limb. This is spurious reasoning, Geis said, arguing that quite possibly more people have died from the manufacturing of defective cars and airplanes as well as asbestos and other fatal workplace conditions.

Deputy U.S. Atty. Gen. Benjamin Civiletti pointed to "the mining company official who bribes a federal inspector to ignore hazardous conditions, thereby exposing countless miners to possible death and injury."

New Jersey Atty. Gen. John J. Degnan discussed cases involving "numerous individuals and corporations" where companies in the business of disposing of toxic chemicals jeopardized the public health. In one case, the waste was "extremely flammable, toxic and highly explosive and was dumped clandestinely in urban areas, creating not only a problem of pollution but also an extreme public hazard."

SOMETIMES THOSE WHO SUFFER directly or indirectly from white collar crime lose only money, as in the case of a New York company selling lots in Albuquerque, N.M. The land fraud scheme involved losses to the purchasers totaling $200 million. However, for some victims of land fraud and similar schemes, the loss may have meant their life savings.

Harold Norris, professor of law at Detroit College of Law, argues that white collar crime is inflationary. "White collar crime increases the cost of goods without any relationship to production and bids up the price, and by bidding up the price becomes a way of reaching into the pocketbooks of 200 million Americans," he charged. Low and modest-income consumers are particularly hard-hit, he said.

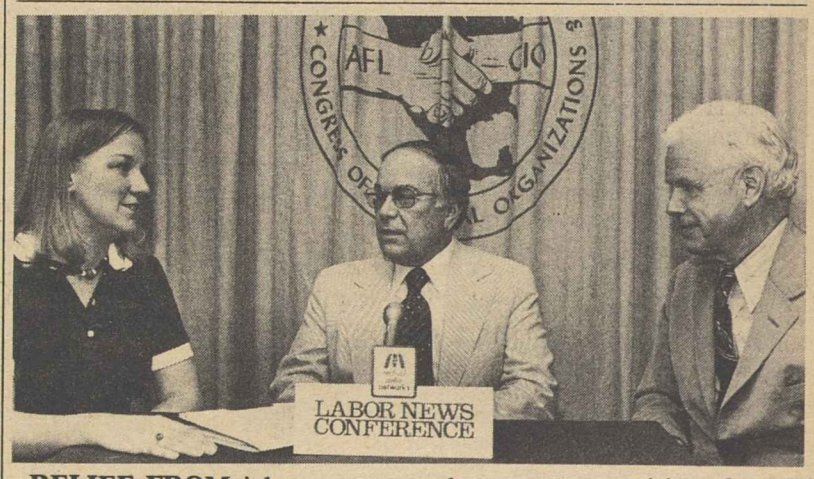
What can be done about white collar crime? The experts and members of Congress had a range of suggestions: make heroes of honest companies and hold them up as models: charter corporations and take away the charter for criminal behavior; publicize white collar crime on the front page instead of burying it in the business columns.

Robert Fiske, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, favored longer jail sentences because he believed it would have a strong deterrent effect.

"A great deal of street crime is committed by impulse; it is committed as a result of need," Fiske said. But white collar criminals "are very smart; they are committing these crimes not out of need but out of greed, and they are smart enough to weigh the risks-to-benefit ratios before they go into crime."

While the crime totals of $44 billion to $200 billion "almost boggle the mind," Fiske said, the greater danger is the erosion of people's confidence in government and business institutions.

All agreed it is necessary to get business executives to obey the law and to accept the law's police officers, whether they be the SEC, FTC, IRS, FDA, EPA, OSHA, the Antitrust Division of Justice or some other agency.



RELIEF FROM job pressures such as over-supervision, forced overtime and inflexible absentee-control programs is a growing demand of American workers, President Glenn E. Watts, center, of the Communications Workers said on Labor News Conference. Questioning the AFL-CIO vice president were Sara Fritz of U.S. News & World Report and Ben Rathbun of Daily Labor Report. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.



FIRED J. P. STEVENS WORKER Ivory Price, second from right, visited AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland during a visit to the nation's capital to tell of working conditions in Stevens's southern mills. Shown with her are Paul Mignini and Teresa Rankin, co-coordinators of the Clothing & Textile Workers' J. P. Stevens boycott campaign for the Washington-Maryland area.

Hall Sees 'Musical Chairs' Paradox In Foreign Investment in U.S. Plants

New York—Foreign investment in the United States in many ways is puzzling to American workers and their unions, AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall told a conference on the subject here.

"We have seen American enterprise flowing overseas so long that we don't fully know what to make of all the changes that are taking place," said Hall, president of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. and chairman of the federation's Economic Policy Committee.

On the one hand, the government is still encouraging American companies to close plants at home and open new ones overseas, Hall pointed out. On the other hand, that same government is working just as hard to lure foreign companies to the United States.

"When we see United Technologies moving heaven and earth to get its aircraft-engine operations out of Connecticut and into foreign countries, and we see Rolls Royce just as eager to move in, we think of the game of musical chairs, and we wonder who's calling the tune, and why," he said.

The conference was sponsored by the Financial Times of London.

Hall made it clear that U.S. labor has no ideological ax to grind nor doctrinaire policy on foreign investment in the American economy.

"We are not interested in who owns the means of production so long as they are used for constructive purposes by socially responsible managers who concede that workers have a right to join together to seek a fair share in the benefits of production," he said. "Whether capital is supplied by investors here at home or overseas is also immaterial."

But labor takes a more hostile view of business enterprises that are operated by totalitarian governments as agents and instruments of their foreign policy, Hall said. He cited as an example the Soviet merchant fleet, which is deliberately cutting shipping rates far below cost to drive American ships and the ships of other free countries from the seas.

"Such operations have nothing to do with trade," he said. "They are tools of economic warfare, and they ought to be treated for what they are."

A number of European and Asian companies have responded to the seductions of American states, particularly those in the so-called Sun Belt, Hall said.

"In fact, 20 of our 50 states have overseas missions actively soliciting foreign investment," he observed.

While some of these foreign firms are behaving as decently in this country as they do at home, others have joined ranks with anti-union exploiters, he charged.

"I don't know what it does for the American image overseas for the governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the capital of the Old Confederacy, to go before Japanese industrialists in Osaka to boast about how much lower wages are in Virginia, how much more docile workers are there than in Japan, how weak Virginia unions have been kept by unjust state laws," Hall said. "But I can assure you that the spectacle fills American workers with dismay and shame and anger."

American workers in the Sun Belt states are fighting back, however, and have the full support of workers elsewhere in the global labor movement, he said. To deal with the new problems and conditions created by the multinational corporation, for example, U.S. labor moved to strengthen its links with the international trade secretariats, he said.

"We have begun the job of establishing some solidarity across national borders in dealing with concrete problems, exchanging experience and information on relations with transnational and multinational corporations and on trade and job issues of every kind," Hall said. "And we intend to continue that effort in every way we know how."

Farm Union Supporters Reinstated in California

Sacramento, Calif.—In a landmark decision, the California Supreme Court directed a farm management firm to reinstate and pay lost wages to workers it had fired more than two years ago during a United Farm Workers organizing drive in Kern County.

The ruling upholds an order by the state's Agricultural Labor Relations Board that found Tex-Cal Management, Inc., guilty of unfair labor practices against the UFW.

The company was charged with illegally laying off workers for union activities and harassing UFW organizers who had been on Tex-Cal premises as permitted by the ALRB's access rule.

The high court also rejected Tex-Cal's challenge of the board's authority in which it contended that the state constitution requires courts to set aside board findings unless they are supported by substantial evidence after an independent review.

The board decision, originally issued in February 1975, was subsequently affirmed by the state appellate court.

Under the board order, Tex-Cal must reinstate all illegally laid-off workers and reimburse them for lost wages. It also must post the order in English and Spanish in all work areas managed by the company and mail copies of the notice to workers' residences.

The order further directs that the notice be read to workers either by a company representative or an ALRB agent throughout the 1979 crop season.

Tex-Cal had complained that the reading requirement "was unnecessarily embarrassing and humiliating." But the justices pointed out that the "ALRB properly . . . relied on its knowledge from past hearings of significant illiteracy and semi-literacy among farm workers."

The court also dismissed Tex-Cal's argument in its petition for review that it had the right to eject UFW organizers from its property because they were distributing leaflets. The company said it based its argument on National Labor Relations Board cases.

The justices held that the distribution of literature by union organizers is allowed under the board's access rule to take into account "the absence and the agricultural setting of alternative channels mutually available for communicating with industrial workers."

Joseph R. Walsh Dies, Veteran Labor Publicist

Colorado Springs, Colo.—Joseph R. Walsh, veteran labor publicist, died in the hospital here of leukemia. He was 56.

Walsh had served as public relations director of both the Auto Workers and the Rubber Workers and, since 1973, operated a public relations agency with Ray Martin. Walsh leaves his wife, Margaret, and two sons, Craig and Lawrence.

Real Earnings Down:

Energy Costs Feed Latest Price Surge

(Continued from Page 1)

spendable earnings of $89.61 a week in May, compared with $92.69 a year earlier, BLS said.

Transportation costs jumped the most over the month 1.8 percent following a 2 percent rise in April.

It was the seventh consecutive month of substantial price increases in this category and was due largely to continued increases in the price of gasoline and new cars, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said in reporting the figures.

Gasoline prices, which advanced sharply for the 11th straight month, accounted for over two-thirds of the higher transportation costs, BLS said. Gas prices were up 5 percent in May, bringing the increase so far this year to an annual rate of 55.8 percent.

New car prices rose 1 percent and have increased at an annual rate of 13.8 percent during the first five months of this year, BLS said.

Among other major categories of consumer spending, housing expenses continued to mount rapidly, rising 1.3 percent in May, and entertainment costs increased by eight-tenths of 1 percent, the highest monthly increase this year.

On the other hand, food and beverage prices rose four-tenths of 1 percent, the smallest advance in this category since July of last year, while prices for apparel and upkeep declined by one-tenth of 1 percent over the month. Medical care costs rose six-tenths of 1 percent.

At the congressional Joint Economic Committee's monthly hearing on the CPI report, Barry Bosworth, director of the Council on Wage & Price Stability, said "it's difficult to exaggerate the seriousness of the situation in which the United States finds itself with respect to inflation," and because of rising energy prices, "I see no hope for significant moderation of inflation in the next few months."

Meanwhile, the New York Times reported that the Commerce Dept. has circulated among Cabinet-level officials a preliminary estimate showing a 2.4 percent annual decline in the nation's economic activity during the current quarter The government's official report on changes in the gross national product is not due to be released until July 20.

Another government report—the Commerce Dept.'s composite index of leading economic indicators for May—was also watchfully awaited. Regarded as the most accurate barometer of the country's economic performance, the index has fallen four times in the past six months.

Detailing last month's price increases, the agency said fuel oil rose 4.8 percent—the fourth consecutive large monthly increase. Other housing costs that showed very large increases were rents, up 1.3 percent; financing, taxes, and insurance, up 2.1 percent, and gas and electricity, up 2.7 percent.

The cost of eating out—restaurant meals and snacks—rose six-tenths of 1 percent in May while the cost of alcoholic beverages was up seven-tenths of 1 percent.

Scott Hoyman Elected to Key ACTWU Post

New York—Scott M. Hoyman, a vice president and southern regional director of the Clothing & Textile Workers, has been named executive vice president of the union and assistant director of its textile division.

Hoyman, 59, succeeds William M. DuChessi, who died last month. He was chosen at the recent quarterly meeting of the union's executive board in Chicago.

Hoyman worked as an organizer for the Packinghouse Workers in Chicago and later for the Steelworkers in Philadelphia before joining the staff of the Textile Workers, one of ACTWU's two predecessor unions, in 1948.

He has been directly involved in several major union organizing efforts, including TWUA's tufted carpet industry drive in northwest Georgia and the ongoing J. P. Stevens campaign.

When TWUA merged with the Clothing Workers in 1976, Hoyman was elected a vice president and executive board member of the newly-formed union. He was re-elected last year.

Labor Studies Center Lists Summer Schedule

Eleven labor organizations will use the George Meany Center for Labor Studies at Silver Spring, Md., for worker education and staff training during July and August. The schedule:

American Institute for Free Labor Development, July 1-6; July 16-Aug. 17.
Professional Air Traffic Controllers, July 8-13, July 15-20, July 22-27, Aug. 12-17.
Rubber Workers, July 8-13, July 29-Aug. 3.
Railway Employees' Dept., July 8-13.
Food & Commercial Workers, July 15-20.
Association of Flight Attendants, July 16-19.
American Federation of Teachers, July 22-27.
American Federation of Government Employees, Aug 5-10.
Carpenters, Aug. 5-10.
AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education, Aug. 12-17.
Clothing & Textile Workers, Aug. 19-24.

In addition, most of the 93 participants in the center's college degree program will be on campus July 29-Aug. 3 for their semi-annual classes winding up their six month courses of study and beginning their programs for the next six months.

More information about labor studies programs is available from Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., executive director, George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Telephone 301/431-6400.

Economic Policy Tilt:

Anti-Inflation Strategy Held Unfair Burden for Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

ically high levels and the nation faces the threat of a recession and substantially higher unemployment."

Oswald told the congressional committees that the AFL-CIO vigorously dissents from the view that the economic situation calls for a slowdown in the economy.

"Low production and unemployment also contribute to inflation," he stressed. "Low production means higher overhead costs." Thus, "full employment and faster economic growth are essential parts of an effective anti-inflation program."

Oswald spelled out the reasons why the AFL-CIO is fighting in court to overturn the Administration's attempt to enforce its "voluntary" guidelines through government contract sanctions at the same time that the federation is calling for enactment of comprehensive economic controls.

The existing guidelines amount to a one-sided wage control program, he said, and a 62-page background paper supplementing the AFL-CIO testimony cited its inequities.

He termed the 7 percent wage control figure "an arbitrary number," unrelated to living costs, productivity gains, comparability with other workers and the profits of employers—all of which normally enter into wage determinations.

With inflation rates well above the wage guideline level, it requires a reduction in real wages, something that no previous wage guideline had required, Oswald pointed out.

During World War II and the Korean War, the AFL-CIO noted, wages were permitted to rise with changes in the cost of living. During the Kennedy era, a wage guideline of 3.2 percent was set when the inflation rate was seven-tenths of 1 percent. And under the Nixon controls, the 5.5 percent wage standard was set when the inflation rate was 4 percent, and an additional amount was allowed for fringe benefit improvements.

But the Carter Administration program sets a rigid limit that places the heaviest burden on lower-income workers "even though the prices of necessities on which they must expend nearly all their meager income are rising at a rate nearly double the allowable wage increase."

In his testimony, Oswald contrasted this attempt to control inflation by focusing on holding down wages with the AFL-CIO's call for comprehensive economic controls covering "all prices and all forms of income—profits, dividends, rents, interest rates, executive compensation, professional fees."

The provisions of such a program, he urged, should be set by Congress. "It should not be a standby grant of broad, unspecific authority to the President."

But the AFL-CIO's anti-inflation proposals are not limited to the call for comprehensive controls, Oswald testified.

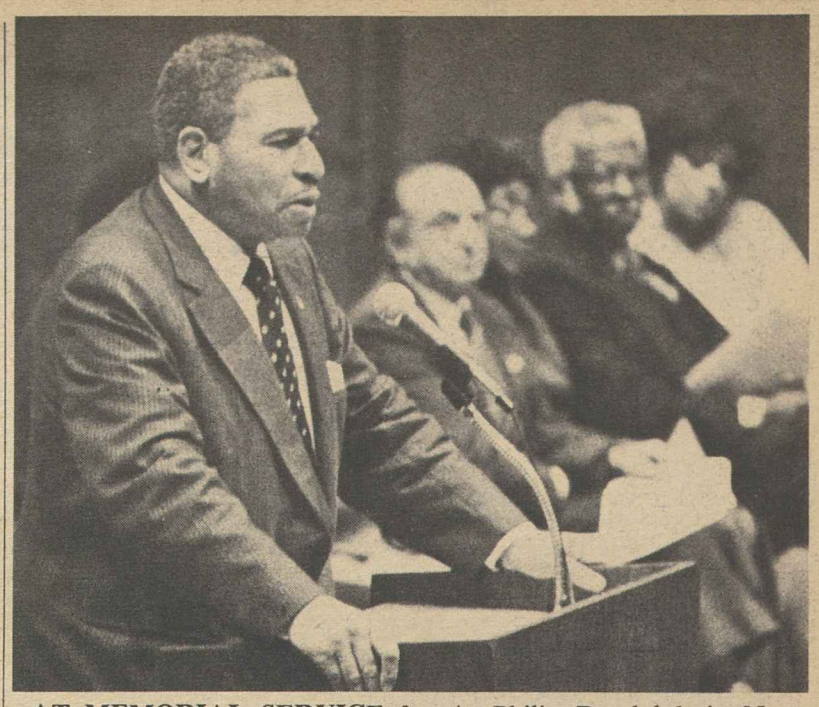
He recited labor's proposals for a food policy encouraging maximum production, for curtailment of food exports when the domestic price is rising, an energy program calling for ceilings on crude oil prices, mandatory conservation measures, and "in the short run, rationing and allocation of gasoline and other fuels."

Oil imports should be handled at the government level, not by private companies, he said, and the United States should encourage development of alternate energy sources and expand support for mass transit systems and passenger railroads.

Medical cost inflation can best be controlled through comprehensive national health insurance, Oswald said. Housing should be aided by interest ceilings, and the Federal Reserve Board should be authorized to "allocate credit at reasonable interest rates where such action will have a significant impact in the anti-inflation fight."

An "important tool" to curb inflation, Oswald suggested, would be an excess profits tax that "would dampen the normal corporate drive to raise prices in order to raise profits" and "equalize the degree of sacrifice expected of all Americans."

The overall goal of the policies the AFL-CIO advocates, he testified, is an economy keyed to expansion, growth and prosperity rather than shortages and recession.



AT MEMORIAL SERVICE for A. Philip Randolph in New York, AFL-CIO Vice President Frederick O'Neal eulogizes the revered civil rights and labor leader. AFL-CIO Regional Director Michael Mann, seated, read a tribute from President George Meany. Randolph died May 16 at the age of 90.

Flint Glass Delegates Set Bargaining Goals

New Orleans—Substantial wage increases to offset the impact of price inflation on earnings topped the list of collective bargaining goals outlined by delegates to the Flint Glass Workers convention here.

Contracts covering most of the 32,000 AFGW members will expire over the next two years, including some 35 agreements for 7,000 workers in the handmade glassware industry that terminate in September. Most of the union's major agreements covering about 25,000 workers in the automatic machine glass products industry expire in fall of 1980.

In addition to wage improvements, the 378 delegates spelled out the need for better pension and health plans, vacations and other fringe benefits.

Negotiations in the handmade glassware industry will be conducted on a plant-by-plant basis, rather than through multi-employer bargaining as had been done in past years.

A major objective in the negotiations will be special wage adjustments for skilled workers, whose differentials have been diluted by across-the-board wage boosts in recent years.

Citing uncertainties in the nation's economy, AFGW President George M. Parker said additional bargaining goals for contracts expiring next year would be formulated by the union's executive board.

Delegates re-elected Parker to his 10th two-year term as president. Also re-elected to new terms were Vice Presidents Robert W. Newell, Eugene F. Bowling and Ben Johnson, Sec.-Treas. Ivan T. Uncapher, Assistant Sec. Lawrence Bankowski and 11 of the 13 international representatives. Two newly elected international representatives are Paul Myers of Local 10 in Moundsville, West Va., and Ernest Inzana of Local 71 in Brockway, Pa.

Worker Protection Held Vital to Canal Measure

Worker protection provisions of the House-passed bill to implement the Panama Canal treaty are essential to the legislation, the AFL-CIO testified at Senate hearings.

At issue are the rights of both U.S. and Panamanian citizens employed by the Panama Canal Commission during the 20-year period before Panama assumes full control over the canal.

AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Kenneth Meiklejohn strongly urged the Senate Armed Services Committee to adopt the more specific labor guarantees of the House bill rather than the Administration proposal which, he said, would leave the rights of workers "in a limbo of great uncertainty and confusion."

Thus, the House bill provides for a representative of labor on the Panama Canal Commission while the Administration bill does not.

The House measure would assure continued application of the Fair Labor Standards Act, labor-management relations procedures "for all employees, without regard to citizenship," early retirement advantages for workers who are displaced or elect to leave, and use of canal toll revenues to fund the employment benefits.

The Administration bill covers some protections "in one form or another," Meiklejohn said, but less explicitly than the House did. And unlike the House bill, it would not give workers in Panama the same collective bargaining rights that civil service employees in the United States have under law.

Meiklejohn noted that AFL-CIO unions representing employees in the Canal Zone consider the worker protection provisions essential to the legislation and supported its passage in the House because it included such safeguards. The Carter Administration, he noted, hailed the House passage of the implementing bill as a significant achievement.

If job protections were weakened he said, unions "would have to give serious consideration to whether we could continue to support and work for the bill."



Stricter Curbs Sought On Foreign Tax Credit

Multinational oil companies shouldn't be allowed to claim any taxes paid to foreign countries as a credit against taxes owed to the United States, the AFL-CIO urged at House hearings.

Research Director Rudy Oswald asked the Ways & Means Committee to go further than the Administration has proposed to end the foreign tax credit loophole.

Labor's position, he testified, is that taxes paid by U.S. corporations to foreign governments and royalties paid by energy companies should be treated as costs of doing business, just as is the case with taxes a company pays to state and local governments.

If that were done, the payments could be deductible from taxable corporate income but not credited on a dollar-for-dollar basis to offset U.S. taxes.

The Administration proposal on oil company payments, Oswald said, merely gets to the fringes of the problem and would recover only a small part of lost revenue.

Oswald said the AFL-CIO wants tax credit and tax deferral windfalls abolished for all U.S. corporations operating overseas. Foreign tax credits, he said, amount to "revenue-sharing" between the U.S. Treasury and foreign governments.

The U.S. policy, he suggested, amounts to turning its taxing authority over to a foreign government with the message, "If you tax the company, we won't, and if you raise your taxes on the company, we'll reduce ours accordingly."

As an example of the abuse of the tax credits now allowed oil companies, Oswald cited a newspaper account that China is considering adopting an oil industry tax to accommodate U.S. multinational companies interested in developing China's petroleum resources.

As an initial step, Oswald urged adoption of provisions of a bill by Rep. Charles A. Vanik (D-Ohio). It would make payments to foreign countries with respect to foreign oil-related income a deductible expense but not a credit and would terminate the "deferral" privilege on oil-related income so that it would be taxed in the year it is earned.

Board Clears Steel Victory At Shipyard

(Continued from Page 1)

Shipbuilders Association, that even if chain voting were not shown, the election should be set aside because of ballots being seen and found in voting booths.

Noting that the court said in its remand that the board "need not conduct an evidentiary hearing on any other objections to the election," Welles concluded that the 4th Circuit had eliminated from consideration the alternative basis for setting aside the election urged by PSA and the company.

In any event, Welles said, "I agree with the Steelworkers' suggestion that someone clever enough to carry out a chain voting scheme . . . without anyone having detected it would hardly be likely to leave the last unmarked ballot in a trash can near a polling place, or anywhere else where it might be found."

Noting that the company earlier had publicly declared that it would abide by the decision of the 4th Circuit Court, McBride said. "We urge Newport News Shipbuilding to honor that commitment."

The yard's refusal to bargain with the union provoked a strike on the one-year anniversary of the election. The walkout came to an end on Apr. 22 pending the outcome of the NLRB review.

McBride pointed out that the strike had greatly speeded up the legal proceeding, and added: "Our union and Newport News Shipbuilding workers are interested not in martyrdom, but in eventually winning a solid contract at the shipyard, and today's ruling is another giant step towards that goal."

1,500 to Be Trained In Garment Trades

A labor-management apparel industry group has been awarded a $1.7 million Labor Dept. contract to train about 1,500 disadvantaged persons as sewing machine operators and in other related jobs.

The program will be conducted in about 50 cities in 17 states by Apparel Job Training & Research Corp., a non-profit group made up of representatives of the Ladies' Garment Workers and manufacturers having bargaining agreements with the ILGWU.

The training will run from six to 26 weeks. Recruiting will be aimed largely at economically disadvantaged persons, women, minorities, youth and recent immigrants with permanent resident status.

Most of the training locations will be centered in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts, but other sites are also located in the South, Midwest and the West.

Conservatives Rebuffed:

House Vote Blocks Cut in OSHA Funds

The House refused to reduce funding for the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, and sent a different message than the one that Rep. Steven D. Symms (R-Ida.) has proposed.

Symms sought to cut $10 million from OSHA's $181.5 million appropriation, which would have pushed the total funds below this year's level.

His purpose, Symms told the House, was to send OSHA "a message to stop harassing the American people" with things like job safety inspections.

By a resounding 270-177 margin, the House rejected his proposal and in effect told OSHA to stay on the job. It was a bigger margin of support than had been mustered on similar issues in recent years.

In another area of special interest to the AFL-CIO, the House rejected without a record vote an attempt by Rep. Robert H. Michel (R-Ill.) to slash funds for 50,000 public service jobs from the appropriations for CETA, the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act. The counter-cyclical public service jobs program, concentrated in areas of high unemployment, is already scheduled to drop from about 300,000 jobs to 200,000 by the end of the next fiscal year.

Representatives William H. Natcher (D-Ky.), floor manager of the appropriations bill, David R. Obey (D-Wis.) and Silvio O. Conte (R-Mass.) were on their feet to defend the program and warn of recession clouds on the horizon, and the proposed $271 million cut was beaten.

On two other issues, however, the labor position did not prevail. The House refused to delete from the bill a provision exempting sand, gravel and limestone operations from the safety training requirements of the Mine Safety & Health Administration. And it rejected a proposal to add $100 million to federal grants for the education of the handicapped.

As it has in past years, the House added to the appropriations bill for the Labor Dept. and the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare a stringent bar on use of federal funds for abortion. In past years, the Senate has adopted a less rigid substitute and compromise language has eventually been approved. An attempt in the House to shortcut the procedure by adopting the language finally agreed to last year was rejected.

Earlier, the House voted overwhelming approval of a labor-supported bill authorizing federal funds for a large-scale, job-creating program for producing synthetic fuels as a partial substitute for oil.

The bill, attached to a Senate-passed measure extending the Defense Production Act, aims at producing the equivalent of 2 million barrels of oil a day by 1990. That would be about 30 percent of the foreign oil now being imoprted to the United States.

The House, however, defeated a labor-endorsed amendment by Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.) that would have barred the eight largest oil companies from participating in the program. Udall's proposal lost, 263-127.

If the bill becomes law, the government would be authorized to spend up to $3 billion to pay producers the difference in cost between the market price for oil and the expected higher cost of producing synthtic fuels. If private industry doesn't build synthetic fuel plants, the government would be authorized to do so itself.

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, the House was debating the windfall profits tax bill, a somewhat stronger measure than President Carter had proposed to keep oil companies from pocketing all of the extra revenue from the phased lifting of controls to let U.S. oil be sold at the artificially high price set by the OPEC international cartel.

In a letter to House members, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged support for amendments that were to be proposed further increasing the windfall tax and asked defeat of attempts to weaken the bill.

Meanwhile, the Senate began debate on a proposed constitutional amendment to abolish the electoral vote system and substitute direct election of the President.

The measure, sponsored by Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), would have to be approved by two-thirds of both the Senate and House in order to be sent to the states for ratification.



FOUR-POINT PROGRAM to curb occupational illness in the construction industry is outlined by the Painters & Allied Trades at House subcommittee hearings. Participating in presentation of the testimony were, from left, Dr. Harry Heimann of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Painters Research Director Francis X. Burkhardt, and safety specialists Rod Wolford and Marilyn Larson.

Welfare Plan Termed Framework for Reform

The AFL-CIO called on Congress to enact a "first step" welfare reform bill to provide "immediate relief" for the nation's poor and to ease the fiscal burden on cities and states.

Inflation is painful to most Americans but devastating to families on welfare, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Robert McGlotten stressed.

McGlotten urged a House Ways & Means subcommittee to use the Administration's recent welfare reform proposal as the framework for interim legislation that can be quickly enacted.

The legislative proposal that President Carter submitted in late May would provide additional income for about 800,000 poor families in states with the lowest welfare benefits and would create an estimated 400,000 subsidized job and job training opportunities for welfare recipients able to work.

It would also enable two-parent families in all states to receive Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) on the basis of need, which McGlotten termed "a welcome but minimal step toward the goal of achieving universal coverage of all needy Americans." At present, 24 states do not provide AFDC to families with both a father and mother living at home.

But McGlotten reminded the panel that "single individuals and childless couples are faced with the same bleak future of fewer jobs and higher food and housing costs as families with children."

McGlotten said the AFL-CIO agrees with the Administration proposal to establish a federal minimum benefit that would lessen the difference in benefits paid by the various states.

But the proposed benefit level of 65 percent of poverty is too low, McGlotten said. He urged the panel to adopt the amendment proposed by a subcommittee member, Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.), which would set the minimum benefit level initially at 70 percent of the poverty level and direct the Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare to report within one year on the feasibility of raising the floor to 100 percent.

Further, McGlotten urged, "strong incentives should also be provided so that the 38 states that now pay higher than the proposed federal minimum will continue to do so," and all families currently receiving benefits should be protected against any reduction in payments.

With such improvements, he urged, the Administration bill should be enacted "not as a substitute, but as a first step toward comprehensive welfare reform."

Painters Ask Campaign on Health Risks

The high rate of occupational illness among construction workers could be reduced through a four-point program to curb job hazards, the Painters & Allied Trades testified before the House subcommittee on Labor Standards.

The Painters' program calls for the implementation of improved product safety and health measures, complete labelling information, jobsite monitoring, and nationwide certification of painters and allied craftsmen.

IBPAT Research Director Francis X. Burkhardt told the panel that work-related illnesses are a special concern of painters, noting that their life expectancy is 11 years less than the average U.S. citizen.

He said, however, that the Painters recognize that the problem of curbing hazards in the highly competitive construction industry is compounded by the installation of engineering controls at temporary worksites.

The four key steps outlined by Burkhardt are :

- Mandatory, across-the-board labelling regulations to require three complete categories of information on all products used on the job, including ingredients, harmful effects and proper control measures—especially personal protective equipment.
- Strengthening of product testing and control requirements under the Toxic Substances Control Act.
- Monitoring temporary worksites to correct the chronic lack of attention to industrial hygiene in the construction industry.
- Certification of all painters and related trades workers across the country in an effort to provide uniform medical surveillance to meet requirements of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

Burkhardt stressed in the testimony that federal standards are essential in the construction industry to offset the bias against union contractors.

"Only by making health and safety requirements such as these part of the total package can the contractor who wishes to safeguard the well-being of his workers do so and still compete on an equal footing with those who do not," he said.

Meany Hails Solidarity Of Civil Rights Alliance

Louisville, Ky.—Much remains to be done in the struggle to achieve social and economic justice for all Americans, AFL-CIO President George Meany said in a message to the NAACP's 70th annual convention.

He noted in a letter to NAACP Executive Director Benjamin L. Hooks that progress has been made in the past 25 years toward racial justice through the cooperative efforts of the labor-civil rights coalition.

"Working together, the labor movement and the civil rights movement have largely succeeded in wiping out the legal and legislative sanctions that perpetuated injustice," Meany observed.

"But we are painfully aware of how much remains to be done to secure equal, quality education for all our children and to secure equal rights, equal opportunity and a decent measure of economic justice for Americans of both sexes and all races.

"The AFL-CIO remains fully dedicated to achieving these goals," Meany declared. "We are convinced that no more effective instrument exists for pursuing them than the mutual understanding and unity of purpose that have been forged between the leaders and members of the AFL-CIO and the NAACP."

He said the coordinated efforts of the two organizations in voter registration and voter education campaigns have become a vital force for social and political change. "And we intend to do all we can to make them more effective."

Warning that the progress workers and minorities have made "is menaced by a revival of reactionary forces ranging from the Ku Klux Klan to 'Proposition 13' evangelists to professional union busters," Meany said it's essential that "we present a united front against those who would tear down the social and economic programs designed to move America ahead."

He said the AFL-CIO and NAACP must jointly continue the fight against bigotry while stepping up the fight against the dismantling of educational and social programs.

"We have to work together for job-creating programs aimed at full employment and equal opportunity for all," Meany declared.

"Together, we can do much that neither organization could ever do alone. I have every confidence that in the future, as in the past, our two organizations will unite in the struggle to make the American dream of justice and equality a reality."

ALEA Gains First Allegheny Contract

Chicago—The Air Line Employees Association reached agreement on a three-year contract with Allegheny Airlines, its first since the carrier's employees voted to join the union last summer.

ALEA President Victor J. Herbert said the contract will pay wages topping out at $1,908 a month in January 1981, a figure which may be increased later that year through a cost-of-living escalator provision. The pact is retroactive to July 1, 1978.

The agreement, covering 700 fleet service employees in Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Philadelphia, and Boston, also improves working conditions, including guaranteed elimination of split shifts.



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Bold U.S. Action Pressed To Meet Oil Price Threat



TENTATIVE AGREEMENT has been reached between General Electric Co. and 13 unions represented in the negotiations by the Coordinated Bargaining Commtitee of GE-Westinghouse Unions. Discussing a report on the talks in New York is the steering committee of the union coalition, with Chairman John Shambo of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers seated at the head of the table.

Guideline Issue Left Unsettled

The Supreme Court's decision not to hear the AFL-CIO's arguments challenging the constitutionality of the Administration's wage and price guidelines "leaves the program's validity unsettled," Federation President George Meany declared.

As a result, each company and union engaged in collective bargaining will have to make an individual judgment on what steps to take in their negotiations, Meany said.

"The inconclusive end of the litigation has not shaken our belief on the legal issue, which may yet be determined by legal actions in other cases," he pointed out. "But every day that passes confirms all too starkly the ineffectiveness and unfairness of the President's program.

"That's why we continue to believe that the most equitable, most effective way to halt inflation is through a legislated, mandatory, across-the-board system of controls on the cost of everything and the income of everybody."

The court's denial of the federation's petition for review of a June 22 ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia upholding the Carter Administration's right to deny federal contracts to firms that exceed the President's wage control program came in a 6 to 3 vote.

Justices William Brennan, Byron White and Thurgood Marshall voted to consider the AFL-CIO appeal challenging the Administration's enforcement power, but four votes are needed to add a case to the Supreme Court's calendar. The decision not to hear the case was announced on the last day of the court's regular term before adjourning for the summer.

In refusing to hear labor's appeal, the court did not rule on the merits of the argument or state its reasons for turning down the petition.

The AFL-CIO's contention is that, besides interfering with collective bargaining, the government's guideline program is unconstitutional because its threat to withhold federal contracts exceeding $5 million to firms found to be violating its wage and price standards makes the program mandatory instead of voluntary.

A federal district judge agreed with labor that the President had usurped powers reserved to Congress by making the program mandatory but his finding was overturned in the appeals court, which ruled that Carter had the authority

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Meany Says Hike Perils Economy

Sharp increases in the price of oil by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) this year will fuel the fires of inflation and increase the likelihood of a recession, the AFL-CIO warned as it outlined recommendations to meet the challenge.

"Energy is the most important single factor in the nation's inflationary spiral," Federation President George Meany said. "It is also a major factor in the country's economic health.

"The more than 50 percent increase in oil prices instituted in 1979 by OPEC and its continuing control of oil production underscore the need for immediate and bold action by the United States to achieve a measure of energy security.

"The nation must begin now the process of liberating itself from its dependence on oil imports at monopoly prices from insecure foreign sources."

Meany's warning was accompanied by a four-point proposal to alleviate the energy crisis that has already severely curtailed gasoline supplies and sent pump prices skyrocketing to a dollar or more a gallon.

President Carter, returning home from a seven-nation economic summit meeting in Tokyo, for the first time conceded that a national recession—rather than simply an economic slowdown—is a definite possibility this year.

"I think the OPEC decisions will make a recession much more likely than it was before," the President said, citing the oil cartel's latest price increase. He warned that this year's OPEC price increases could add 2.5 percentage points to the

(Continued on Page 8)

Coordinated Bargaining:

GE Agreement Sets Pattern for 120,000

New York—A coalition of unions headed by the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers won tentative agreement from the General Electric Co. on new three-year contracts that will raise the wages of some 120,000 workers by $2 an hour and provide considerable improvements in fringe benefits.

The settlement, which was reached on July 1 hours after the company's old contracts with the union expired, includes an enriched cost-of-living provision, greater pension benefits, establishment of a dental plan, and a breakthrough in union security.

IUE President David J. Fitzmaurice and John Shambo, chairman of the coalition's steering committee and chief IUE negotiator, called the agreement "excellent," especially under current economic conditions.

"The cost-of-living protection we won will give GE workers the protection they need against inflation in the next three years," they said.

Thirteen unions, organized as the Coordinated Bargaining Committee of GE-Westinghouse Unions, participated in the talks. IUE, which represents about 68,000 workers, and the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers, which represents 17,000, are the two major unions involved and the only ones negotiating national contracts. The 11 other unions, representing approximately 35,000 workers, negotiate numerous local agreements based on the national pattern.

The IUE pact is subject to the approval of rank-and-file members. The IUE-GE Conference Board recommended acceptance, as did the CBC, and voting on the contracts is scheduled to be completed by July 10.

Under the settlement, workers would receive an immediate pay increase of 50 cents an hour. The sum represents a 12-cent general wage increase plus a 38-cent roll-in of living cost increases since last October. Another general wage boost of 17.5 cents an hour would kick in on June 30, 1980, and a

(Continued on Page 2)

Labor Fights Busing Ban Amendment

The AFL-CIO has asked its state and city central bodies to help rally opposition to a proposed constitutional amendment that would prohibit busing as a means of achieving school desegregation.

A House vote on the proposed amendment is scheduled for July 24, and the AFL-CIO is working with the civil rights coalition to stop it from getting the required two-thirds majority. A constitutional change must be approved by two-thirds of the House and Senate before being submitted to the states for ratification.

The anti-busing amendment, introduced by Rep. Ronald Mottl (D-Ohio), would bar assignment of a student to a school other than the closest to his home. It had been referred to the House Judiciary

(Continued on Page 3)

Jobless Rate of 5.6% Reflects Youth Shifts

A drop in teen-age joblessness lowered the nation's unemployment rate to 5.6 percent in June, down from the 5.8 percent rate where it had been stuck the two previous months.

The June decline, which brought the jobless rate to its lowest level in nearly five years, was attributed entirely to the seasonally adjusted teen-age statistic. It meant, government analysts said, either that teenagers had more success finding jobs when they got out of school this year, or that fewer of them were actively in the job market.

Only persons seeking employment are counted in the workforce and considered as unemployed.

But the adult unemployment rate was virtually unchanged and the Administration's economic forecast is still for a rise in unemployment later this year.

Black unemployment, at 11.3 percent, was still more than twice the white rate of 4.9 percent. Adult men had 3.9 percent joblessness and adult women had a 5.8 percent rate.

A sign of concern was an increase of 100,000—to 825,000—in the number of "discouraged workers" during the April-June quarter. These are people who have given up looking for work and are not counted as unemployed. It was the first rise in the total in two years.

House Votes to Ease Windfall Profits Tax

The House passed a windfall profits tax that was much more to the liking of the oil companies than the legislation proposed by the Ways & Means Committee.

In a double setback to the AFL-CIO position, the House adopted an amendment lowering the windfall tax rate and defeated a labor-supported amendment to apply the tax to a greater percentage of "old oil" from wells already in production.

President Carter's phaseout of controls allows the price of domestic oil to rise steadily to the artificially high "world price" set by the oil-exporting OPEC nations.

High consumer costs for fuel and energy are supposed to curtail consumption and the opportunity for enormously high profits is supposedly an "incentive" to increase production.

Carter initially proposed what he termed a 50 percent windfall profits tax, to be used to relieve some of the distress that the higher consumer prices would cause. Actually,

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NAACP Cites Meany With Wilkins Award

Louisville, Ky.—The NAACP has honored George Meany with its Roy Wilkins Award in recognition of the AFL-CIO president's "dedication and meritorious service . . . to the principles, ideals and objectives of the NAACP."

The award was accepted by Federation Vice President Frederick O'Neal at a labor luncheon during the civil rights organization's 70th annual convention here. An NAACP Wilkins award was also presented to William H. Oliver, director of the UAW's Fair Practices Dept.

Recipients of other NAACP awards included the Philadelphia Joint Board of the Ladies' Garment Workers and Earl C. Robinson, assistant director of the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League.

President Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. was the keynote speaker at the awards luncheon, and Joann C. Riggs of the Government Employees served as luncheon chairman.

William E. Pollard, AFL-CIO director of civil rights, was chairman of a labor workshop session on affirmative action during the convention.

Convention resolutions adopted by delegates expressed support for retention of the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage act, ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and opposition to the establishment of a separate U.S. Dept. of Education.

O'Neal, president of the Actors & Artistes, is a founder of the Mid-Manhattan branch of the NAACP. Pollard serves on the NAACP's national board.



ROY WILKINS AWARD of the NAACP honoring AFL-CIO President George Meany is accepted by Federation Vice President Frederick O'Neal at the civil rights organization's convention in Louisville, Ky. Thomas Turner, right, president of the Detroit AFL-CIO, makes the presentation.

GE Agreement Sets Pattern for 120,000

(Continued from Page 1)

third pay raise of 15 cents an hour would start on June 29, 1981.

In addition, cost-of-living adjustments would be made semiannually —instead of annually as under the previous contracts—at the rate of one cent an hour for each rise of two-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index. Under the old contracts, the COL formula provided one-cent increases for each three-tenths of 1 percent rise in the CPI.

There would be no ceiling, or "cap," on cost-of-living payments, and a stipulation in the old contracts that omitted adjustments for inflation increases between 7 and 9 percent was eliminated.

IUE negotiators estimated that, based on a forecast of 12 percent inflation this year, 10 percent in the second contract year and 9 percent in the third, hourly wages—including cost-of-living adjustments —would rise by $1.99 over the life of the agreement. GE hourly workers currently earn an average of $6.74 an hour.

The giant electrical manufacturer agreed to expand life and medical-care insurance for retired workers and to provide for a new drug prescription plan under which a pensioner would pay the first $2 and the company the next $5.

The company also agreed to modify the maintenance of membership provision to allow union members to withdraw from a bargaining unit only during a specified 10-day period near the end of the contract. Previously, the union security clause permitted workers, once they had joined the union, to resign in any year of the contract during a specified 10-day period.

In the area of pensions, minimum monthly benefits were raised from a range of $8 to $12 per year of service under the old contract to a $10-$15 range, depending on annual earnings. Also, GE agreed to worker eligibility for a full pension at age 60 instead of 62.

Other improvements include three weeks of vacation after seven years, rather than 10 years, of service; an increase from 14 cents a mile to 17 cents for use of a personal automobile in company service, and establishment of an employee stock ownership plan.

GE and the unions began negotiations May 1. Bargaining between the CBC and Westinghouse, meanwhile, is continuing in Pittsburgh. Contracts covering about 50,000 Westinghouse workers expire on July 15.

AFL-CIO unions that make up the CBC are the IUE, Machinists, Steelworkers, Sheet Metal Workers, Allied Industrial Workers, Flint Glass Workers, Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, Firemen & Oilers, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the Carpenters. Unaffiliated unions are the UE, Teamsters, and the UAW.

Publisher Attacks Cited:

Union Unity Pushed By Newspaper Guild

Boston—The newspaper and magazine industries are enjoying record financial health while simultaneously mounting unprecedented resistance to efforts to bargain a fair share for their employees, the opening session of the Newspaper Guild's 46th annual convention was told.

This situation continues to provoke confrontation between management and the Guild and leaves the union and its members no choice but to move with all possible speed to increase the union's strength, Guild officers declared.

International Chairman Harry S. Culver and President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., issued the call as they pledged to continue efforts for a merger between the Guild and the International Typographical Union and urged delegates to approve an increase in the defense fund of 150 percent, to $5 million, and in strike benefits to $100 a week.

The newspaper industry—the third largest employer in the United States—expects revenues of $16.6 billion this year, up 12 percent from 1978, which was up 12 percent from 1977, Culver noted.

Public newspaper companies made 9.5 percent after taxes on sales last year, he pointed out.

And as the industry's profits have risen, "so has the incentive for the giants of the industry to become larger," he added, pointing out that 46 of the 53 dailies that changed hands last year went into chains.

Chains now control 75 percent of all U.S. daily newspaper circulation, with the 20 largest controlling 52 percent.

"There is a line beyond which domination of the U.S. press by fewer and fewer media conglomerates threatens to stifle the very freedom and diversity protected by the First Amendment" and "that line is rapidly being approached," Culver said.

With this, he continued, has come not only tough wage bargaining "but an obviously concerted attempt by publishers to take away bargaining gains of the past 40 years . . . a climate that resulted in more than 6,000 Guild members striking or being locked out last year" in such places as Vancouver, New York, Montreal, St. Louis and Baltimore. The strikes and lockouts cost the Guild's defense fund $5.4 million in benefits, much of it borrowed from the UAW, Steelworkers, Machinists, the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. and the Amalgamated Bank of New York.

Perlik, outlining the progress of merger negotiations with the ITU, said there is hope they can be wrapped up in time for the ITU's convention in late August.

"If we succeed . . . we are prepared to call a special Guild convention to act on merger before the end of the year," he said.

Both unions' memberships would then act on the proposal in referenda.

Pennsylvania Unions Hit Right-Wing Attacks

Philadelphia—Nearly 2,000 delegates to the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO convention adopted a program keyed to defending progressive state and federal laws against right-wing attempts to turn the clock back.

During the four-day convention, speeches by public officials and union leaders were interspersed by action on more than 150 resolutions.

The convention reiterated labor's commitment to the Davis-Bacon Act and delegates applauded a statement by Sen. John H. Heinz (R-Pa.) that the prevailing wage law for construction projects has served the nation well and "should be kept on the books."

Likewise, resolutions denouncing attempts to outlaw the union shop through "right-to-work" laws and to weaken state unemployment insurance and workers compensation programs were acknowledged by Gov. Richard Thornburgh when he addressed the convention.

The governor told the delegates that he wants no part of "right-to-work" legislation, adding: "Your right to bargain collectively and strike, if you must, will be honored and defended."

Delegates pledged full support to the continuing strike of Wilkes-Barre newspaper unions, asked full political rights for all public employees, and called for a state legislature investigation into what the resolution termed "industrial manslaughter."

On the national level, the convention reiterated the need for federal labor law reform, opposed oil deregulation, voiced strong opposition to the proposed constitutional amendment to limit spending, and expressed concern at continuing job threats from imports.

A warning by national COPE Director Al Barkan of the threat from an alliance between the business community and the "new right" was followed by a series of resolutions aimed at strengthening labor's COPE program in the state.

At this year's convention, the State AFL-CIO gave its coveted "Good Citizen of the Year Award" to a prominent Pennsylvanian who came out of the trade union movement.

The award went to Michael Johnson, now a fulltime member of Pennsylvania's Public Utilities Commission, but for 14 years until 1976 the executive vice president of the state federation.

Pennsylvania AFL-CIO President Harry Boyer told the delegates that the award was an acknowledgement of Johnson's lifelong participation in "a never-ending battle for working people in this state" and for his dedication to humanitarian principles.

Johnson pledged to use "the time and energy remaining to me" to fight with the trade union movement all who would "abuse and destroy the rights of working men and women."

A vacancy on the State AFL-CIO executive council was filled by the election of Daniel Coffman of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union. Terms of other officers were not up this year.

Fiduciary Guides Issued For Pension Managers

The 1974 pension reform law was not intended to discourage investment of pension funds in small business or new firms, the Labor Dept. said in issuing final regulations on fiduciary responsibility under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

The regulations, which take effect July 23, were modified to allow pension fund managers to make such investments while conforming to ERISA's "prudence" rule.

Under ERISA's prudence doctrine, the risk level of an investment does not make it necessarily prudent or imprudent, and the investment should be weighed in terms of the role it plays in the overall pension portfolio, the Labor Dept. said.

Ian D. Lanoff, administrator of the Labor Dept.'s pension and welfare benefit programs, noted that although securities issued by a small business or a new company may be riskier than those of a "blue chip" corporation, investment in the small company "may be entirely proper under the act's 'prudence' rule."

The regulations also cite a number of factors that pension fund fiduciaries should consider in making investments. They include:

- The composition of the portfolio with regard to diversification.
- The liquidity and current return of the portfolio relative to the anticipated cash flow requirement of the plan.
- The projected return of the portfolio and its ability to meet the objectives of the plan.

Rubber Union Resumes Talks At Goodyear

Akron—The Rubber Workers are scheduled to resume talks with the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., on July 9 as they seek to wind up this year's round of negotiations with the industry.

The talks, which were recessed 10 days ago, will be held in Dayton. The company is the largest of the Big Four rubber firms with which the union bargains, employing about 22,000 URW members.

The union already has concluded new national contracts with B. F. Goodrich covering some 9,600 workers; Uniroyal Inc., about 8,300 workers, and Firestone, 16,000 workers.

The agreements with the three companies provide for substantial wage increases, improved cost-of-living protection, increased job security, and greater retirement benefits.

Robert Harris Heads Rail Mediation Board

Robert O. Harris has been designated chairman of the National Mediation Board for a one-year term, effective July 1.

By statute, the board selects its own chairman. Harris, a member of the board since August 1977, succeeds David H. Stowe.

The three-member board mediates labor disputes in the airline and railroad industries under the Railway Labor Act.

Million-Member Target:

Teachers Mobilize To Double Ranks

San Francisco—"A million or more in '84" is the slogan guiding the American Federation of Teachers annual convention as delegates representing a record 520,000 members began deliberations on constitutional changes and resolutions that will guide the union during the coming year.

The membership goal of 1 million was highlighted by AFT President Albert Shanker in his keynote address that included an all-out attack on proposed school voucher systems and the creation of a separate federal department of education. He pledged to "use every resource" of the AFT to defeat the voucher plan and said it would be "the fight of the century."

Shanker noted that the voucher plan, which is being pushed in California, is advanced by those who call it an experiment that will not affect public schools.

He said the pro-voucher forces "like to lull people into believing that there will always be public schools" they can return to if they don't like the private school education their voucher money has brought.

"But it isn't true. As pupils in the public schools leave, public school buildings and supplies will be sold to the new moneymaking entrepreneurs of the voucher schools—and there won't be public schools to return to."

Shanker was equally critical of the proposal now before Congress to separate education out of the present federal Dept. of Health Education & Welfare. He blasted the National Education Association for its all-out lobbying for the scheme, declaring:

"At a time when public education is under serious attack, when enrollments are declining and the base of support for education narrowing, NEA has made it its number one priority to set education apart from its natural health and welfare allies in the largest government department—so that in the years to come, education will have a smaller and smaller constituency and fewer and fewer allies."

Vice President Walter Mondale was the convention's opening day featured speaker. While skirting the issue of a separate Dept. of Education, Mondale recited the record of the Carter Administration in the area of education and contrasted it with the eight years of the previous Nixon-Ford Administrations when education appropriations were vetoed five times. Mondale, who served in the U.S. Senate during those years, recalled that "if we overrode those vetoes, funds were impounded and support for education at the federal level was reduced."

"We pledged to turn those policies around," he said of the Carter Administration. "We've done our job. No administration has done a better job for education," he said, listing such programs as increased funding for Title I, Head Start, bilingual education programs, and aid to handicapped students.

California Supt. of Schools Wilson Riles added his voice to opponents of the voucher system and to Proposition 13-type tax measures that take a meat-axe approach to cutting public services. He said that in California there has been a 10 percent reduction in operating funds for schools since passage of Proposition 13.

Soviet dissident Alexander Ginzburg, who recently came to the United States in a prisoner exchange, told the delegates of the plight of Russian teachers who are active in that country's human rights movement.

"Dozens of teachers are in prison and thousands are deprived of work and the right to teach, simply because they listened to their own conscience, while they were occupying their official positions as teachers," Ginzburg said.

"No other people find themselves in such a morally difficult situation as Soviet teachers. The government has imposed on them the obligation to transform the child into the Soviet man, homo soveticus."

The delegates voted overwhelmingly in favor of increases in monthly per capita pavments to the national union of 35 cents as of Sept. 1, 1979, and an additional 35 cents on Sept. 1, 1980. The current monthly per capita payment is $2.90.

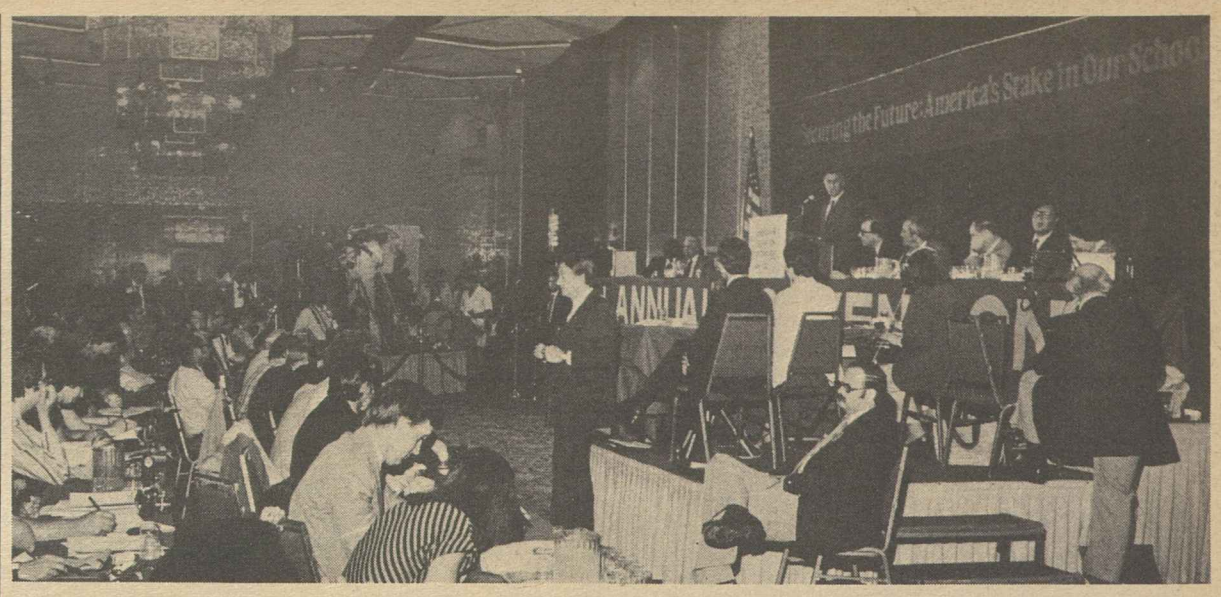
The extra funds will be used to meet increased costs and to carry on an aggressive organizing campaign which added 17,500 members during the last year despite the effects of declining enrollments and the wave of Proposition 13 tax limitation amendments. The union has tripled in size since 1959.

Much of the gain has taken place in the higher education field, where the AFT now represents more members than the other two major organizations combined.

Harry Conn Heads Histadrut D.C. Office

Harry Conn, executive editor of Press Associates, Inc., has been named Washington representative for the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut.

Conn, a veteran trade unionist and labor journalist, commented: "Histadrut is the only free trade union movement in the Middle East and I believe that every worker in the United States has a vested interest in seeing that it continues to thrive as it approaches its 60th anniversary year."



EDUCATION PROGRAMS have been vastly improved since the Nixon-Ford years because of the Carter Administration's efforts to boost federal appropriations, Vice President Walter F. Mondale said in addressing delegates to the Teachers convention in San Francisco.

Labor Fights Amendment to Ban Busing

(Continued from Page 1)

Committee, but Mottl succeeded in getting the 218 signatures—a majority of the House—needed to bypass the committee and bring the measure directly to the floor.

A memo from the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights said adoption of the amendment would "trivialize the Constitution" and tie the hands of the courts in correcting injustices. If sent to the states for ratification, "communities that have made their peace with school desegregation would be torn apart again and state legislatures would be embroiled in controversy."

The letter to AFL-CIO central bodies, signed by three federation department heads, termed the House vote "critical" and called on central bodies to cooperate with civil rights groups in their communities in urging House members to vote against the amendment. It was signed by Legislative Director Kenneth Young, Civil Rights Director William Pollard and Alan Kistler, director of the Dept. of Organization & Field Services.

Apart from the damage the amendment itself would cause, the letter noted, its adoption would spur efforts by "other single-issue groups" to change the Constitution.

Pay, Benefit Gains Won In Paper Industry Pacts

The Paperworkers ratified new contracts with two major paper producers—International Paper Co. and Brown Co.—providing substantial wage and fringe benefits for a total of 8,500 workers.

The union's agreement with International covers some 7,000 workers at eight southern paper mills while its settlement with Brown involves 1,500 employees. The pact with Brown ended a week-long strike at the company's two Berlin, N.H., plants.

UPIU President Wayne E. Glenn said that the four-year contract with International Paper will provide annual wage increases of 10, 8, 4 and 4 percent. The contract is retroactive to June 1.

In addition, the agreement calls for a first cost-of-living provision in the third and fourth years. Adjustments will be made quarterly at the rate of one cent an hour for each rise of two-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index, with annual fold-ins.

The pact also gives UPIU members a 12th paid holiday, a larger company contribution toward hospitalization insurance, a new dental plan, reduction in the service requirement from 15 to 14 years for four weeks of vacation and from 20 to 18 years for five weeks, and eligibility for full retirement at 61 years of age instead of 65.

The UPIU members are employed at International's two plants in Bastrop, La., and at its facilities in Mobile, Ala., Georgetown, S.C., Pine Bluff and Camden, Ark., and Moss Point and Natchez, Miss.

A similar agreement was ratified separately by some 1,000 members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers employed by the company.

The two-year UPIU agreement with Brown Co., the largest employer in northern New Hampshire, provides for annual increases of 10 percent each year totaling $1.60 an hour.

Other contract improvements include higher pension benefits, increased shift differentials, greater hospitalization and life insurance benefits with full payment by the company, and an additional paid holiday.

The strike at Brown was the first in 21 years.

House Votes to Ease Windfall Profits Tax

(Continued from Page 1)

because of numerous exclusions and exemptions, the effective tax rate would have been much lower. But using the 50 percent figure for comparison, the Ways & Means Committee bill set a 70 percent windfall tax rate, and the version the House passed set a 60 percent rate.

The Ways & Means Committee had stiffened the Administration bill after industry profit data showed the big oil companies with astronomical gains over previous years. And even as the House was debating the bill, a new OPEC price rise added additional billions to the potential profits of the oil companies from decontrol—and to the added cost to consumers.

Over the five-year decontrol period, the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation now estimates that the House-passed bill would recoup less than half of the $82 billion in windfall revenues oil producers would receive after payment of all other federal and state taxes.

The government would take about $40 billion through the windfall tax, leaving the companies with an additional $42 billion in clear profit. The tax would be put in a special fund and used for purposes to be specified in future legislation.

A 236-183 majority of the House voted to reduce the windfall tax rate from the committee bill. The amendment, which would allow oil companies to pocket an additional $8.8 billion by one estimate, was sponsored by two oil state congressmen—Republican W. Henson Moore of Louisiana and Democrat James R. Jones of Oklahoma.

The labor-supported amendment, by James M. Shannon (D-Mass.) and Richard A. Gephardt (D-Mo.), would have reduced the rate at which old oil that had been profitably sold for a fraction of the OPEC price, would be exempt from the windfall tax. It would have recouped several billion of dollars in revenue, but the amendment was beaten, 241-172.

On the plus side, the House rejected a Republican motion that would have allowed oil companies to escape almost all windfall taxes by giving them a tax credit of 75 cents for each dollar they "plowed back" into oil production or energy projects. The GOP motion was beaten, 229-186, and the bill was sent to the Senate by voice vote.

In the Senate, the first hurdle is the Finance Committee, where Russell B. Long (D-La.), an oil industry ally, is the chairman.

One of the arguments for a stronger House bill was that the Senate, under Long's influence, was likely to water down anything the House passed. In an unusual rebuttal to that argument, Long maintained in a letter that was read to the House that the "mood" of the Senate when it considers the bill might result in an even stiffer tax than the House voted.

The Administration proposal and the Ways & Means Committee bill would have made a portion of the windfall tax permanent, with the amount depending on future OPEC price increases. But the Moore-Jones substitute adopted by the House would end all windfall taxes by 1990.

James A. Auerbach Joins Education Staff

James A. Auerbach, who has been president of the New Jersey State Federation of Teachers for the past five years, has been appointed to the staff of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education.

Auerbach also was president of the Somerset County Central Labor Council and served on the advisory council of Rutgers University's Institute of Management & Labor Relations. He taught at Somerset County College before becoming state AFT president.

House Delays Ending Curbs On Rhodesia

The House overwhelmingly approved a labor-endorsed compromise bill that would postpone a final decision on lifting economic sanctions against Zimbabwe-Rhodesia until Oct. 15.

On that date, under the House bill, sanctions will be ended unless the President determines that it would not be in the national interest of the United States to do so. By contrast, a Senate-passed bill that President Carter said he would veto, would compel immediate lifting of sanctions.

The House rejected by a 242-147 vote an amendment that would have compelled lifting of sanctions this year and then approved the bipartisan measure drawn up by its Foreign Affairs Committee by a 350-37 vote.

In a letter to President Carter last month, AFL-CIO President George Meany said the elections last April marked "the beginning of progress" but urged that sanctions be continued until there has been greater movement "toward majority rule and the establishment of democratic rights."

Meeting the OPEC Challenge

THE MORE THAN 50 PERCENT increase in oil prices instituted in 1979 by OPEC and its continuing control of oil production underscore the need for immediate and bold action by the United States to achieve a measure of energy security.

The nation must begin now the process of liberating itself from its dependence on oil imports at monopoly prices from insecure foreign sources.

Energy is the most important single factor in the nation's inflationary spiral. It is also a major factor in the country's economic health. The 1979 OPEC price increases will undoubtedly fuel the inflationary fires and increase the likelihood of a recession, enlarge its depth and result in mounting unemployment.

We urge that the United States take the following steps:

1. Take over the importation of oil and deal with oil producing and exporting countries on a nation-to-nation basis. The government should determine the amount of oil to be imported, negotiate its price and provide for its domestic allocation. Clearly, the oil monopolies have no incentive to deal effectively with OPEC. Obviously they are concerned mainly with their own well-being rather than with the national interest.

2. ESTABLISH A multi-billion dollar National Energy Authority that would provide direct loans, loan guarantees and other financial assistance to private industry and public bodies that are unable to secure capital for the development of new and additional energy sources and for the development of conservation measures.

Among the more promising of the alternative energy sources are solar, nuclear, coal and the synthetic fuels produced from agricultural products, waste matter, coal, shale, etc. The Authority also should be empowered to develop and launch projects of its own, patterned after the TVA concept, as well as approving the kind of investments that are in the national interest.

It is our belief that the oil monopoly should not be entrusted with decision-making on energy investments affecting the public welfare.

3. Institute a fair and equitable system of gasoline rationing with special consideration for work-related use. Only rationing, unpleasant as it may be, can bring a semblance of order to the chaotic situation that now exists.

4. Prohibit the export of Alaskan oil and increase the production of Alaskan oil as a part of the nation's effort to achieve energy security.

These are the kind of steps that the United States can and must take. At the same time it is incumbent upon the consuming industrial democracies of the world to band together to meet the challenge posed by OPEC and adopt a unified approach to remove the economic threat of the monopoly control of oil production and price.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany.

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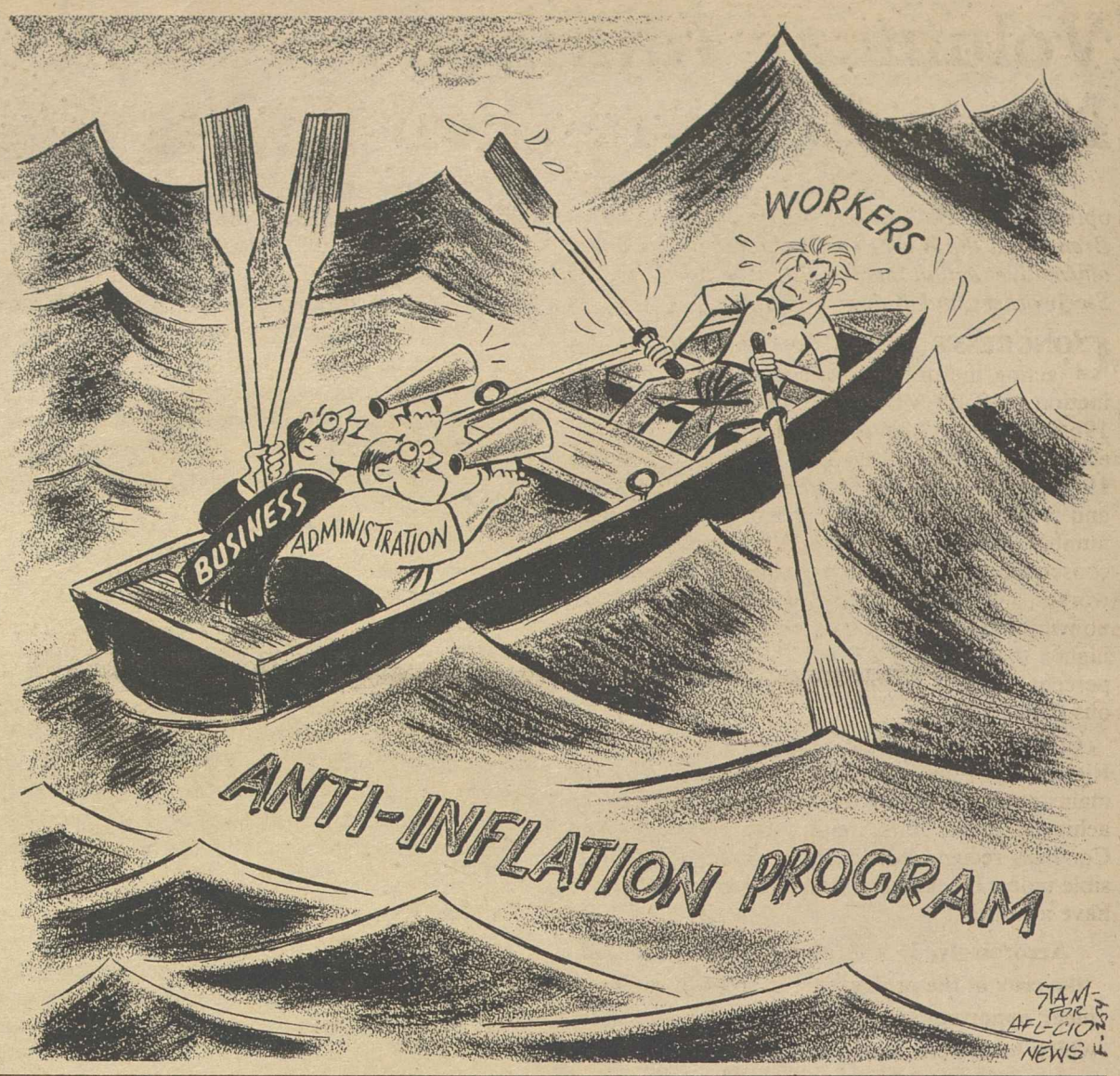
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'Keep Rowing!'



Conservatives, Minorities:

Odd Couple Lined Up Against Direct Election of President

By Gus Tyler

IT'S AN ODD COUPLE that opposes Sen. Birch Bayh's proposal for the direct election of the President of the United States. The nay-sayers are southerners, who fear that their conservative power would be threatened, and northern minorities (black and Jewish), who fear that their liberal influence would be endangered.

Sen. Bayh has been trying for many years to reform the way in which we elect the President to make certain that the man who gets the most votes will end up in the White House. Under our present electoral college system the man with the most votes on Election Day is not necessarily the winner.

In 1970, Bayh's proposal to elect a President in the same democratic way that we now elect governors and senators was killed by a filibuster. The House of Representatives voted for the plan by a walloping 338 to 70. But in the Senate, it was filibustered to death by senators from Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Nebraska, Arizona and Florida.

The South had good reason to favor the present system because it favors them. States with small populations have an advantage because each state, regardless of size, gets the same two electoral votes for the two senators.

In addition, in many of these small states, voting participation continues to be low, especially in the black districts. But, since the electoral vote is based on population and not on voters, a small turnout can decide the outcome for the whole bloc.

How, then, do northern minorities (Jewish and black) reach a conclusion that the present system favors them?

They believe that their "minority" influence can tip the scales in those large states that have huge blocs of electoral votes. If any of these states goes for a presidential candidate by even a single vote, the whole electoral college vote of the entire state goes to the winner.

In practice, however, the calculations of the northern minorities have been illusory. In close national elections—and these are the only ones that are worth considering since in a landslide the whole country goes one way anyhow—the big populous states where the Jewish and black vote is allegedly decisive are invariably divided against one another. Consistently, in this century, when the nation is closely divided, the eight most populous states are so split that they cancel one another.

The reason for this is that these big states are not homogeneous. They are industrial, agricultural, big city, suburban, small town, Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, black and white. They are, therefore, "swing" states that in a squeaker election have always balanced out—effectively negating minority influence totally.

In 1970, Bayh was defeated solely by a southern filibuster. As things are shaping up now, he has to face a quaint coalition of his traditional foes backed up by their traditional foes.

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Guideline Sanctions Far From Settled

The Supreme Court's determination not to hear the AFL-CIO's challenge to the program "requiring compliance" by government contractors and their employees with what the President has termed "voluntary" wage and price standards leaves the program's validity unsettled.

Each of the companies and unions that are engaged in collective bargaining will have to make an individual judgment on what steps to take.

The AFL-CIO brought this suit in the belief that the President's program has not, as the Constitution requires, been authorized by Congress and with the knowledge that the program is ineffective and inequitable.

Proof of its ineffectiveness is that prices are rising faster than ever. Evidence of its inequity is that workers' real wages continue to go down.

Every day that passes confirms all too starkly the ineffectiveness and unfairness of the President's program. That's why we continue to believe that the most equitable, most effective way to halt inflation is through a legislated, mandatory, across-the-board system of controls on the cost of everything and the income of everybody.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany.

Supreme Court Decision:

Voluntary Affirmative Action Meets Goals of Civil Rights Act

The following is excerpted from the majority opinion by U.S. Supreme Court Justice William Brennan in the Weber case upholding a voluntary affirmative action agreement negotiated by the Steelworkers and Kaiser Aluminum.

CONGRESS'S PRIMARY CONCERN in enacting the prohibition against racial discrimination in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was with "the plight of the Negro in our economy." (remarks of Sen. Humphrey). Before 1964, blacks were largely relegated to "unskilled and semiskilled jobs." Because of automation the number of such jobs was rapidly decreasing. As a consequence "the relative position of the Negro worker (was) steadily worsening. In 1947 the nonwhite unemployment rate was only 64 percent higher than the white rate; in 1962 it was 124 percent higher." Congress considered this a serious social problem.

Congress feared that the goals of the Civil Rights Act—the integration of blacks into the mainstream of American society—could not be achieved unless this trend were reversed. And Congress recognized that that would not be possible unless blacks were able to secure jobs "which have a future."

Accordingly, it was clear to Congress that "the crux of the problem (was) to open employment opportunities for Negroes in occupations which have been traditionally closed to them," and it was to this problem that Title VII's prohibition against racial discrimination in employment was primarily addressed.

It plainly appears from the House Report accompanying the Civil Rights Act that Congress did not intend wholly to prohibit private and voluntary affirmative action efforts as one method of solving this problem.

Given this legislative history, we cannot agree with respondent that Congress intended to prohibit the private sector from taking effective steps to accomplish the goal that Congress designed Title VII to achieve.

The very statutory words intended as a spur or catalyst to cause "employers and unions to self-examine and to self-evaluate their employment practices and to endeavor to eliminate, so far as possible, the last vestiges of an unfortunate and ignominous page in this country's history," Albemarle v. Moody, cannot be interpreted as an absolute prohibition against all private, voluntary, race-conscious affirmative action efforts to hasten the elimination of such vestiges.

It would be ironic indeed if a law triggered by a nation's concern over centuries of racial injustice and intended to improve the lot of those who had "been excluded from the American dream for so long," constituted the first legislative prohibition of all voluntary, private, race-conscious efforts to abolish traditional patterns of racial segregation and hierarchy.

We need not today define in detail the line of demarcation between permissible and impermissible affirmative action plans. It suffices to hold that the challenged Kaiser-USWA affirmative action plan falls on the permissible side of the line. The purposes of the plan mirror those of the statute. Both were designed to break down old patterns of racial segregation and hierarchy. Both were structured to "open employment opportunities for Negroes in occupations which have been traditionally closed to them."

AT THE SAME TIME the plan does not unnecessarily trammel the interests of the white employees. The plan does not require the discharge of white workers and their replacement with new black hires. Nor does the plan create an absolute bar to the advancement of white employees; half of those trained in the program will be white.

Moreover, the plan is a temporary measure; it is not intended to maintain racial balance, but simply to eliminate a manifest racial imbalance. Preferential selection of craft trainees at the Gramercy plant will end as soon as the percentage of black skilled craft workers in the Gramercy plant approximates the percentage of blacks in the local labor force.

We conclude, therefore, that the adoption of the Kaiser-USWA plan for the Grammercy plant falls within the area of discretion left by Title VII to the private sector voluntarily to adopt affirmative action plans designed to eliminate conspicuous racial imbalance in traditionally segregated job categories.

Comparability Law Shortcircuited:

Presidential Squeeze Plays Erode Federal Pay Schedule

THE LAW THAT CONGRESS wrote to bring federal pay rates up to those paid in private industry left a loophole that has let successive Presidents "abort the comparability process," President Kenneth T. Blaylock of the Government Employees charged on Labor News Conference.

Blaylock said Congress clearly intended that federal workers achieve comparability with private sector workers, but failed to spell out how that would be done. As a result, he said, the very problem that Congress tried to avoid has been "thrown back into its lap" every year through alternate plans shaped by whatever Administration is in office.

Blaylock said that the belief that the Federal Pay Council created by the Pay Comparability Act of 1970 is a working body made up of representatives of the federal unions and the Administration is a "misconception." He pointed out that only union representatives serve on the council and they must face "the pay agents of the President" across the bargaining table.

But, he said, there is no method of resolving disputes or reaching a "final decision on any particular element of the pay-setting process." He said unilateral decisions are made by the President and his agents, no matter what participation they have with the unions.

Blaylock renewed the union's charge that federal workers are used unfairly as hold-the-line examples by the Administration, which has set a 5.5 percent cap on federal pay increases while fixing 7 percent as its guideline lid in the private sector. The same pattern is expected this year, even though it would take "between 10 and 11 percent" to reach the kind of parity that Congress intended, the AFGE president said.

"As these artificial pay lines are injected into the comparability system, you actually get further and further from true comparability," Blaylock declared.

Blaylock said that government workers feel that the 5.5 percent wage ceiling is discriminatory against them.

"It's our feeling from the research that we've done that federal workers are lagging, overall, behind the private sector," he said.

Furthermore, he said, a growing number of other organizations—civil rights groups, unions in the private setcor—are increasingly sympathetic with federal workers as inflation continues to soar.

"People are saying that's grossly unfair, that they shouldn't be treated that way," he said.

He said the recently formed coalition of AFL-CIO affiliates and unaffiliated federal employee unions "illustrates the concern of all of the leaders and the magnitude of the problems." He predicted that the coalition will produce a more effective legislative and political action effort that will bring a better system.

Reporters questioning Blaylock on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard newspapers and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. The program is broadcast weekly on the Mutual radio network.



By Press Associates, Inc.

INFLATION? "That's simple—inflation is caused by too many dollars chasing too few goods and by too much government regulation. Everybody knows that."

But is that really true? Only in part, according to a new coalition of economists and their labor, consumer and other allies. Instead of blaming the victims of inflation for causing the problem, they maintain, it's time to take a hard look at concentrations of economic power and the way government deals with that power.

The coalition—Consumers Opposed to Inflation in the Necessities (COIN)—unites 68 organizations and aims to offer a fresh analysis of the causes of the nation's inflation and propose some major steps to bring it under control.

Corporate and conservative forces have "blamed the victims (of inflation) and excused the culprits," according to one COIN leader. "COIN's mission is to challenge the corporate catechism that says regulation and wages cause inflation, not corporate power and economic concentration."

COIN argues that the traditional methods of battling inflation—cutting the federal budget, slowing the economy or tightening the money supply—no longer can be effective in today's economy.

Gar Alperovitz, co-director of the National Center for Economic Alternatives, focuses on the big oil and multinational grain companies, the banks and the health care establishment. As he sees it, these giant institutions and the way government deals with them, stand in the way of "rational policies" designed to combat inflation, especially in areas most felt by the average American—food, housing, health care and energy.

How can limiting worker wages stem rising food costs, COIN asks, when five private corporations dominate the grain trade and operate virtually unregulated? Or when just one percent of more than 20,000 food manufacturing firms controls more than four-fifths of total food manufacturing assets?

How can a moderation of worker wages help stem inflation in housing, COIN asks, when the underlying cause of inflation in that sector is the strong demand generated by the post-World War II baby boom, and the rising number of households created by single, divorced, separated and widowed persons?

And how can a worker's paycheck be held responsible for soaring interest rates on mortgage and construction loans, which are controlled by the nation's banks, abetted by Federal Reserve Board tight monetary policies?

INFLATION IN THE NECESSITIES this year has been running at a rate of more than 17 percent, COIN points out, and it will take much more than the Carter Administration's crippled wage and price guidelines to bring that rate down. It will take dramatic action.

For starters, COIN wants the Carter Administration and Congress to take immediate and specific actions to halt oil price decontrol, lower interest rates for moderate income housing, contain hospital costs and institute a new tax credit for retailers who lower food costs.

These actions, Alperovitz says, would cut three points off the Consumer Price Index within the next 18 months. A "common thrust" uniting the proposals, COIN says, is the need to "restrict the ability of the powerful corporations to block reforms that would curb rising prices."

The old ways just don't work any more, the coalition insists. Except for brief periods, COIN says, anti-inflation efforts over the last decade all have failed: wage-price controls (1971-1974); wage-price standards (1978-1979); recession (1973-1974); budget cuts (1973, 1979); high interest rates (1973-1974), 1978-1979); and attacks on health and safety regulations (1975-1979). They haven't worked, the coalition says, because they haven't dealt with the basic issue of economic concentration.

It will not be an easy task, COIN acknowledges, to help the American people overcome the common belief that rising prices are caused solely by rising wages, or government spending, or health and safety regulations, or by the social security system. "These formulations manage to confuse the victims of inflation with its causes," COIN says.



PAY SCALES of federal workers are not keeping up with those in private industry because of weak provisions in the 1970 pay comparability law, President Kenneth T. Blaylock, center, of the Government Employees said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Harry Conn, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Dale McFeatters of Scripps-Howard newspapers.

Rollcalls on Panama Canal, Job Safety

These two rollcalls show recent key votes in the House.

Column I *is the 224-202 vote for a labor-supported bill to carry out the Panama Canal treaties, protect the labor standards of both U.S. and Panamanian workers during a 20-year transition period, and establish special retirement rights for present employees. On the June 21 vote, 189 Democrats and 35 Republicans voted right (R) and the 122 Republicans and 80 Democrats who opposed the bill were wrong (W).*

Column II *is the 240-177 vote on June 27 rejecting a labor-opposed motion to cut more than $10 million from job safety and occupational health funds. Voting right, against the cut, were 206 Democrats and 34 Republicans. Wrong votes were cast by 119 Republicans and 58 Democrats.*

Numerals show House districts; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

	I	II
ALABAMA		
1. Edwards (R)	W	W
2. Dickinson (R)	W	W
3. Nichols (D)	W	W
4. Bevill (D)	W	W
5. Flippo (D)	W	W
6. Buchanan (R)	R	R
7. Shelby (D)	W	W
ALASKA		
AL Young (R)	W	W
ARIZONA		
1. Rhodes (R)	R	W
2. Udall (D)	R	R
3. Stump (D)	W	W
4. Rudd (R)	W	W
ARKANSAS		
1. Alexander (D)	R	R
2. Bethune (R)	R	W
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	W	W
4. Anthony (D)	W	R
CALIFORNIA		
1. Johnson (D)	W	R
2. Clausen (R)	W	R
3. Matsui (D)	R	R
4. Fazio (D)	R	R
5. Burton John L. (D)	R	R
6. Burton, Phillip (D)	A	R
7. Miller (D)	R	R
8. Dellums (D)	R	R
9. Stark (D)	R	A
10. Edwards (D)	R	R
11. Royer (R)	R	W
12. McCloskey (R)	R	R
13. Mineta (D)	R	R
14. Shumway (R)	W	W
15. Coelho (D)	R	W
16. Panetta (D)	R	R
17. Pashayan (R)	R	W
18. Thomas (R)	W	W
19. Lagomarsino (R)	W	W
20. Goldwater (R)	W	W
21. Corman (D)	R	R
22. Moorhead (R)	W	W
23. Beilenson (D)	R	R
24. Waxman (D)	R	R
25. Roybal (D)	R	R
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W
27. Dornan (R)	W	W
28. Dixon (D)	R	R
29. Hawkins (D)	R	R
30. Danielson (D)	R	R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D)	W	R
32. Anderson (D)	W	R
33. Grisham (R)	W	W
34. Lungren (R)	W	W
35. Lloyd (D)	W	R
36. Brown (D)	R	R
37. Lewis (R)	W	W
38. Patterson (D)	R	A
39. Dannemeyer (R)	W	W
40. Badham (R)	W	W
41. Wilson, Bob (R)	W	W
42. Van Deerlin (D)	R	R
43. Burgener (R)	W	W
COLORADO		
1. Schroeder (D)	R	R
2. Wirth (D)	R	R
3. Kogovsek (D)	R	R
4. Johnson (R)	R	W
5. Kramer (R)	W	W
CONNECTICUT		
1. Cotter (D)	R	W
2. Dodd (D)	R	R
3. Giaimo (D)	R	R
4. McKinney (R)	R	R
5. Ratchford (D)	R	R
6. Moffett (D)	R	R
DELAWARE		
AL Evans (R)	W	W
FLORIDA		
1. Hutto (D)	W	W
2. Fuqua (D)	W	R
3. Bennett (D)	R	W
4. Chappell (D)	W	W
5. Kelly (R)	W	PW
6. Young (R)	W	W
7. Gibbons (D)	R	R
8. Ireland (D)	W	R
9. Nelson (D)	W	W
10. Bafalis (R)	W	W
11. Mica (D)	W	W
12. Stack (D)	R	R
13. Lehman (D)	R	R
14. Pepper (D)	R	R
15. Fascell (D)	R	R
GEORGIA		
1. Ginn (D)	W	W
2. Mathis (D)	W	A
3. Brinkley (D)	W	W
4. Levitas (D)	R	W
5. Fowler (D)	R	W
6. Gingrich (R)	W	W
7. McDonald (D)	W	W
8. Evans (D)	R	W
9. Jenkins (D)	R	W
10. Barnard (D)	W	W
HAWAII		
1. Heftel (D)	R	R
2. Akaka (D)	R	R
IDAHO		
1. Symms (R)	W	W
2. Hansen (R)	W	W
ILLINOIS		
1. Stewart (D)	R	PR
2. Murphy (D)	R	R
3. Russo (D)	R	R
4. Derwinski (R)	R	R
5. Fary (D)	R	R
6. Hyde (R)	W	W
7. Collins (D)	R	R
8. Rostenkowski (D)	R	R
9. Yates (D)	R	R
10. Mikva (D)	R	R
11. Annunzio (D)	R	R
12. Crane, Philip (R)	W	W
13. McClory (R)	R	W
14. Erlenborn (R)	R	W
15. Corcoran (R)	W	W
16. Anderson (R)	A	A
17. O'Brien (R)	W	W
18. Michel (R)	W	W
19. Railsback (R)	R	R
20. Findley (R)	R	R
21. Madigan (R)	W	R
22. Crane, Dan (R)	W	W
23. Price (D)	R	R
24. Simon (D)	R	R
INDIANA		
1. Benjamin (D)	R	R
2. Fithian (D)	R	R
3. Brademas (D)	R	R
4. Quayle (R)	W	W
5. Hillis (R)	W	W
6. Evans (D)	W	R
7. Myers (R)	W	W
8. Deckard (R)	W	W
9. Hamilton (D)	R	R
10. Sharp (D)	R	R
11. Jacobs (D)	R	W
IOWA		
1. Leach (R)	R	W
2. Tauke (R)	W	W
3. Grassley (R)	W	R
4. Smith (D)	R	R
5. Harkin (D)	R	R
6. Bedell (D)	R	W
KANSAS		
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W
2. Jeffries (R)	W	W
3. Winn (R)	W	W
4. Glickman (D)	R	R
5. Whittaker (R)	W	W
KENTUCKY		
1. Hubbard (D)	W	R
2. Natcher (D)	W	R
3. Mazzoli (D)	R	R
4. Snyder (R)	W	W
5. Carter (R)	W	R
6. Hopkins (R)	W	W
7. Perkins (D)	W	R
LOUISIANA		
1. Livingston (R)	W	W
2. Boggs (D)	W	R
3. Treen (R)	W	W
4. Leach (D)	W	R
5. Huckaby (D)	W	W
6. Moore (R)	W	W
7. Breaux (D)	W	W
8. Long (D)	W	R
MAINE		
1. Emery (R)	W	PW
2. Snowe (R)	W	W
MARYLAND		
1. Bauman (R)	W	W
2. Long (D)	R	R
3. Mikulski (D)	R	R
4. Holt (R)	W	W
5. Spellman (D)	R	A
6. Byron (D)	W	R
7. Mitchell (D)	R	R
8. Barnes (D)	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS		
1. Conte (R)	R	R
2. Boland (D)	R	R
3. Early (D)	R	R
4. Drinan (D)	R	R
5. Shannon (D)	R	R
6. Mavroules (D)	R	R
7. Markey (D)	R	R
8. O'Neill (D)	Speaker	
9. Moakley (D)	R	R
10. Heckler (R)	R	R
11. Donnelly (D)	W	R
12. Studds (D)	R	R
MICHIGAN		
1. Conyers (D)	A	R
2. Pursell (R)	R	R
3. Wolpe (D)	R	R
4. Stockman (R)	R	A
5. Sawyer (R)	R	W
6. Carr (D)	R	R
7. Kildee (D)	R	R
8. Traxler (D)	R	R
9. Vander Jagt (R)	W	W
10. Albosta (D)	R	R
11. Davis (R)	W	W
12. Bonior (D)	R	R
13. Diggs (D)	R	R
14. Nedzi (D)	R	R
15. Ford (D)	R	R
16. Dingell (D)	R	R
17. Brodhead (D)	R	R
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R
19. Broomfield (R)	R	W
MINNESOTA		
1. Erdahl (R)	W	W
2. Hagedorn (R)	W	W
3. Frenzel (R)	R	W
4. Vento (D)	R	R
5. Sabo (D)	R	R
6. Nolan (D)	A	R
7. Stangeland (R)	W	W
8. Oberstar (D)	R	R
MISSISSIPPI		
1. Whitten (D)	W	R
2. Bowen (D)	R	W
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W
4. Hinson (R)	W	W
5. Lott (R)	W	W
MISSOURI		
1. Clay (D)	R	R
2. Young (D)	R	R
3. Gephardt (D)	R	R
4. Skelton (D)	W	R
5. Bolling (D)	A	A
6. Coleman (R)	W	W
7. Taylor (R)	W	W
8. Ichord (D)	W	W
9. Volkmer (D)	W	R
10. Burlison (D)	R	R
MONTANA		
1. Williams (D)	W	R
2. Marlenee (R)	W	W
NEBRASKA		
1. Bereuter (R)	R	W
2. Cavanaugh (D)	R	R
3. Smith (R)	W	W
NEVADA		
AL Santini (D)	W	W
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
1. D'Amours (D)	R	W
2. Cleveland (R)	W	W
NEW JERSEY		
1. Florio (D)	R	R
2. Hughes (D)	R	R
3. Howard (D)	R	R
4. Thompson (D)	R	PR
5. Fenwick (R)	R	R
6. Forsythe (R)	A	A
7. Maguire (D)	R	A
8. Roe (D)	R	R
9. Hollenbeck (R)	R	R
10. Rodino (D)	R	R
11. Minish (D)	R	R
12. Rinaldo (R)	W	R
13. Courter (R)	W	W
14. Guarini (D)	W	R
15. Patten (D)	R	R
NEW MEXICO		
1. Lujan (R)	W	W
2. Runnels (D)	W	W
NEW YORK		
1. Carney (R)	W	W
2. Downey (D)	R	R
3. Ambro (D)	R	R
4. Lent (R)	W	R
5. Wydler (R)	R	R
6. Wolff (D)	R	R
7. Addabbo (D)	A	R
8. Rosenthal (D)	R	R
9. Ferraro (D)	W	R
10. Biaggi (D)	W	R
11. Scheuer (D)	R	R
12. Chisholm (D)	R	R
13. Solarz (D)	R	R
14. Richmond (D)	R	R
15. Zeferetti (D)	R	R
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R
17. Murphy (D)	R	A
18. Green (R)	R	R
19. Rangel (D)	R	R
20. Weiss (D)	R	R
21. Garcia (D)	R	R
22. Bingham (D)	R	R
23. Peyser (D)	R	R
24. Ottinger (D)	R	R
25. Fish (R)	R	R
26. Gilman (R)	W	R
27. McHugh (D)	R	R
28. Stratton (D)	W	R
29. Solomon (R)	W	W
30. McEwen (R)	W	W
31. Michell (R)	W	W
32. Hanley (D)	R	W
33. Lee (R)	W	W
34. Horton (R)	W	R
35. Conable (R)	R	W
36. LaFalce (D)	R	R
37. Nowak (D)	R	R
38. Kemp (R)	W	W
39. Lundine (D)	R	R
NORTH CAROLINA		
1. Jones (D)	W	W
2. Fountain (D)	W	W
3. Whitley (D)	W	W
4. Andrews (D)	R	R
5. Neal (D)	R	W
6. Preyer (D)	R	W
7. Rose (D)	W	W
8. Hefner (D)	R	W
9. Martin (R)	W	W
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W
11. Gudger (D)	W	W
NORTH DAKOTA		
AL Andrews (R)	W	W
OHIO		
1. Gradison (R)	W	R
2. Luken (D)	R	R
3. Hall (D)	R	R
4. Guyer (R)	W	W
5. Latta (R)	W	W
6. Harsha (R)	W	R
7. Brown (R)	W	W
8. Kindness (R)	W	W
9. Ashley (D)	R	R
10. Miller (R)	W	W
11. Stanton (R)	R	R
12. Devine (R)	W	W
13. Pease (D)	R	R
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R
15. Wylie (R)	W	W
16. Regula (R)	W	R
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W
18. Applegate (D)	W	R
19. Williams (R)	W	R
20. Oakar (D)	W	R
21. Stokes (D)	R	R
22. Vanik (D)	R	R
23. Mottl (D)	W	R
OKLAHOMA		
1. Jones (D)	R	W
2. Synar (D)	R	R
3. Watkins (D)	W	W
4. Steed (D)	R	R
5. Edwards (R)	W	W
6. English (D)	W	W
OREGON		
1. AuCoin (D)	R	R
2. Ullman (D)	R	R
3. Duncan (D)	R	R
4. Weaver (D)	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA		
1. Myers (D)	R	R
2. Gray (D)	R	R
3. Lederer (D)	R	R
4. Dougherty (R)	W	R
5. Schulze (R)	W	W
6. Yatron (D)	W	R
7. Edgar (D)	R	R
8. Kostmayer (D)	R	A
9. Shuster (R)	W	W
10. McDade (R)	W	R
11. Flood (D)	A	A
12. Murtha (D)	R	R
13. Coughlin (R)	R	R
14. Moorhead (D)	R	R
15. Ritter (R)	W	W
16. Walker (R)	W	W
17. Ertel (D)	R	R
18. Walgren (D)	R	R
19. Goodling (R)	W	A
20. Gaydos (D)	W	R
21. Bailey (D)	W	R
22. Murphy (D)	W	R
23. Clinger (R)	W	W
24. Marks (R)	R	R
25. Atkinson (D)	W	R
RHODE ISLAND		
1. St Germain (D)	R	R
2. Beard (D)	W	R
SOUTH CAROLINA		
1. Davis (D)	R	R
2. Spence (R)	W	W
3. Derrick (D)	R	R
4. Campbell (R)	W	W
5. Holland (D)	R	W
6. Jenrette (D)	W	R
SOUTH DAKOTA		
1. Daschle (D)	R	R
2. Abdnor (R)	W	W
TENNESSEE		
1. Quillen (R)	W	W
2. Duncan (R)	W	W
3. Bouquard (D)	W	W
4. Gore (D)	R	R
5. Boner (D)	R	R
6. Beard (R)	R	W
7. Jones (D)	R	R
8. Ford (D)	R	R
TEXAS		
1. Hall (D)	W	W
2. Wilson (D)	W	R
3. Collins (R)	W	W
4. Roberts (D)	W	W
5. Mattox (D)	W	R
6. Gramm (D)	W	W
7. Archer (R)	W	W
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	R
9. Brooks (D)	R	R
10. Pickle (D)	R	W
11. Leath (D)	W	W
12. Wright (D)	R	R
13. Hightower (D)	W	W
14. Wyatt (D)	W	W
15. de la Garza (D)	W	W
16. White (D)	W	W
17. Stenholm (D)	W	W
18. Leland (D)	R	R
19. Hance (D)	W	W
20. Gonzalez (D)	R	R
21. Loeffler (R)	W	W
22. Paul (R)	W	W
23. Kazen (D)	W	W
24. Frost (D)	R	R
UTAH		
1. McKay (D)	R	R
2. Marriott (R)	W	W
VERMONT		
AL Jeffords (R)	R	R
VIRGINIA		
1. Trible (R)	W	W
2. Whitehurst (R)	W	W
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W
4. Daniel, Robert (R)	W	W
5. Daniel, Dan (D)	W	W
6. Butler (R)	R	W
7. Robinson (R)	W	W
8. Harris (D)	R	R
9. Wampler (R)	W	W
10. Fisher (D)	R	R
WASHINGTON		
1. Pritchard (R)	R	R
2. Swift (D)	R	R
3. Bonker (D)	R	R
4. McCormack (D)	R	R
5. Foley (D)	R	R
6. Dicks (D)	R	R
7. Lowry (D)	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA		
1. Mollohan (D)	R	R
2. Staggers (D)	W	R
3. Slack (D)	W	R
4. Rahall (D)	W	R
WISCONSIN		
1. Aspin (D)	R	R
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R
3. Baldus (D)	R	R
4. Zablocki (D)	R	R
5. Reuss (D)	R	R
6. Petri (R)	W	R
7. Obey (D)	R	R
8. Roth (R)	W	W
9. Sensenbrenner (R)	W	W
WYOMING		
AL Cheney (R)	W	W

In Convention Action:

Musicians Adopt Measures To Increase Dues, Cut Costs

Phoenix, Ariz.—A $2 a year boost in dues for the 300,000 members of the American Federation of Musicians highlighted moves to shore up the union's troubled finances by delegates to the 82nd annual convention.

In a break with longstanding tradition, they also voted a shift from annual to biennial conventions after the 1981 meeting.

The per capita increase will go directly to the international union and is effective next Jan. 1. It was levied on the individual union member—not his local—and was approved after long discussion and dire warnings of a grim future were it to be rejected.

President Victor W. Fuentealba and Sec.-Treas. J. Martin Emerson detailed economy moves they had instituted in union operations and said they had cut costs to the bone.

Emerson said the international had to borrow $250,000 late in 1978 to meet then current bills. That loan was repaid, he said, but in April it was necessary to borrow another $200,000. And in anticipation of the convention, he went on, another $400,000 loan was necessary.

The international officers had projected an operating loss of $340,000 for 1979. The per capita jump was estimated to bring in some $600,000 a year.

A substantial saving, perhaps as much as $250,000 a year, was foreseen from the decision to move to biennial conventions.

A new international union office in Toronto was approved to be headed on a full-time basis by the vice president from Canada, J. Alan Wood. It will be financed by a 1 percent work dues payment to the international for performances in Canada under contracts negotiated by the international union. The money will remain in Canada to finance international union agreement enforcement and other operating costs.

A motion to move international headquarters from New York City to an area where operating costs might be less was referred to the international executive board.

A proposal to lower convention expenses still further by cutting down the number of delegates was defeated—as it had been at two previous conventions.

Actor Danny Kaye, who last year received the AFL-CIO's Murray-Green Award, was presented with a gold honorary life membership card in appreciation for his services to music and musicians.

Kaye has conducted scores of symphony orchestra concerts throughout the world for the benefit of their members' pension funds. In this country alone he has helped raise nearly $6 million. He flew to the AFM convention directly from Holland, where he had led still another symphonic group in a pension fund concert.

"Of all the honors I have received over the past number of years," he said in a brief acceptance speech, "this is really something quite special. . . . When you honor me by this award, you honor yourselves even more by providing for all the members of your organization."

Kaye called music "the single greatest international language in the world."

Kaye also is active internationally in behalf of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). He pointed out that millions of children — and adults—face the prospect of starvation without international help.

A resolution opening AFM membership to vocalists who do not belong to other legitimate unions in the entertainment field was approved. Several resolutions dealing with greater efforts to sign up young instrumentalists also won approval, but another excusing locals from paying international per capita dues for members on whom they have paid the levy for at least 25 years and who have reached the age of 65 was turned down.

Fuentealba won another term as president by defeating Stanley Rutherford, of the Reno, Nev., local, by a vote of 1,780 to 305. Emerson and Wood were re-elected without opposition.

Vice President David Winstein of New Orleans defeated Thomas Kenny of Sacramento, Calif., to win another term. Also re-elected were the five members of the international executive board — Mark Tully Massagli, Las Vegas, Nev.; Robert Jones, Portland, Ore.; Eugene V. Frey, Cincinnati, O.; Max Herman, Los Angeles, and Max Arons, New York City.



DEMOCRATIC HERITAGE award of the American Jewish Committee is presented to Martin J. Ward, right, president of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters. Industrial Union Dept. President Jacob Clayman, who served as chairman of the awards dinner, makes the presentation to Ward.

Fire Fighters' Awards Honor Media Coverage

A feature story portraying the tensions that modern fire fighters live with won first prize in the Fire Fighters' annual awards contest for newspapers of more than 100,000 circulation.

Titled "Great Under Fire," the article by Amanda Hanson in the Toronto Star paints "a clear and compelling" picture of the professional fire fighter and his work, judges in the 1979 IAFF competition said.

The winning entry was submitted by IAFF Local 113 in Toronto. Second prize in the 100,000-plus circulation category went to Mike Sheridan of the Hartford (Conn.) Courant for a detailed article on the injuries inflicted on humans by smoke.

Winners also were selected in five other categories. They were chosen from hundreds of articles, photographs, films, and tapes by reporters, photographers, and newscasters across the United States and Canada.

Besides the six main categories for general circulation media, the contest included a category for IAFF local union publications, won this year by Central Florida Local 2057.

Other first-place prize winners were:

- Mike Glover of the Bloomington (Ill.) Daily Pantagraph for a "complete, impartial, and detailed" series of articles on the withholding of services by fire fighters in Normal, Ill.
- Steve Salvo of the Racine (Wis.) Journal Times for a photo of a fire fighter trying unsuccessfully to breathe life back into a fire victim.
- John H. White of the Chicago Sun-Times for a photograph titled "Two Children Die in Fire."
- Irene Berkowitz, Gilbert Deiz, and Carey Weatherford of KGW-TV in Portland, Ore., for a series exposing children to the serious nature of fires.
- D. De Cosmo of radio station WMJW, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., for interviews with four professional fire fighters on their duties and responsibilities to the community.

Frank Hoese Elected To Head Grain Millers

Minneapolis—Frank T. Hoese was elected president of the Grain Millers at the union's 16th biennial convention here to succeed Roy O. Wellborn who retired.

Hoese, 63, has been executive vice president of the 35,000-member AFGM since 1973 after serving for two years as assistant to the president.

The 298 delegates also elected Joseph T. Smisek to his first full four-year term as secretary-treasurer and Robert W. Willis as executive vice president. Ten vice presidents were elected at the four-day convention, two for their first term.

With his retirement, Wellborn wraps up a five-decade trade union career that began in 1937 when he served as an organizer and president of a grain millers' directly affiliated local union.

Wellborn, 71, also had been an organizer with the National Council of Grain Processors, and after the AFL chartered the AFGM in 1948, he became a vice president. He was elected executive vice president in 1958 and became president of the AFGM in 1960.

Hoese has been active in the Grain Millers and predecessor organizations since 1937. He served as a local union president for 14 years until he was elected an AFGM vice president in 1959.

Among key resolutions considered at the convention, delegates voted to endorse passage of the Kennedy-Waxman national health insurance bill, labor-backed legislation for a comprehensive workers' compensation program, ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and price supports for economically troubled sugar refiners to help secure jobs of AFGM members.

Major convention speakers included President David K. Roe of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept., Director Alan Kistler of the federation's Dept. of Organization & Feld Services and Sec.-Treas. Robert F. Harbrant of the Food & Beverage Trades Dept.

UTU Asks Measures To Halt Rail Cutback

Miami Beach, Fla.—Strong federal support for the nation's troubled railroads, particularly the Milwaukee Road, is essential to preserve needed services and jobs, the United Transportation Union convention warned in a series of resolutions.

The more than 1,000 delegates also called for the rail transport of Alaskan oil to help ease the fuel shortage and spelled out steps to improve safety on railroads and in mass transportation.

An immediate concern of the UTU is the survival of the Milwaukee line, which one resolution charged was being run into bankruptcy by the present management with its "callous disregard of public, consumer, shipper and employee interest."

It urged Congress to adopt measures to overhaul the carrier under new management that would better serve the public.

The railroad has proposed a severe cutback of the line to a 2,500-mile midwestern core that threatens the jobs of some 6,000 of the Milwaukee's 10,000 employees. The UTU represents about 60 percent of workers facing job loss under the threatened cutback.

In a move to help ease the gasoline crunch in the Midwest and East, the delegates proposed the creation of a "rolling pipe line" to haul Alaskan oil through Canada into the United States in rail tank cars. It termed the use of rail transport a better alternative, ecologically speaking, to other means of oil transportation.

Expressing concerns on worker safety, the convention urged the transfer of enforcement programs from the Federal Railroad Administration to the Labor Dept. It also called on the UTU leadership to press stronger employee protections under urban mass transit laws as well as improved safety glass on buses. The UTU represents some 15,000 bus drivers across the country.

But delegates warned that the proposed installation of speed governors on buses and trucks could cause serious hazards in the flow of traffic on highways.

During the 13-day convention, delegates elected the union's 36 top officers to four-year terms, including Fred A. Hardin to succeed retiring President Al H. Chesser, and 28 vice presidents.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall said in an address to the convention that the Carter Administration is doing all that is possible to protect the collective bargaining rights of workers.

And although the Administration was unable with the help of the union movement to win passage of labor law reform, he said that Carter "has established one of the best labor records since the New Deal."

Marshall said that the Administration is committed in its fight against inflation, but that it needs the support of labor to succeed.

Guideline Issue Left Unsettled By High Court

(Continued from Page 1)

to impose purchasing sanctions under the 1949 Procurement Act requiring the government to consider "economy" and "efficiency" in its procurement practices.

"We believed from the start that the uncertainty that has surrounded the procurement sanction is harmful," Meany said in a statement. "We therefore exerted every effort to obtain a prompt, authoritative determination by the Supreme Court.

"The government, however, while proclaiming that the program is lawful, opposed Supreme Court review. It preferred its present short-term advantage to a definitive resolution. We are distressed that its tactic succeeded."

Ever since the Administration's anti-inflation program began last October, labor has repeatedly pointed out its unfairness and ineffectiveness. Proof of its inability to bring down inflation, Meany said, is that prices are rising faster than ever.

Meanwhile, he added, workers' real purchasing power continues to drop, proving the program's inequitableness.

Inflation has risen at an 11 percent rate in the past 12 months, and at an annual rate of 13.5 percent in the last three months, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported recently. Workers' buying power is down 3.3 percent over the year.

Meany Says Economy Periled:

Bold Action Pressed On Oil Price Threat

(Continued from Page 1)

nation's inflation rate, lower the gross national product by 2.5 percent, and "might cost us 800,000 jobs."

Meanwhile, a consensus was developing among private economists that the country is either already in a recession or on the verge of entering one. The standard definition of a recession is two or more consecutive quarters of negative growth.

In his warning on the prospect of a recession, Meany outlined four steps that the U.S. "can and must take" to deal with the fuel shortage:

- Institute a fair and equitable system of gasoline rationing with special consideration for work-related use. "Only rationing, unpleasant as it may be, can bring a semblance of order to the chaotic situation that now exists," he said.
- Take over the importation of oil, and deal with oil-producing and exporting countries on a nation-to-nation basis.

"The government should determine the amount of oil to be imported, negotiate its price, and provide for its domestic allocation. Clearly, the oil monopolies have no incentive to deal effectively with OPEC. Obviously, they are concerned mainly with their own well-being rather than with the national interest."

- Prohibit the export of Alaskan oil and increase its production as a part of the nation's effort to achieve energy security.
- Establish a multi-billion dollar National Energy Authority to provide direct loans, loan guarantees, and other financial assistance to private industry and public bodies that are unable to secure capital for the development of new and additional energy sources and for the development of conservation measures.

Among the more promising alternative energy sources are solar and nuclear power, coal, and the synthetic fuels produced from agricultural products, waste matter, coal, and shale, Meany said.

The new agency also would be empowered to develop and launch projects of its own, patterned after the TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority) concept, as well as approving the kind of investments that are in the national interest.

"It is our belief that the oil monopoly should not be entrusted with decision-making on energy investments affecting the public welfare," Meany declared.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald noted that the OPEC oil price hikes are just one more factor pushing the economy into another recession. He cited high interest rates and the higher cost of necessities—food, shelter, and medical care—as other factors creating inflationary pressures.

Signs of a new recession—the third in the past decade—are already evident in certain sectors of the economy, such as housing and new car sales, Oswald pointed out. And, he added, the likely recession would start from the highest non-recession level of unemployment since the end of World War II.

"Unemployment is a full percentage point higher than it was five years ago before the country plunged into its worst postwar recession," he observed.

"A recession will not solve the problems of inflation, but will cause undue hardship for the unemployed, and will rob the nation of its productive potential."

Private economists have predicted a recession for some time and Administration spokesmen, limiting their forecast to only a "slowdown," have become increasingly pessimistic in recent weeks.

Carter's comments, his gloomiest yet on the economy, followed an announcement by the 13-nation oil cartel that its members would raise crude oil prices to between $18 and $23.50 a barrel. The latest price increase went into effect July 2.

The official OPEC level had been $14.55 a barrel, but some members had added surcharges that lifted the average price for crude oil to between $17.50 and $18.

All seven industrialized democracies—the United States, Japan, Great Britain, West Germany, France, Canada, and Italy—agreed at their Tokyo meeting that the price hikes this year have been "unnecessarily high and completely unwarranted."

Carter told reporters traveling with him aboard Air Force One that "there has been an excessive amount of timidity on the part of the consuming nations" in the past. The main accomplishment in Tokyo was an agreement by the seven countries to set ceilings on their oil imports through 1985.

Adding its voice to the chorus of economists predicting a recession, the Economic Forum of the Conference Board forecast a decline in real gross national product during the last half of 1979, with gradual recovery in 1980.



EFFORTS TO SAFEGUARD the interests of the nation's elderly were explored by a parade of speakers at the National Council of Senior Citizens' combined convention and legislative conference in Washington. Addressing the 4,000 delegates is Rep. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.).

Senior Citizens Vote Boost in Dues Rate

Nearly 4,000 delegates to the first combined constitutional convention and legislative conference of the National Council of Senior Citizens approved several important revisions to the organization's constitution and reaffirmed their commitment to progressive social action.

The most important constitutional change involved an increase in membership dues. The basic fee for members of a local senior citizens group affiliated with the NCSC will rise from the current $3.50 per year to $5. For a joint husband-and-wife membership, dues go from $5 to $7.50. Individuals who do not belong to an NCSC club but pay their dues directly to the organization will now pay $6 a year instead of $4. Lifetime individual and family membership remains at $100.

NCSC Executive Director William Hutton said the revised dues structure was required to deal with rising inflation and resulting increases in operating costs.

Other constitutional changes create regional vice presidencies and increase the number of dues-paying members required to form an affiliated club. The regional vice presidents will be chosen from among board members at large. The requirement of 20 members, instead of 10, for club affiliation becomes effective next Jan. 1.

The NCSC normally holds its regular constitutional and legislative conferences in alternate years. This year's special constitutional convention was a one-day meeting solely for the purpose of revising the constitution. Election of officers is scheduled next year.

A mass "Save Our Security" rally, sponsored by a coalition of some 150 organizations seeking to protect the nation's social security system, set the tone for the NCSC's fourth legislative conference. Several noted social insurance experts and members of Congress addressed the delegates.

The coalition, representing minority, labor, women's, veterans' and other groups, urged Congress to defeat a regressive proposal that would reduce benefit protection for disabled persons.

"All earners must face the risk of serious disability resulting from unexpected illness or accident," the coalition said in a statement. "It is important to know that they and their families will not become destitute should that tragedy strike—that they can at least count on the basic, modest protection of disability insurance under our social security system."

Proposed legislation scheduled to reach the House floor soon would reduce benefit protection by an average of 15 percent for all disabled persons who have eligible family members dependent upon them and reduce future benefit protection for disabled persons below the age of 47.

The delegates also heard a number of speakers addressing other issues of particular interest to older Americans.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) appealed for personal messages to Congress supporting the Health Care for All Americans bill he has introduced.

"You know that you are spending more of your retirement dollars for medical care now than before passage of Medicare," Kennedy said. The senator's bill, which is supported by NCSC, would make "major advances" in the Medicare program for the aged, NCSC Executive Director Hutton noted.

Plan Outlined to Curb Building Energy Waste

The Sheet Metal Workers have outlined proposals to President Carter to make federal buildings more fuel-efficient and for an all-out effort to make wider use of solar energy systems in industrial, commercial and residential structures.

In a letter to Carter, Sheet Metal Workers President Edward J. Carlough said the proposals would help address the problems stemming from the nation's fuel crisis.

The key proposals call for:

- Using the skills of and know-how of Sheet Metal Workers and contractors to overhaul and improve equipment in the 360,000 U.S. government buildings in an effort to reduce energy waste.
- Union members to forego usual overtime pay rates to bring significant cost savings on the federal buildings projects.
- A crash program on solar space heating in commercial, industrial and residential applications with the aid of the union's non-profit Sun Air Energy Institute.

Carlough said that proven energy conservation techniques that can be applied to federal buildings could bring savings in the use of oil that could then be refined into gasoline to help ease current shortages.

The realizable energy saving would have an impact on all Americans, since space heating, air conditioning and the industrial processes consume as much energy as automobiles, Carlough said in his letter to Carter.

"This is where the energy program must be centered if we are to have any chance to get ourselves out of the woods," Carlough said.

Hawaii State Nurses Shift to State-County

Honolulu—Registered nurses at state hospitals and other health facilities voted 415-248 for representation by the State, County & Municipal Employees.

AFSCME Local 152 replaced the Hawaii Nurses Association as bargaining agent for the 750 nurses in the unit.

Labor-Backed Youth Camps Set in 5 Areas

An expanded summer camp project for disadvantaged youngsters has been launched under the guidance of professional football players and the cooperation of the trade union movement.

The "Unions for Youth" program—sponsored by the NFL Players Association and supported by the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute with the help of several national and local unions—is expected to treat some 4,500 youngsters to an exciting camp experience.

NFLPA members and experienced counselors will assist the youngsters in exploring career opportunities as well as self-improvement efforts.

Five locations selected for this year's program serve the areas of Boston, Cleveland, Chicago, San Francisco-Oakland and Washington, D.C. The expanded program is the outgrowth of a pilot project conducted in the Boston and Washington areas last year by the NFLPA and support of other unions.

HRDI assisted the NFLPA in lining up the support of prime sponsors and local unions, along with recruiting participants and developing the career orientation curriculum.

The camp program is funded with an initial federal grant of $1.1 million and contributions of $125,000 from national and local union organizations.

Unions and other groups that have made pledges and contributions to the youth program include the Machinists, Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, the State, County & Municipal Employees, the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept., UAW, Teachers, Seafarers, Operating Engineers, the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., and the NFLPA.

New FEC Term Cleared for Harris

The Senate unanimously confirmed the reappointment of Thomas E. Harris to the six-member Federal Election Commission.

Harris, who was the AFL-CIO's associate general counsel before he was appointed as a Democratic member of the bipartisan commission, was confirmed for a six-year term that runs until Apr. 30, 1985.

Still pending is the nomination of Frank P. Reiche, chairman of New Jersey's Election Law Enforcement Commission, to fill a Republican vacancy on the FEC. Some right-wing Republican senators consider Reiche too liberal and are trying to block his confirmation.

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Government Reports Warn U.S. at Brink of Recession

Senate Vote Delayed On Davis-Bacon

The Senate put off a showdown on Davis-Bacon Act coverage for the nation's multi-billion dollar military construction program after foes of the prevailing wage law resorted to stalling tactics to head off defeat.

A conservative coalition refused to agree to a time for voting on a labor-supported amendment by Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) which would have restored Davis-Bacon coverage that the Armed Services Committee had deleted from the bill it sent to the Senate floor.

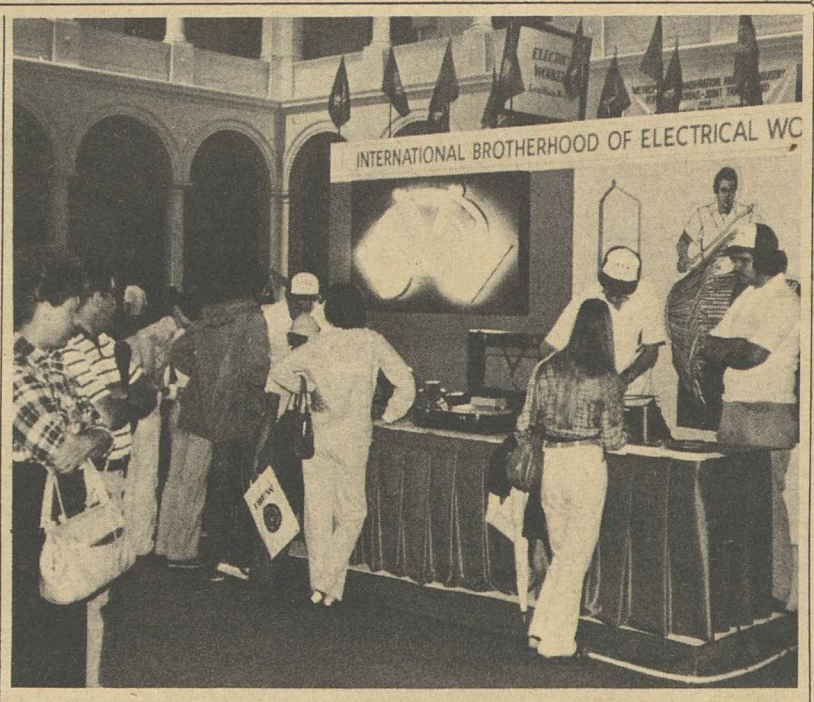
Both sides were convinced that the Williams amendment would have been approved if it had come to a vote.

While the mini-filibuster continued, an agreement was worked out between the two sides that sent the military construction bill to the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee for further consideration of the Davis-Bacon issue.

Under the terms of the agreement, it will be brought back on the Senate floor between July 26 and Aug. 1, with only three amendments in order.

One vote will be on the Williams amendment, restoring full Davis-Bacon coverage. Another vote will be on a "compromise" proposal by Sen. James Exon (D-Neb.) which would exclude some smaller contracts from the Davis-Bacon requirement by raising the minimum

(Continued on Page 8)



SKILLS DEMONSTRATIONS by building trades craftsmen were featured during an Independence Day celebration at the historic Pension Building in Washington. Unions participating in the four-day program included the Bricklayers, Carpenters, Electrical Workers, Iron Workers, Operating Engineers, Painters, Plumbers & Pipe Fitters and the Sheet Metal Workers.

In Rider-Laden Bill:

Dept. of Education Squeezes by House

The House narrowly voted to establish a federal Dept. of Education, but the legislation still has some high hurdles to overcome.

Before approving the bill on a 210-206 vote, the House loaded it down with a miscellany of controversial amendments that will have to be dealt with in a House-Senate conference.

The House-passed bill includes curbs on affirmative action goals and a ban on requiring busing to achieve desegregation. It also includes an anti-abortion amendment and a provision that would make it a purpose of the department to permit daily opportunity for voluntary prayer in schools.

Other amendments stripped from the bill various functions and programs the Administration had intended under the Education Dept.

Both the AFL-CIO and the American Federation of Teachers took a strong stand against carving up the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to create a separate Education Dept.

"Nothing in this bill will improve education for one child," AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young had written House members before the vote. "To the contrary, establishing a federal Dept. of Education can isolate education from the vital concerns of income maintenance, child care and health services that we believe are crucial to an effective education program."

The proposal for a separate department was backed by the National Education Association, which took an opposite tack to the AFT on the issue. But several groups initially allied with the NEA made clear that they could not support final passage of a bill containing the anti-civil rights provisions adopted by the House.

Union Wage Advantage Confirmed in BLS Study

Average weekly earnings of workers represented by unions were nearly 20 percent higher in May 1977 than the earnings of non-union workers, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported in a recently published study.

According to information collected and compiled by the Bureau of the Census, BLS noted that the difference was even greater in the blue-collar classifications with unionized workers earning 35 percent more per week than their non-union counterparts.

The report showed that black union members earned nearly one-third more than blacks who did not belong to unions, while unionized women workers earned 29 percent more than those who were not represented by a union. The report issued by BLS is titled "Earnings and Other Characteristics of Organized Workers, May 1977."

For all workers covered in the study, BLS said that usual weekly earnings amounted to $262 for those represented by labor organizations, compared with $221 for those who were not represented.

In the blue-collar category, unionized workers had weekly earnings of $266, whereas non-union workers earned only $194 a week —a spread of $72.

The widest earnings margins in

(Continued on Page 7)

High Joblessness, Inflation Forecast

By James M. Shevis

The nation is poised on the edge of a new recession—the sixth since the end of World War II and the third of the decade—that will send unemployment soaring in the last half of the year, with no letup in inflation.

That gloomy forecast summarizes midyear reports on the economy by both the Carter Administration and the Congressional Budget Office.

The White House economists predict the current 5.6 percent jobless rate will rise to 6.6 percent by the end of the year, and to 6.9 percent in 1980. But the CBO is even more pessimistic. It foresees a surge in joblessness to a range of 6.9 to 7.4 percent by year's end with the rate remaining between 6.7 and 7.7 percent throughout 1980 despite an upturn then in economic growth.

Administration economists cited the recent jump in oil prices as responsible for the worsening economic outlook.

But CBO Director Alice M. Rivlin, testifying at a House Budget Committee hearing, blamed the weakening economy on other factors as well. While the direct effect of the rise in OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) oil prices since December has contributed largely to the downturn, the persistence and per-

(Continued on Page 8)

Youth Jobs Tied to Rise In Economy

America needs a full employment economy that can provide job opportunities for its young people without taking jobs away from older workers.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, in testimony prepared for a Senate committee, stressed the federation's continued support for an array of education and job training programs intended to help teenagers get a foothold in the world of work.

But "if there's no job at the end of the education and training, there's just more frustration," he warned. And "slow

(Continued on Page 3)

Corporation Chiefs' Pay Jumped 18.8% in 1978

The typical corporate board chairman received total pay averaging $366,091 in 1978, an increase of 18.8 percent from 1977, U.S. News & World Report magazine said.

This was one of the findings of the magazine's economic unit, which surveyed 361 leading companies on the compensation received by top executives last year.

At least five corporate leaders earned $1 million or more last year—four more than a year earlier. The top moneymaker was Edwin A. Gee, president of International Paper Co., who got $1.1 million in salary and bonuses.

Other 1978 members of the million-dollar club were Henry Ford II, chairman of Ford Motor Co., $1,055,938; Steven J. Ross, chairman of Warner Communications, $1,036,913; R. Hal Dean, chairman of Ralston Purina, $1,035,293, and Philip Caldwell, president of Ford, $1,030,100.

Other highlights of the survey:

- **Pay of the typical executive last year jumped 13.8 percent, while the wages of the average worker in the private economic sector rose by 7.8 percent.**
- **The median pay of 291 corporate presidents was $298,333; the median for 335 vice presidents was $208,537.**

Besides salaries and bonuses, executives often receive other forms of compensation. These may include stock options, expense allowances, dividends, company contributions to retirement plans, and stock-appreciation rights.

Georgia Vote Rebuffs Firm's Union Busting

Macon, Ga.—Workers at Georgia's largest Japanese-owned factory stood up against a union-busting management and voted to be represented by the Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers.

The 163-123 vote for union representation came in the face of heavy pressure and veiled threats by the management of the YKK zipper plant.

A letter signed by company President Yoshinori Kitano suggested to the mostly female workforce that "union bosses" could make their jobs "less secure." It asserted that management would have "the final decision" on conditions even if the union won the election, and "the company is not even obligated to agree to continue presently existing wages or benefits."

A local newspaper reported that the company had hired an Atlanta law firm that specializes in helping to defeat organizing campaigns to direct its anti-union strategy.

As the National Labor Relations Board was conducting the representation vote, Georgia Gov. George Busbee was in Los Angeles for a mission described as seeking more "union-free" Japanese firms to locate plants in Georgia.

But YKK employees didn't have to go far for a refutation of management's attack on the union. At an Armstrong Cork Co. plant in the same city, the Cement Workers recently negotiated a substantial wage increase without a strike, and the pay scales are a sharp contrast to the YKK pattern.



LOS ANGELES CHAPTER of the A. Philip Randolph Institute presented its first civil rights award to William E. Pollard, left, the AFL-CIO's civil rights director. Pollard is congratulated by APRI Chapter President Gwen White and Valentin Singleton.

Direct Election Plan Falls Short in Senate

A proposed constitutional amendment for direct election of the president died in the Senate when it failed to receive the required two-thirds majority.

The amendment, sponsored by Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) and endorsed by the AFL-CIO, mustered a bare 51-48 majority on a vote that splintered the usual Senate lineups. Liberals and conservatives were on both sides of the issue.

It sought to abolish the electoral vote system in order to eliminate the possibility that a candidate who did not receive the most votes nationwide could nevertheless be elected president.

While that hasn't happened in this century, the switch of a relatively few votes in key states could have elected candidates who trailed in the nationwide popular vote in the 1960, 1968 and 1976 presidential elections.

Bayh's proposed amendment would have required a runoff election if no presidential ticket polled at least 40 percent of the votes cast.

In 1969, after the three-way Nixon-Humphrey-Wallace contest had focused attention on the risks of the electoral vote system, the House voted overwhelmingly for a direct-election constitutional amendment. But it was blocked in the Senate by a filibuster, and the 54-36 vote for cloture indicated it could not have gotten the two-thirds needed to pass a constitutional amendment and send it to the states for ratification. This year's vote was the first Senate action on the merits of the proposal.

Some previous supporters of a direct presidential election switched positions this year, concerned that the political influence of blacks and other minorities in the large industrial states would be diluted if the winner-take-all formula for allocating a state's electoral votes were abandoned.

But in a letter to senators before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said direct election is the only fully democratic means of choosing a president. If the electoral system should fail to result in victory for the popular vote winner, he warned, the nation would be risking a serious governmental crisis.

Two Key Unions Ratify General Electric Accord

New York—The two largest of the 13 unions that bargain nationally with the General Electric Co. approved new three-year contracts providing substantial pay increases and fringe-benefit improvements.

The Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, which represents about 68,000 GE workers, said its members ratified the agreement 35,504 to 25,200. The unaffiliated United Electrical Workers, representing 17,000 of the company's employees, approved the pact by a 2 to 1 margin.

IUE President David J. Fitzmaurice and John Shambo, chief negotiator for the union, said they were "tremendously pleased" by the decisive vote in favor of the settlement.

The agreement will raise workers' wages by $2 an hour over the life of the contract and provide other benefits, including a new dental plan, full retirement benefits at age 60, and greater job security. The terms were negotiated through the Coordinated Bargaining Committee of GE-Westinghouse Unions. The 11 other unions that make up the committee are patterning their national agreements with the firm after the IUE-UE pacts, but still are in the process of negotiating numerous local issues. The 11 unions represent about 35,000 workers.

Meanwhile, the CBC continued its talks with Westinghouse Electric Corp. in Pittsburgh, in an effort to reach a settlement before current contracts with the company expire at midnight on July 15. Westinghouse, in the past, has generally followed GE's lead.

IUE is also the largest union negotiating with Westinghouse, representing 19,600 employees. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is the second largest union, representing 12,800 workers.

The firm has made a wage-increase offer similar to GE's but unresolved issues over pensions and job security pose a potential threat to an agreement, the unions said.

Labor Presses End to Firings In Venezuela

An international trade secretariat representing over 5 million public workers called upon the new president of Venezuela to stop firing federal employees and replacing them with political appointees.

The inter-American advisory board of the Public Services International (PSI) expressed the secretariat's feelings in a telegram to Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins.

PSI leaders said the recently inaugurated Herrera, a Christian Democrat, already has fired more than 1,000 career federal workers.

"Herrera's campaign slogan was 'enough,'" one PSI official observed. "We say 'enough'—enough firings of career employees, enough hiring of political appointees, and enough violations of the career service system and the federal employee unions' collective bargaining agreements."

The board's meeting took place at the headquarters of the State, County & Municipal Employees, PSI's affiliate in the United States. Board members include AFSCME President Jerry Wurf and Sec.-Treas. William Lucy.

Irving to Resign As NLRB Counsel

John S. Irving, general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, announced that he will resign on Oct. 19, one month before the expiration of his four-year term.

Irving, a Republican, was appointed to his post by President Ford in November 1975. He is 38 years old.

In a letter to President Carter, Irving said he is resigning before his term expires to facilitate the selection and confirmation of his successor before the congressional winter recess.

AFL-CIO Affiliates

Union Conventions Remaining in 1979

Below is a list of conventions scheduled for the remainder of 1979 by AFL-CIO national and international affiliates and state central bodies. Changes and additions will be reported.

July 16-20	Aluminum Workers	Kalispell, Mont.
July 16-20	Communications Workers	Detroit
July 16-21	Longshoremen	Bal Harbour, Fla.
July 25-28	Texas	Austin
Aug. 6-10	Railroad Signalmen	Chicago
Aug. 7-9	School Administrators	Kiamesha Lake, N.Y.
Aug. 13-17	Lathers	Atlanta
Aug. 13-17	Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers	Hollywood, Fla.
Aug. 13-17	Plasterers	New Orleans
Aug. 16-18	Montana	Helena
Aug. 18-24	Typographical Union	St. Paul, Minn.
Aug. 19-22	Maryland-D.C.	Washington
Aug. 22-24	Iowa	Waterloo
Aug. 22-24	Utah	Salt Lake City
Aug. 23-25	North Dakota	Minot
Aug. 26-31	Allied Industrial Workers	Atlanta
Aug.31-Sept. 1	Siderographers	Philadelphia
Sept. 3	British Trades Union Congress	Blackpool
Sept. 9-12	Minnesota	Minneapolis
Sept. 10-14	Painters	Chicago
Sept. 10-15	Amalgamated Transit Union	Los Angeles
Sept. 12-13	Public Employee Dept.	Washington
Sept. 12-14	Connecticut	New Haven
Sept. 13-15	South Carolina	Columbia
Sept. 14-15	Nevada	Carson City
Sept. 14-16	Vermont	Burlington
Sept. 15-19	Tennessee	Nashville
Sept. 17-20	Florida	Hollywood
Sept. 17-22	Oregon	North Bend
Sept. 19-20	Industrial Union Dept.	San Francisco
Sept. 20-21	Colorado	Pueblo
Sept. 21-22	Wyoming	Casper
Sept. 24-26	Nebraska	Lincoln
Sept. 24-27	Illinois	Springfield
Sept. 25-28	Massachusetts	Boston
Sept. 26-28	Kansas	Topeka
Oct. 1	Building & Construction Trade Dept.	San Diego
Oct. 8	Telegraph Workers	Vancouver, B.C.
Oct. 15-19	Woodworkers	St. Paul, Minn.
Oct. 17-19	West Virginia	Charleston
Oct. 24-26	Georgia	Jekyll Island
Oct. 26-28	New Hampshire	Hampton
Oct. 29-31	Train Dispatchers	Chicago
Nov. 8-9	Metal Trades Dept.	Washington
Nov. 8-9	Food & Beverage Trades Dept.	Washington
Nov. 11-14	International Labor Press Association	Washington
Nov. 12-13	Union Label & Service Trades Dept.	Washington
Nov. 12-13	Maritime Trades Dept.	Washington
Nov. 13-14	Dept. for Professional Employees	Washington
Nov. 15	AFL-CIO	Washington
Nov. 28	Flight Engineers	Jerusalem, Israel
Nov. 28-30	Oklahoma	Tulsa

Surging Energy Costs Boost Wholesale Index

More bad news on the inflation front—the result mainly of another startling surge in energy costs—left most Americans with little hope of any immediate relief from skyrocketing prices.

While food prices declined again, other non-durable items such as gasoline and oil continued to cost more in June, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said in announcing another five-tenths of 1 percent rise in the government's wholesale price index over the month.

"Clearly, there has been a slowdown in the increases in food prices at all stages of processing," BLS Commissioner Janet L. Norwood said in a briefing before the congressional Joint Economic Committee. But she called the continued rapid price rises for energy items a major reason for concern.

Gasoline prices last month rose 3.7 percent at the wholesale level while home heating oil soared by 8.4 percent. These increases followed wholesale price rises of 4.2 percent for gasoline and 5.4 percent for heating oil in May.

Last month's half-percent rise in the government's producer price index for finished goods compared with an increase of four-tenths of 1 percent in May. Prices for intermediate, or semi-finished, goods moved up nine-tenths of 1 percent.

Practically all of the 1.2 percent decline in wholesale food prices was due to decreases in meat prices. Prices for consumer nondurables other than food rose 2 percent over the month, the largest monthly increase in five years.

Convention Action:

News Guild Adopts Higher Strike Fund

Boston—Delegates to the Newspaper Guild's 46th annual convention here voted a 150-percent increase in the union's defense fund, to $5 million, and renewed calls for merger of the Guild and the Typographical Union "as quickly as an agreement can be fashioned."

The 230 delegates also re-elected President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., to a sixth two-year term, and International Chairman Harry S. Culver to a second term.

Veteran Field Rep. Charles Dale was chosen as the union's new secretary-treasurer, effective Oct. 15. The latter office has been vacant since the death Apr. 7 of Robert M. Crocker, who had held the position since 1969. Dale was nominated without opposition.

Delegates also re-elected four vice presidents and nominated 14 persons, including six incumbents, for nine other vice presidencies, setting up a union-wide referendum in mid-September.

Under the program adopted by the convention, the defense fund's floor and ceiling are raised immediately to $3.5 and $4 million, respectively, and by another $1 million each 30 months after the $4-million ceiling is reached.

As the fund climbs to the $4 million mark, from a present $3.1-million deficit position, international strike and lockout benefits also will rise to $100 a week, from a variable schedule with a $75 maximum.

The action means that Guild members who have been paying higher dues since September will continue to do so for at least 22 months more.

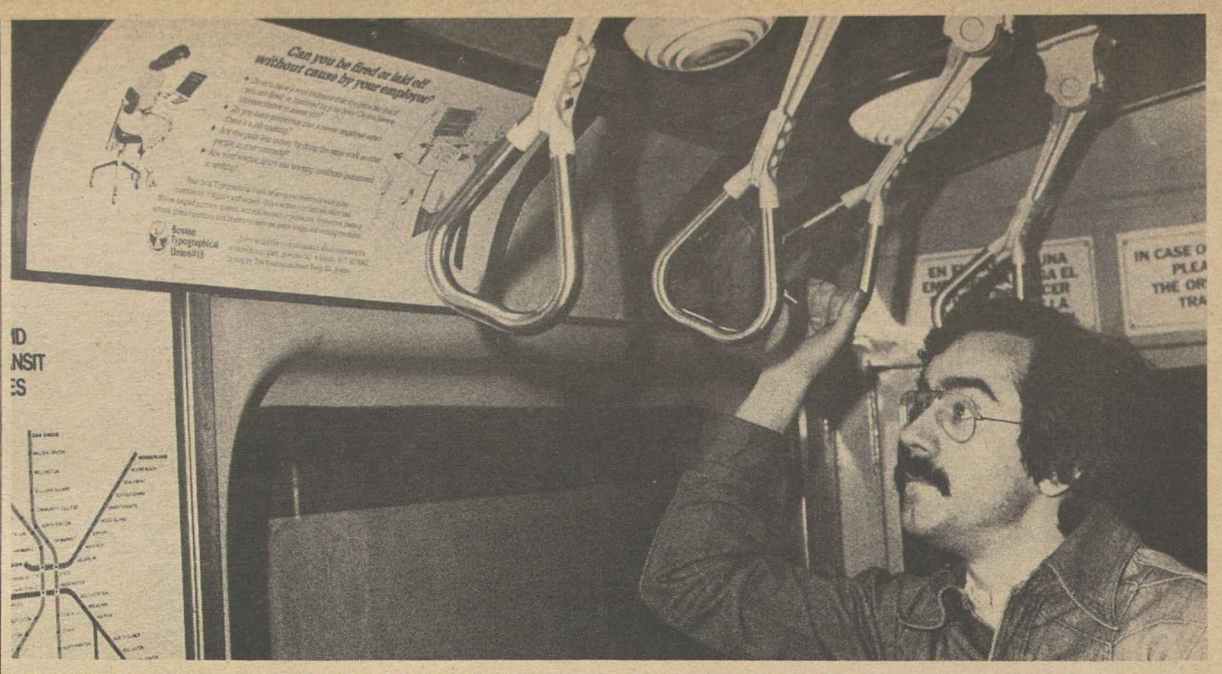
After hearing reports from the two unions' presidents on the status of Guild-ITU merger talks, delegates adopted a special statement "to re-emphasize" their desire for "a new, bigger and better union."

They expressed the hope that the talks can be completed in time for action by the ITU's convention in August, pointing out at the same time that if that is not possible they expect the Guild's merger committee to "continue persistently to pursue acceptable merger terms."

In other action, the convention also:

- Called upon locals to bargain voluntary payroll deduction of political action contributions.
- Rejected a proposal that publication of the Guild Reporter be cut back to monthly as an economy measure, declaring that the benefits of twice monthly communication with the membership far outweigh the "relatively small" savings the move would produce.
- Urged Congress to reject pending bills that while purporting to "reform" the Federal Communications Act, would instead "surrender the public airwaves to unrestricted private exploitation in perpetuity."
- Proposed that both the U.S. Congress and Canada's Parliament act to limit the size of newspaper chains, declaring that freedom of the press makes such legislation "imperative" in the face of growing concentration of ownership in both nations.
- Reversed a 12-year-old policy permitting use of openly appropriated government funds for Guild international affairs programs. An immediate effect is to cut short a Latin American program launched earlier this year with funds from the Agency for International Development through the American Institute for Free Labor Development.
- Called upon House and Senate committees studying the matter to back legislation to restore the Bill of Rights' protections against unreasonable search and seizure for all Americans, not just the press.

The convention also backed the Farm Workers' renewed boycott of nonunion iceberg lettuce, the Kennedy-Waxman Health Care for All Americans bill, reforms of Canada's medicare system and inclusion of handicapped workers under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.



BENEFITS AND PROTECTIONS of union representation are spelled out in a series of advertisements sponsored by the International Typographical Union for commuters riding Boston's mass transit system. ITU organizer Paul Grace checks over one of the ads on an MTA subway car.

Labor Urged To Boycott Seattle Bank

AFL-CIO President George Meany has called on all labor organizations and members of the general public to withdraw whatever funds they have in the Seattle-First National Bank until the firm agrees to recognize and bargain in good faith with the union representing its workers.

For the past 16 months, the bank has refused to bargain with the employees' organization, Local 1182 of the Food & Commercial Workers, despite its certification by the National Labor Relations and a board order directing the bank to bargain in good faith. Instead, the bank has appealed the NLRB decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals, usually a long, drawn-out process.

Meany noted that support of the UFCW boycott was voted unanimously in a poll of the federation's Executive Council, which urged all trade union members, their families, and the public to cease doing business with the bank until it recognizes the employees' union.

Meany said that the labor press will extensively publicize the boycott, and asked the Union Label & Service Trades Dept., and state and local central bodies to do all in their power to support the boycott.

Jobs for Youth Linked To Economic Growth

(Continued from Page 1)

economic growth and recessions leave the American economy without enough jobs for our growing labor force."

While the impact of the lowered birthrate of recent years will somewhat alleviate the present critically high youth unemployment rate, serious problems will remain including diminished job opportunities for less experienced and less skilled workers of all ages, the AFL-CIO statement observed.

Oswald, in a statement scheduled for a hearing of the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee, said that these problems will be "much easier to solve . . . in a climate of healthy economic growth with expanding job opportunities."

He described the efforts unions are making to enlarge apprenticeship opportunities and to help young people obtain other forms of practical training for jobs with futures.

"We support training and employment opportunities for young people," he said. But "programs that transfer job opportunities from adults to teenagers are not a solution."

Oswald declared that the AFL-CIO opposes tax credits and wage subsidies for employers who hire young people. "The effect of these devices is to fatten the profits of low-wage employers, to displace adult workers, and to encourage high turnover of workers when the particular subsidy comes to an end."

The tax credit approach, he charged, "wastes money by rewarding business for doing what it would without the subsidy" and "leads to a revolving door pattern of hiring and layoffs" so that employers can continue to get subsidies.

As for the "nonsense" assertions that minimum wage requirements cause teenage unemployment, "it's simply not true," Oswald reported. He said none of the many studies on the impact of the minimum wage bear out such claims.

The job requirements in the years ahead will require better-educated workers, Oswald noted. "That is why we insist that youth job programs must not encourage young people to drop out of school."

Vocational education must be updated and improved, he said, and also "be available on a continuing basis to all workers."

Continuing education and training is needed "as machines replace human ditchdiggers, as factory workers lose out to automated, cybernated production lines, as office workers lose out to multi-function information processing machines, and as the entire workforce goes through continuous upheavals from changes in technology and changes in the world economy."

And for the training to be meaningful, he emphasized, the nation must have "job-creating economic growth" and pursue full employment policies.

Increased Corporate Role Viewed As Threat to Public Broadcasting

Unions concerned with the future of public broadcasting voiced sharp dissent to a bill being considered by a House subcommittee that would blur the distinction between public and commercial sponsorship.

Jack Golodner, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees, warned that the legislation would reduce public television to "a pale replica of commercial broadcasting."

Public broadcasting must be insulated from domination by corporations as well as from political pressures, Golodner urged.

A similar concern was expressed by President Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees.

Wurf's statement, presented by AFSCME Legislative Director Anthony Carnevale, noted that more than two-thirds of prime-time public television programs are already funded by corporations.

The union proposed a requirement that 70 percent of corporate donations be available for unrestricted use, with a maximum of 30 percent earmarked for specific programs. Further, AFSCME said, while corporation donations should be acknowledged, the listing should not be linked to specific programs.

Golodner reiterated labor's support for a plan to charge commercial broadcasters a fee for access to the airwaves that would be used to fund public broadcasting. Any additional needs, he suggested, could be met from appropriated funds.

As an indication of the large role that oil companies especially have in the funding of public television Golodner cited the cynical quip that PBS really stands for the Petroleum Broadcasting System.

He urged the Commerce subcommittee to scrap a provision of the bill that would allow public broadcasting stations to carry paid commercial advertisements.

"If this is approved," he warned, "Congress would in effect be confessing failure in trying to provide a communications medium that would serve the public interest first and foremost."

Golodner reiterated the AFL-CIO's concern over use of public funds to purchase foreign-produced television programs and urged that stations receiving federal aid "be governed by an autonomous board of directors broadly representative of the public in the service area which the station is licensed to serve."

Pamphlet Gives Advice On Security in Hotels

Delegates to union conventions will be receiving a pamphlet of helpful advice on hotel security through a cooperative program of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, the Hotel & Restaurant Employees and the National Council on Crime & Delinquency.

The pamphlet, funded by the hotel union, includes a checklist of "do" and "don't" suggestions intended "to reduce your chances of becoming a crime victim."

It covers precautions to take before leaving home as well as after arrival at the convention hotel.

Marshall's Son Dies of Cancer

Bethesda, Md.—Labor Sec. Marshall's 16-year-old son, Christopher, died July 11 at the National Institutes of Health following a long battle against bone cancer. The cancer was first detected in his arm in January 1978.

AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland expressed their sorrow in a message to the Secretary and Mrs. Marshall.

"His courage during this long ordeal must surely have given strength to both of you and your children," Meany and Kirkland said.

In addition to his parents, young Marshall is survived by three sisters and a brother.

Harry Sayre, Paperworkers Leader, Dies

Ft. Myers, Fla. — Harry D. Sayre, who had a key role in union mergers that created the United Paperworkers, died at his retirement home here after a brief illness. He was 64.

Sayre had been senior executive vice president of the United Paperworkers before his retirement in 1974. In a career that began at an American Coating Mills plant in Elkhart, Ind., in 1935, he twice served as an international union president.

He became president of the CIO Paperworkers in 1947 after having served as secretary-treasurer. Ten years later, as part of the AFL-CIO, he helped negotiate a merger with the Paper Makers union that had been affiliated with the former AFL and became executive vice president of the new Papermakers & Paperworkers.

In 1968, Sayre succeeded the late Paul L. Phillips as president of the union. But in 1972, he negotiated a merger with the former Pulp, Sulphite & Paper Mill Workers and took the number two spot in the combined United Paperworkers.

Jobs for Youth

FULL EMPLOYMENT is the basic prerequisite for an effective and comprehensive array of programs to achieve successful youth transition from school to work. Education, training and employment programs for young people can be effective only within the context of a healthy, expanding, full employment economy. Economic growth and full employment are essential if this nation is going to deal properly with the employment needs of young people as well as of adult workers.

Unfortunately, the American economy falls far short of full employment. With persistent high unemployment affecting all workers, it's not surprising that young people and teenagers are particularly hard hit.

We support training and employment opportunities for young people. We also insist that training and jobs for young people must not result in loss of jobs and diminished work opportunities for adult workers. Programs that transfer job opportunities from adults to teenagers are not a solution to the unemployment problems of either youths or adults. We believe the various youth programs should address the structural problems of training and employability—and not simply reshuffle unemployment.

We oppose tax credits and wage subsidies and vouchers for employers who hire young people. The effect of these devices is to fatten the profits of low-wage employers, to displace adult workers, and to encourage high turnover of workers when the particular subsidy comes to an end.

Youth employment and training programs must not undermine and undercut the wages and working conditions that exist in our society. That is why we insist on the strict enforcement of fair labor standards and minimum wage requirements.

THERE'S ENTIRELY TOO MUCH nonsense spread around about how minimum wage requirements cause teenage unemployment. It's simply not true. There have been studies galore on the impact of minimum wages ever since 1938 and there has never been a single study that comes up with any clear, unambiguous results on the employment-unemployment effects of minimum wage laws.

As we look ahead at the occupational mix of the American economy in the 1980s, the main job increases will be in the low-wage, low-skill jobs in the service areas—wholesale and retail trade (the Burger Kings and McDonald's), personal and business services, and the public sector. We are losing the higher-paying jobs in manufacturing, transportation, utilities, and construction at an alarming rate.

The AFL-CIO has long been concerned about the need to improve the transition from school to work. We continue to encourage our local labor councils to participate in local community education activities which help students get more and better awareness of the nature and variety of the world of work.

Even as we continue to seek better education and training and work experience and regular jobs for young people as well as adult workers, we will continue to press for national economic policies geared to job-creating economic growth and full employment.

—From AFL-CIO testimony.

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'Here's a Beauty!'



Caring as Well as Curing:

New Trends in Medicine Put Family Doctor Back in Fashion

By Gus Tyler

THE CHINESE USED TO PAY their doctors only as long as the patient was in good health. When he got sick, he punished the physician by halting all payments.

That was a story I heard when I was a kid. I never checked into it. But no matter, because the point is valid: a good doctor should be as interested in keeping you healthy as in curing you when you are sick.

I was reminded of this myth as I listened to the Surgeon General of the United States, Dr. Julius Richmond, talking about the need to widen the vision of American medicine in the years to come to add "caring" to "curing." Traditionally, he said, "we gave scant attention to health as a positive" idea. "We have no taxonomy of health," he noted, "no words to describe states of wellness," in the ways that we can describe states of sickness. We need greater emphasis on "disease prevention and health promotion."

He was talking to a gathering of the American Academy of Family Physicians with their present push to keep people healthy. The moment, despite its low profile, may be a turning point in the role of the doctor in our land.

"The family physician" is a direct descendant of the old fashioned doctor, who came to the home, delivered the kids, cared for the aged, and became in effect a member of the family, sensitive to all the strains and stresses on people, whether physical, occupational, emotional or social. In recent decades, family practitioners stood low on the totem pole as the bright lights and the big bucks fell on the specialists—brain surgeons, cardiologists, heart transplanters, and the like.

Now, for a variety of reasons, the family physician is back in fashion. Partly, the return of the "country doctor" in the urban setting is due to the feeling that reliance on the specialists is too expensive and too unscientific: the whole man is greater than his parts and cannot be treated as a disjunct collection of organs. Partly, the resurgence stems from the rise of a new breed of young doctors who are genuinely more interested in beings than in bucks and who are convinced that the best practice must be based on a knowledge of the full person as earner, family member, consumer.

To promote their view, the Academy ran a recent study on the habits of five groups in the nation: business executives, farmers, secretaries, garment workers and doctors themselves, with an eye on the kinds of stresses and satisfactions these people had, because these ups and downs bounced around both the psyche and the soma, the soul and body of humans.

They found out that most people don't know how to handle stress. They also found out, as Dr. Richmond put it, that there is much "information that is not purveyed to people." They discovered that people didn't eat right, exercise properly, or avoid self-destructive behavior, both out of ignorance and out of neglect.

Because the Academy senses that doctors alone cannot reach the masses either to inform or to inspire them to do right by themselves, the family physicians invited unions, farmers, corporations, teachers, secretaries, and religious groups to cooperate.

The doctors feel that they can provide the programming—the sound advice on how to care for oneself—for the other organizations to push. The physicians also suspect that they will have to enrich their own schooling with a new kind of subject matter: with what is now called "prospective medicine," the art of caring for health rather than just curing unhealth.

At long last, we may live in the manner of the fabled Chinese.

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Full Measure of Quality!



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

How to Buy:

Two-Job Women a New Trend As Inflation Saps Real Earnings

By Sidney Margolius

NOT ONLY ARE MORE WOMEN working, but more are holding down two jobs to keep their families going.

The upsurge in moonlighting women workers is one of several manifestations of the effect that persistent inflation is having on the life of American working families.

The most noticeable effect is the number of women who now work for pay outside the home, and especially the growing number of working mothers. The working mothers are the fastest-growing group. It includes divorced and separated women as well as wives.

You now can find the husband-breadwinner and wife-homemaker family in only about one of three married couples, says the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Only 25 years ago, more than half the wives were full-time homemakers.

The earnings of working wives now often are what maintains family living standards in the face of a doubling of consumer prices in little over a decade. It's these earnings that have made possible the sale of $65,000 houses and $6,500 cars.

The working wife also has helped lift more families into the middle to upper income bracket. Four out of five families in the richest fifth of the population have at least two wage-earners, most often husband and wife, the American Council on Life Insurance reports.

The revelation that more working women are holding down two jobs is most startling and potentially troublesome. While moonlighting is increasing among men, too, and the typical moonlighter is a young husband, it's increasing especially rapidly among women.

In 1970, some 4 million workers had at least two jobs in the battle of the budget. About 600,000 or 16 percent were women. By 1977, there were 4.5 million multiple jobholders and women totaled 1.2 million or 27 percent.

Another effect of inflation is mounting debts. More families have become chronic debtors and their debts have gotten bigger. By January, consumers had accumulated a record total of $275 billion in installment debts without even counting mortgages and 30-day charge accounts. That compares with $138 billion in 1971.

Various surveys cite several reasons for the mounting debts. A Harris poll found many of the people surveyed said they are forced to borrow because prices keep rising.

The inflation psychology itself also encourages debt: the fear that if you don't buy this house or car now it's going to cost still more later. Higher car prices also have influenced more people to undertake longer terms such as 48- and even now 60-month loans.

The working-woman trend itself has induced changes in the way many families live. One noticeable change is the increase in relatively inexpensive fast-food restaurants and prepared food sections of supermarkets. In general, working wives suffer from a lack of time to plan and shop economically.

But another and more serious change that occurs in many families when the wife works full-time is an increase in tensions, family service counselors note.

Even though more money is coming in, couples with a working wife need as much or more mutual planning of budgets and homemaking arrangements.

More often than may be realized, many wives resent having to work, especially those in more routine jobs. Working mothers especially are confronted by both practical and emotional problems. Counselors often must deal with the problems of a mother working to pay off family debts which never seem to get cleared up.

In these cases, adjustments need to be made in household routine, the problems of the children and the breakdown in relationship between husband and wife.

SOMETIMES A HUSBAND may be resentful because a wife isn't home even though she's adding to family income. One husband's seemingly impulsive purchases were found to be actually an expression of resentment at his loneliness. His wife worked evenings.

The counselors were able to set up a budget which reduced the financial pressures, thus helping the couple reestablish a better relationship.

While heightened difficulties between couples and also with children cause frequent emotional problems, the most realistic dilemma of working women often is food shopping and preparation.

Earlier government surveys found that working women feed their families as adequately as full-time homemakers, but often spend about 50 percent more. They use more meat, especially cold cuts, and more baked goods, canned and frozen vegetables, and other ready-to-use foods.

While some increased costs are inevitable when a wife works, extra spending wipes out much of the gain from the extra work, especially if a couple is pushed into a higher tax bracket.

Some of the work and extra expense can be minimized by planning meals a week ahead on the basis of advertised specials, relying more on semi-convenience foods rather than ready-to-eat products that may not provide much additional real time-saving for their higher cost, and by preparing fewer but larger courses.

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Over-Supervision Charged:

Poor Employee Relations Laid To Postal Service Management

OVER-SUPERVISION AND FAILURE to correct serious health and safety hazards are major causes of the deteriorating labor-management relations in the U.S. Postal Service, President Vincent R. Sombrotto of the Letter Carriers declared.

With one-fifth of all Postal Service employees assigned to some supervisory capacity, workers constantly have someone looking over their shoulders—often "spying on them"—as they try to do their jobs efficiently and effectively, Sombrotto charged. "Not only is it disparaging to the employee" to be spied on, "it's degrading to those who have to do the spying," he observed.

Such practices are an "obscenity," Sombrotto asserted, noting that labor relations policies and practices like that reflect an "attitude (that) starts at the top." He appeared on the network radio interview Labor News Conference.

Sombrotto urged that the U.S. Postal System put greater emphasis on foot delivery of the mail and rely less on the use of motor vehicles, pointing out that such a step would improve service, cut costs, reduce on-the-job injuries and help ease the current gasoline shortage. He said the record shows clearly that complaints about service have risen substantially since the Postal Service began converting foot routes to motor vehicle routes in the early Seventies.

The union president said the Postal Service is now using 350 million gallons of gasoline annually to operate its motor vehicle fleet and that much of that consumption would be eliminated by a return to foot delivery. Further, he noted, the rapid rise of gasoline prices has added substantially to operating costs, with every one-cent increase at the gas pump costing the Postal Service an additional $3.5 million annually.

Reporters questioning Sombrotto on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Jeff Mills of the Associated Press and Jean White of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired weekly by Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

IN RECENT YEARS, the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA) has been criticized in the headlines of large city newspapers for a variety of scandals. The stories involved fraud, bad management, nepotism, political favoritism and other misuse of public funds.

Congress got mad and, when it acted last fall to extend the program for three years, it ordered the Labor Dept. to tighten up its administration. In unveiling the "new CETA" early this year, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall stressed the changes made to improve management, cut waste and audit the $9 billion a year program.

Putting the abuses into perspective, Marshall observed that an audit of $5.5 billion spent over the past five years revealed that approximately one-half of 1 percent of the funds were found to have been improperly used.

In an effort to gain some recognition for the constructive work of CETA across the nation, the National Association of Counties recently issued a 152-page volume of case histories entitled "CETA Works." These are some examples:

● In Humboldt County, Calif., CETA funds were used to solve two community problems.

The county's Senior Resource Center, opened in 1974, was receiving a steadily increasing number of requests from elderly people seeking home nursing care. At the same time, the center was concerned about the problems faced by low-income, middle-aged women who, due to death of a spouse or a similar crisis, needed to re-enter the job market.

The solution was the Home Health Aid Training Program, which trained the job seekers to care for people who otherwise would not be able to live at home. The program placed over 80 percent of the graduates in training-related jobs immediately upon graduation. This happened in a county where the unemployment rate peaked at 17 percent in 1978.

● The Multnomah-Washington counties consortium in Oregon developed the Veterans' Carpentry Project, which enabled 19 Vietnam-era veterans to receive training as union carpenters while three condemned houses were renovated and put back on the market.

The District Council of Carpenters played a key role in the project, helping in development of curriculum, providing quality instructors and helping trainees enter apprenticeships. All trainees received jobs. Five no longer need unemployment insurance benefits; three no longer receive aid to dependent children (welfare assistance); and two have earned their high school equivalency diplomas.

● The Rural Minnesota Concentrated Employment Program, which includes 17 counties in the northwestern part of the state, trains diesel mechanics, matching CETA clients to area employment needs. The program enables participants, who earned an average of less than $2,000 a year at enrollment, to make an average of $5 an hour following graduation.

● The Lansing, Mich., Tri-County Regional Manpower Consortium provided 246 welfare mothers with vocational counseling and job skill training with emphasis on non-traditional jobs for women, including, for example, electrical and carpentry jobs.

The typical program participant was likely to be white (62 percent), about 30 years old, economically disadvantaged, unemployed prior to CETA and with a 11.4 grade school completion. The average welfare mother had two or three dependent children and received $361 in welfare payments per month.

The program is expected to reduce welfare costs to Clinton, Eaton and Ingham counties by $1.2 million over a five-year period. A CETA cost/welfare saving ratio was estimated at 4.46 to 1, i.e., a $1 expenditure in CETA would reduce welfare costs by about $4.50.

CETA, though federally funded is very decentralized. It serves more than 2 million persons a year through 460 prime sponsors and 30,000 subcontractors.

Some 60 percent of CETA participants remain gainfully employed a year later, with the formerly chronically unemployed person doubling his income. Apparently CETA works.



SAGGING EMPLOYEE RELATIONS in the U.S. Postal Service stem from poor management, Letter Carriers President Vincent R. Sombrotto, center, charged on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Jean Culler White of Press Associates, Inc., and Jeff Mills of Associated Press. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Key Vote on Windfall Oil Profits Tax

The House seriously weakened the windfall profits tax that its Ways & Means Committee proposed to soak up some of the extra billions that oil companies will collect as decontrol allows them to raise domestic prices to OPEC levels.

The labor-opposed amendment to reduce the windfall tax was passed by a 236-183 vote on June 28. Right votes against the amendment were cast by 173 Democrats and 10 Republicans. Voting wrong were 146 Republicans and 90 Democrats.

Numerals show House districts; PR—paired right: PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired; P—present but not voting.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) R
4. Bevill (D) R
5. Flippo (D) W
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Shelby (D) R

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Stump (D) W
4. Rudd (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) W
2. Bethune (R) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Anthony (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Matsui (D) R
4. Fazio (D) R
5. Burton, John L. (D) A
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Royer (R) W
12. McCloskey (R) W
13. Mineta (D) R
14. Shumway (R) W
15. Coelho (D) W
16. Panetta (D) R
17. Pashayan (R) W
18. Thomas (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Beilenson (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Dornan (R) W
28. Dixon (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) A
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D) R
32. Anderson (D) W
33. Grisham (R) W
34. Lungren (R) W
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) R
37. Lewis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) A
39. Dannemeyer (R) R
40. Badham (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) W
2. Wirth (D) W
3. Kogovsek (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Kramer (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) W
5. Ratchford (D) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL Evans (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Hutto (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) R
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Ireland (D) W
9. Nelson (D) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Mica (D) R
12. Stack (D) R
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) A
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Fowler (D) R
6. Gingrich (R) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Evans (D) W
9. Jenkins (D) W
10. Barnard (D) W

HAWAII
1. Heftel (D) W
2. Akaka (D) W

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Stewart (D) A
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary (D) R
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane, Philip (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Corcoran (R) W
16. Anderson (R) A
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) W
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Crane, Dan (R) W
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) W

INDIANA
1. Benjamin (D) W
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Quayle (R) W
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) R
7. Myers (R) W
8. Deckard (R) W
9. Hamilton (D) W
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Leach (R) W
2. Tauke (R) W
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) W
5. Harkin (D) W
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Jeffries (R) W
3. Winn (R) W
4. Glickman (D) W
5. Whittaker (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) W
2. Natcher (D) W
3. Mazzoli (D) W
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Hopkins (R) W
7. Perkins (D) W

LOUISIANA
1. Livingston (R) W
2. Boggs (D) W
3. Treen (R) W
4. Leach (D) W
5. Huckaby (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) W
8. Long (D) W

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Snowe (R) R

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Mikulski (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) A
6. Byron (D) R
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Barnes (D) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Shannon (D) R
6. Mavroules (D) R
7. Markey (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) Speaker
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Donnelly (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Pursell (R) R
3. Wolpe (D) R
4. Stockman (R) W
5. Sawyer (R) W
6. Carr (D) R
7. Kildee (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Albosta (D) R
11. Davis (R) W
12. Bonior (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Erdahl (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Vento (D) R
5. Sabo (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Stangeland (R) W
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Hinson (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Young (D) R
3. Gephardt (D) R
4. Skelton (D) R
5. Bolling (D) A
6. Coleman (R) W
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Volkmer (D) R
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Williams (D) R
2. Marlenee (R) W

NEBRASKA
1. Bereuter (R) W
2. Cavanaugh (D) R
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) W

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) A
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) A
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Hollenbeck (R) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Courter (R) W
14. Guarini (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Carney (R) W
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) R
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Ferraro (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) W
18. Green (R) W
19. Rangel (D) A
20. Weiss (D) R
21. Garcia (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (D) W
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) W
26. Gilman (R) W
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) W
29. Solomon (R) W
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Michell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Lee (R) W
34. Horton (R) W
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Lundine (D) R

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Whitley (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) W
6. Preyer (D) W
7. Rose (D) W
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Gudger (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Luken (D) R
3. Hall (D) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) W
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Pease (D) R
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Applegate (D) R
19. Williams (R) W
20. Oakar (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Synar (D) W
3. Watkins (D) W
4. Steed (D) W
5. Edwards (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) W
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) W
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Myers (D) R
2. Gray (D) R
3. Lederer (D) R
4. Dougherty (R) W
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) W
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Kostmayer (D) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) A
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Ritter (R) W
16. Walker (R) W
17. Ertel (D) W
18. Walgren (D) R
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Bailey (D) R
22. Murphy (D) R
23. Clinger (R) P
24. Marks (R) W
25. Atkinson (D) R

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) A
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) A
4. Campbell (R) W
5. Holland (D) R
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Daschle (D) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Bouquard (D) W
4. Gore (D) R
5. Boner (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) W
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Hall (D) W
2. Wilson (D) W
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Mattox (D) W
6. Gramm (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) W
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Leath (D) W
12. Wright (D) W
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Wyatt (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Stenholm (D) W
18. Leland (D) R
19. Hance (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Loeffler (R) W
22. Paul (R) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Frost (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Marriott (R) W

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Trible (R) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Swift (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) W
6. Dicks (D) R
7. Lowry (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) W
4. Rahall (D) W

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Petri (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Roth (R) W
9. Sensenbrenner (R) W

WYOMING
AL Cheney (R) W

Delegates Voice Concern:

Teachers See Attack On Public Education

San Francisco—Reduction of class sizes and opposition to residency requirements and the voucher plan were among the key policy resolutions adopted during the week-long annual convention of the American Federation of Teachers.

The 2,500 delegates noted that many school districts are trying to increase class sizes as a response to inflation, shrinking school populations and the "Proposition 13 fever" that is sweeping the nation.

"Smaller classes are absolutely essential for meeting the needs of improved, rigorous standards of achievement and requirements for graduation, such as basic competency examinations," the delegates declared in a resolution.

They also expressed concern over the increasing number of school systems that are demanding that their teachers and other school personnel establish and maintain residency within the school system boundaries.

A resolution called on the AFT to oppose imposition of residency requirements and to work to have them rescinded where they already exist.

Opposition to the voucher plan, which has surfaced in several states, was a major theme of AFT President Albert Shanker's keynote address and a speech by California Superintendent of Public Instruction Wilson Riles.

Shanker warned that adoption of the voucher plan, favored by private schools, could mean the end of public education in America.

The resolution adopted by the convention equated the voucher movement with other divisive attacks on public education, pointing out that it encourages selective admissions practices and promotes ethnic and racial segregation.

The only balloting to take place at the convention—election of delegates to the AFL-CIO convention, saw the Progressive Caucus led by Shanker sweep all 11 posts with the 12th position going automatically to Shanker, who is an AFL-CIO vice president.

A dramatic highlight of the convention was the appearance of the recently-exchanged Soviet dissident, Alexander Ginzburg, and his call for the release of his foster son, Sergei Shibaev, from the USSR. At a press conference following his convention speech, Ginzburg charged that the Soviet Union is using phony reasons to keep Shibaev from leaving with his wife.

Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-N.Y.), in an address following her acceptance of the AFT human rights award, called for a coalition of parents, teachers and administrators to seek creative answers to the complex problems facing schools in general and urban schools in particular.

Chisholm challenged teachers to forego the search for educational technology that would provide a "magic solution" to the learning problems of students. She said "to date no substitute has been found for the warm, competent teacher whose class is small enough to permit individualized instruction for the students."

"Students would profit more from an increase in teacher service than from the talking typewriter," she declared.

The delegates also heard California AFL-CIO Executive Sec.-Treas. John Henning charge that "politicians who won elections with labor endorsement are now identified with the policies of conservatism." Those who once called themselves liberals, he charged, are now treating public employees with disdain.

"Public employees are under siege whether they're teachers, building trades workers or transit workers," Henning added, "they are all victims of hostile legislation." He called on the convention to respond with "intensified political action."



RECENTLY-FREED Soviet dissident Alexander Ginzburg addresses the American Federation of Teachers convention, with interpreter Ludmilla Thorne helping to bring his message to the delegates. AFT President Albert Shanker is seated.

Labor Dept. Study Cites Savings From Stabilizing Construction Jobs

A new Labor Dept. study indicates that employment stability in the construction industry could result in savings of $5.7 billion a year.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall notes that the study identifies six substantial cost savings that could be achieved from a reduction in the sharp fluctuations in construction employment during the year.

The largest saving—about $3.9 billion—would result from a moderation of hourly wage rates in the industry, the study claims. Although stabilizing employment would tend to moderate hourly rates, the study maintains that construction workers would wind up with higher annual incomes because they would work more hours per year.

The study observes that construction pay is high partly to compensate workers for the frequent layoffs that occur in the industry, but high hourly rates are not matched by high annual earnings.

Marshall noted that construction employees work an average of only 1,400 hours a year, compared to a full work year of 2,000 hours, and that the unemployment rate in the industry typically is twice the national average.

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. commented that there is no doubt that the peaks and valleys of the industry are "economically and socially damaging, both to those actively engaged in the nation's largest industry and to the country at large."

But Georgine said he would not address specifics of the study until he had closely reviewed the full report since it touches upon significant and fundamental aspects of construction and the situation of workers in the industry.

In addition to the savings from hourly wage adjustments, the study cited the following potential annual savings:

- $562 million through reduced costs for unemployment benefits.
- $176 million in lower depreciation charges for invested capital because of more intensive use of construction equipment, materials, and other capital items.
- $281 million in reduced inventory carrying costs by firms providing supplies to the construction industry.
- $570 million due to fewer on-the-job accidents because less fluctuation in employment levels will reduce peak workload periods when contractors must hire inexperienced help.
- $208 million in apprenticeship costs because apprentices will complete their training more rapidly and fewer will drop out.

The Labor Dept., through its area Construction Coordinating Committees, is currently engaged in a major effort to reduce seasonal and cyclical unemployment in the industry. The committees, composed of labor, management and government representatives, seek to reduce sharp fluctuations in construction hiring by urging construction purchasers—especially government agencies — to spread the awarding of contracts more evenly throughout the year.

The committees also are attacking seasonal influences on construction activity by studying and promoting various methods of enclosing and heating construction sites so that work can continue in bad weather. Committees are now set up in Chicago, Kansas City, and San Francisco, and are being established in Boston and Denver.

Single copies of the construction employment study, "Social Costs of Instability: A Preliminary Report," are available free from the Office of Construction Industry Services, Room N5655, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Union Wage Advantage Confirmed in BLS Study

(Continued from Page 1)

May 1977 were found among skilled workers in the building trades as unionized craftsmen earned up to $119 more per week than those who were not represented by a union.

On the average, the highest paying jobs for unionized workers were in construction, with usual weekly earnings of $343, and in transportation, with weekly earnings of $316.

But even the lower-paid service workers fared far better on the wage scales with earnings running $47 a week higher than those of their non-union counterparts. Organized workers made up one-quarter of the workforce in service industries in 1977, BLS said.

The smallest earnings differential was among white-collar workers, the report noted. Workers covered by collective bargaining agreements in the white-collar category had average weekly earnings of $270, which was 6 percent higher than those not under labor contracts.

For workers not represented by a union, the highest earnings were found in mining—$339 a week—compared with $296 for represented mine workers.

Non-union workers also earned more in finance, insurance and real estate, with weekly earnings running $6 higher than those represented by a union, the report said.

Of the 81.3 million workers employed in private industry and government in 1977, BLS said that 26.5 percent were represented by labor organizations, although only 23.8 percent were union members.

About 74 percent of the 19.3 million union members were employed in private industry, while the remainder were working for federal, state and local governments.

In other highlights, the study disclosed that:

- More than 70 percent of workers belonging to unions were employed in manufacturing, transportation, communications and utilities and the service industry.
- The Middle Atlantic states had the greatest proportion of organized workers (35.9 percent), and the West South Central states had the least (14.9 percent).
- Thirty-three percent of black workers and 26 percent of white workers were organized.
- Women constituted 27.5 percent of the workers who were union members in 1977.

'Legislative Alert' Aims at Grass Roots

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation has begun publication of a newsletter intended to spur labor's home-district lobbying effort by keeping central bodies and affiliates posted on issues and key votes coming up in Congress.

The new publication, AFL-CIO Legislative Alert, will be issued every other week and will alternate with the continuing Memo from COPE.

Utility Workers Elect Murphy as President

Delegates to the Utility Workers' 21st convention elected Valentine P. Murphy of Local 387 in Boston as president to succeed Harold T. Rigley, who did not seek another term.

Rigley, 66, had served as president since 1971.

Murphy, 61, has been a member of UWUA's executive board the past 25 years and a member of the union's executive committee the past eight years.

Re-elected were Sec.-Treas. Marshall M. Hicks and Vice Presidents James Joy, Jr., and C. Joseph Luciano, both of New York.

Among the speakers, Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, said that the country today needs a "born-again" economic policy that cares as much about workers and consumers as it does about banks and corporate balance sheets.

America's greatest and most immediate need, he said, is for government to curb corporate greed.

"It is the business of government to set humane limits on the way citizens may behave toward one another, and the Carter Administration has so far failed to do its duty in the way it ought to be done," he charged.

"There has to be a realistic understanding that corporations are not set up to serve people but to make profits, and that there are no built-in limits on how far businessmen will go to extract money from their fellow citizens when they get the chance," Donahue said.

Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.) also addressed the three-day meeting which set union policy for the next four years.

Twenty-four resolutions were considered by the convention. The delegates adopted measures opposing the importation of foreign electrical energy, supporting greater research into the effects of low-level radiation, and favoring efforts to establish energy independence for the United States.

The union also voted support for the development of occupational safety and health standards for the utilities industry, and for greater utilization of coal for the production of electrical energy, and opposed the use of psychological testing for hiring and promotions.

Joblessness to Surge:

Government Warns Recession in Store

(Continued from Page 1)

vasiveness of inflation in all sectors of the economy go to the heart of the matter, she said.

"Such inflation reduces the real income and wealth of consumers and, in combination with restrictive fiscal and monetary policies, provides a severe drag on economic activity," she said in CBO's semiannual report to Congress.

The weakness now evident in the economy is concentrated in the nation's households, she said. Consumers are spending less, especially for big-ticket items such as homes and cars. Business spending is relatively strong but probably will not remain so for long, she said.

The CBO, a joint House-Senate group that offers technical advice to the budget committees on both sides of Congress, said in its report:

"In response to weak retail sales and a rise in business inventories, producers of consumer goods are expected to reduce employment and cut production during the second half of this year. The resulting rise in unused capacity and decline in profit margins are expected to dampen demand for capital goods later this year and in 1980."

Economic growth this year, expressed in terms of "real" gross national product, may decline by as much as 2 percent, the CBO predicted. In 1980, real GNP—the total goods and services produced by the nation adjusted for inflation—is expected to rebound in the 1.9 to 2.9 percent range, it said.

The White House foresees a more moderate drop in real GNP this year. The Office of Management & Budget, in a report prepared with the aid of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, said that economic growth can be expected to decline five-tenths of 1 percent in 1979, and rise 2 percent in 1980.

Despite a lowering of food prices in the second half of 1979, consumer prices are expected to rise from 9.9 to 11.9 percent over the year, dropping to a 7.9 to 9.9 percent range in 1980, the CBO said. Inflation is currently running at an annual rate of over 13 percent.

Administration economists project an increase in consumer prices of 10.6 percent this year and 8.3 percent in 1980.

The weakened state of the economy is already apparent in two critical industries — automobiles and construction. Sales of domestically produced autos have slumped badly since the end of last year—down nearly 12 percent in the second quarter of this year from the final quarter of 1978, the industry's most rapid decline since the 1973-75 recession.

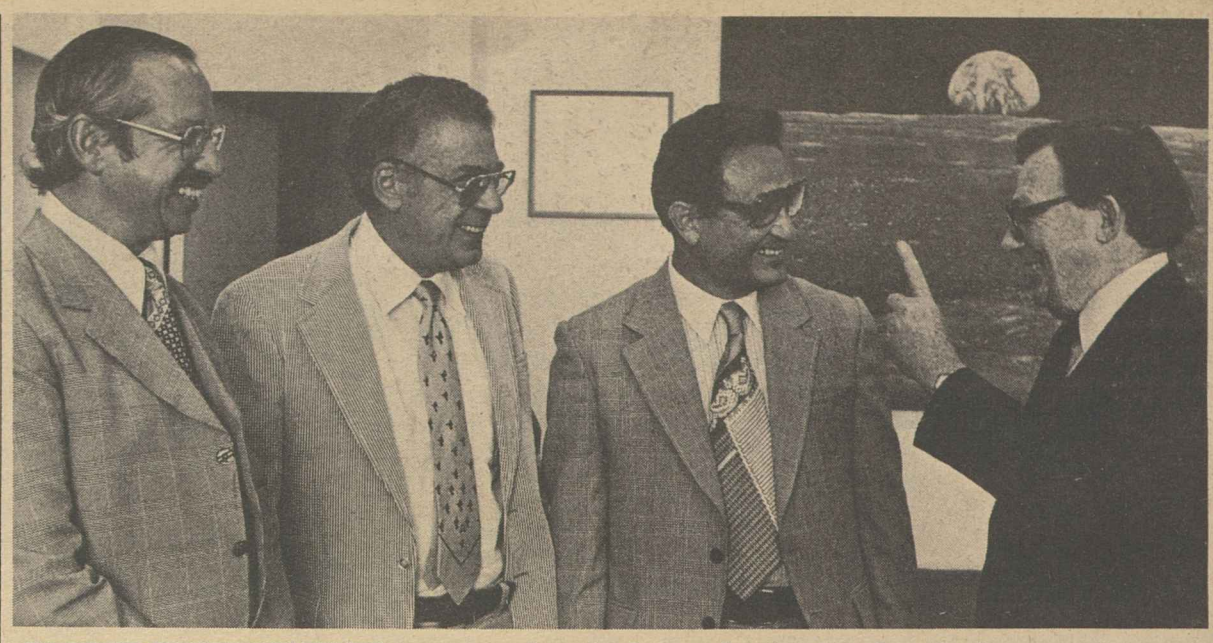
Home purchases in the first five months of the year also have been off. Housing starts are almost 20 percent below the level of the second half of 1978, and indications are that housing will weaken further in the coming months.

The CBO said the current employment-sales situation in the two industries is such that "substantial layoffs could occur if final demands for their products remain weak." The impact of such cutbacks would be widely felt, the agency observed, noting that it has been estimated that one job in either industry is associated with 1.5 to 1.75 jobs in directly related industries.

Mrs. Rivlin stressed that there is a great deal of uncertainty in the economic outlook, and suggested this might be "an argument for no immediate change in fiscal policy. . . . But one thing that can be done now is to begin to work on a contingency plan for fiscal stimulus that could be used should the unemployment rate rise to an unacceptable level."

While most forecasters are generally pessimistic about the near-term prospects for economic growth, a "quick resurgence" in demand cannot be ruled out, she said.

"If this happens, real output would be higher this year than CBO expects, and unemployment would be lower. At present, however, there appears to be a greater chance that the outcome could be worse than forecast by CBO," she said.



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS in Asia and at the International Labor Organization were discussed by U.S. and Philippine trade union representatives at AFL-CIO headquarters. From left are Valentine Suazo, Philippine's director of the Asian-American Free Labor Institute; AAFLI Executive Director Morris Paladino; President Democrito Mendoza of the Philippine Trade Union Congress, and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

Wide-Ranging Foreign Trade Pact Approved in Lopsided House Vote

The House approved legislation to carry out the complex package of trade agreements negotiated by the United States and its principal trading partners in an effort to eliminate barriers to world trade.

Under rules set by the 1974 Trade Act, the implementing legislation that the President sent to Congress cannot be amended. Congress must either pass it intact or reject it.

On that take-it-or-leave-it basis, the House approved the measure by a 395-7 vote and Senate passage is expected later this month.

Various provisions of the trade bill change existing U.S. laws, ranging from an increase in the quota for imported cheese to curtailment of Buy American provisions of several laws involving government purchases.

Concessions made by the United States have been defended by the trade negotiators as the counterparts of changes agreed to by other nations which are expected to open up new markets to U.S. goods and halt export subsidies that some countries have used to penetrate U.S. markets.

Multilateral trade negotiations began in Tokyo in 1973 and concluded in Geneva last April. The agreements will result in an overall tariff cut of about 33 percent over the next eight years.

The 1974 Trade Act gave the President authority to negotiate tariff cuts and required only that nontariff measures be submitted for congressional review.

An AFL-CIO statement, sent to House members before the vote, said that while the trade accords met some of labor's concerns, the curbs on non-tariff barriers to U.S. goods are not at strong as the AFL-CIO had urged. The federation warned that "continued vigilance" will be needed to assure that safeguards are not circumvented.

Included in the House-passed bill are provisions that:

- Spell out "unfair" subsidies of exports and allow the United States to impose a countervailing duty only if it can be shown that a domestic industry has been materially hurt.
- Change the methods of establishing the value of imported goods on which duties are levied, eliminating the American selling price system on which the value of certain imports is based on the domestic selling price of comparable U.S. products.
- Eliminate Buy American preference from most non-defense and non-construction government contracts in exchange for similar modifications by other countries.
- Implement an international agreement that various product standards, testing and certification systems cannot be used as subterfuges to keep out foreign products. But they would be allowed if intended in good faith to protect health, safety or the environment.
- Eliminate all tariffs on civil aircraft and on most aircraft parts.

Many other sections of the bill modify legislation covering an assortment of trade issues, ranging from the method of taxing liquor to procedures for investigating and resolving complaints that trade agreements are being violated.

Senate Puts Off Action On Davis-Bacon Rider

(Continued from Page 1)

dollar amount of contracts covered by the prevailing wage law. The third vote would be on a still-unspecified motion to modify the Exon amendment.

The Davis-Bacon issue could arise in the Senate before then, however, if opponents of the law see a better opportunity in a series of housing bills the Senate is now considering. Foes of Davis-Bacon tried that route in the House last month but were soundly defeated.

The limited Senate debate found the anti-labor coalition seeking to paint the prevailing wage requirement on government-funded construction as inflationary and no longer needed. They relied heavily on a controversial report by the General Accounting Office which Labor Sec. Ray Marshall testified was so riddled with errors that in his college professor role he would have flunked any student who turned it in.

Although the building trades are most directly affected, all segments of the trade union movement have been working to turn back the attack on the 48-year-old Davis-Bacon Act.

In congressional testimony earlier this year, the AFL-CIO viewed the massive employer-launched attack on Davis-Bacon as the opening wedge of a campaign to dismantle the entire framework of social legislation—from minimum wage laws to job safety protection.

Anti-union employer associations have coupled their efforts to gut the Davis-Bacon Act in Congress with attempts to repeal the counterpart prevailing wage laws that most states have enacted covering state-financed construction.

The original Davis-Bacon Act was passed during the Hoover Administration and Congress over the years has enlarged its coverage and extended the prevailing wage concept to include the value of fringe benefits as well as hourly wages.

Stevens, Lettuce Boycotts Gain California Support

J. P. Stevens and Sun Harvest lettuce are about as popular as a bad case of poison ivy with officials of California's two largest cities.

In San Francisco, the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to endorse the Farm Workers boycott of non-union lettuce and other produce marketed by United Brands, the parent company of Sun Harvest. Labor's boycott is the outgrowth of a three-month strike by the UFW against Sun Harvest, the nation's largest lettuce grower.

In Los Angeles, the Board of Public Works voted 4 to 0 to bar Stevens from entering into contracts with the city because of the company's refusal to open its records on employment and equal opportunity policies. The Clothing & Textile Workers have been battling Stevens for years over unfair labor practices in efforts to organize employees of the giant textile firm.

Earlier this year, the California Dept. of General Services took similar action against Stevens, branding the company an "irresponsible bidder" on government contracts.

HRDI Runs Summer Job Test Program

The AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute is conducting a summer youth jobs demonstration program in seven cities under a $400,000 Labor Dept. grant.

The HRDI project involves 245 youths from low-income families as a part of the federal Summer Youth Employment Program. The seven project areas are New York City; Norfolk, Va.; Atlanta; Columbus, Ohio; Little Rock, Ark.; Kansas City and San Diego.

In each area, 70 youths who lack established career or educational goals are participating in the program. Half of the group is receiving regular SYEP services and the other half is receiving special labor-oriented counseling and tutoring.

The HRDI services include career and vocational orientation, classroom skills training, studies in trade unionism and apprenticeships and educational guidance and assistance.

Performance of the groups will be assessed at the end of the program to determine HRDI involvement in assisting prime sponsors in the development of next year's summer youth job sites.

7/14/79

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Davis-Bacon Upheld On 2 Key Votes

By David L. Perlman

One-sided votes in the House and Senate turned back employer-launched attacks on the Davis-Bacon Act, and Senate hearings evoked fresh testimony to the continuing need for prevailing wage guarantees on government-funded construction.

The House test came on a surprise amendment to a bill authorizing funds to complete the subway system serving the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

Rep. John M. Ashbrook (R-Ohio), a leader of the GPO's right wing, sought to exempt the subway construction from Davis-Bacon requirements. Ashbrook told the House that his amendment was "designed to fight inflation."

The floor manager for the bill, Rep. Ronald V. Dellums (D-Calif.), retorted that the Davis-Bacon Act "is a fair and effective means of establishing wage rates" and is needed to "prevent unfair contractors from using substandard wages to win contracts or to achieve windfall profits."

Ashbrook's amendment to delete Davis-Bacon coverage was beaten, 260-127. Later, he tried to eliminate Davis-Bacon protection from a medical facilities bill but couldn't muster the 25 votes needed to compel a roll-call.

A few days earlier, the Senate had its first test vote on a Davis-Bacon issue when Sen. Jake Garn (R-Utah) introduced an amendment to allow non-profit organizations to ignore apprentice-to-journeymen ratios on housing rehabilitation projects.

But as Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) retorted, most so-called "sweat equity" projects are not covered by Davis-Bacon anyway, and many of the larger projects to which the Garn amendment would apply are being used for training of minority workers, under the supervision of journeymen, through special agreements worked out by the building trades, contractors and the Dept. of Labor.

During the debate, Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) criticized the conservative strategy of trying to whittle away at Davis-Bacon coverage. "Amendments to dismantle the protections of the Act piece by piece deserve no more support than those to repeal it outright," he told the Senate.

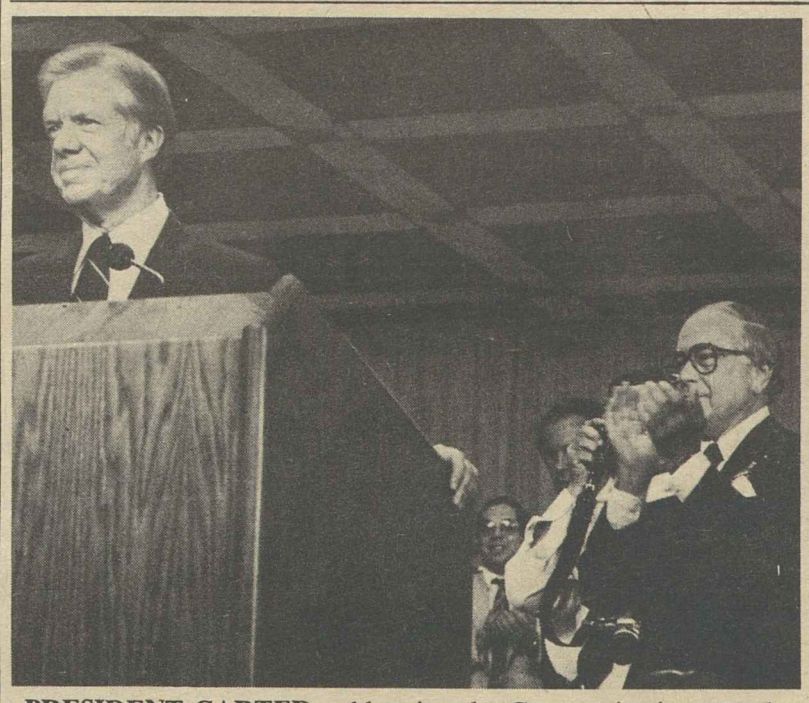
Garn's amendment was beaten, 57-35.

Meanwhile, Williams began hearings on the Davis-Bacon provisions of the military construction bill that was referred to the Labor & Human Resources Committee.

As sent to the Senate floor by the Armed Services Committee, the bill

(Continued on Page 3)

Labor Backs Carter Plan For Energy Independence



PRESIDENT CARTER, addressing the Communications Workers' convention in Detroit, discussed many of the nation's current economic ills in a wide-ranging question-and-answer session. The problems of energy and inflation headed the list. Less than 24 hours earlier, Carter had outlined his new energy program. CWA President Glenn Watts, right, leads the applause. **(Story, Page 3.)**

Meany Says Program Similar to AFL-CIO's

By James M. Shevis

The AFL-CIO strongly endorsed President Carter's ambitious, new program for an energy-secure America. It is "good, long overdue, and warrants the support of the American people," Federation President George Meany declared.

"We have long been urging action of the type the President is now spelling out," Meany said. "If his program is forcefully executed, America will be on the road to energy independence, free from coercive pressures."

In a nationally televised address, Carter outlined a six-point program that he said would meet the "clear and present danger" facing the country as a result of the current energy crisis. The goal of the program is to cut projected U.S. oil imports by 4.5 million barrels a day—about half the current level—by 1990.

In later appearances before conventions of the National Association of Counties in Kansas City and the Communications Workers in Detroit, the President spelled out the details of his program—a mix of production and conservation steps reminiscent of wartime measures.

The cost of the entire program would total more than $140 billion over the next 10 years. All the money would come from the President's windfall profits tax on the oil industry, which is now before Congress.

The proposals include:

- Import quotas to hold net U.S. oil imports for 1979 and 1980 to no more than what they were at their peak, about 8.5 million barrels a day in 1977. This was the goal that Carter pledged the nation to at last month's economic summit meeting in Tokyo. This year's daily quota is 8.2 million barrels.

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Oil Profits Tax Bill Hit As Too Low

The AFL-CIO criticized the House-passed windfall profits tax as too weak and reminded senators that the vast sums oil companies stand to gain from the lifting of price controls will be taken out of the pockets of America's consumers.

Research Director Rudy Oswald told the Senate Finance Committee that the tax bill the House passed "doesn't do the job" and makes a mockery of "repeated calls for sacrifice."

He proposed changes that would raise windfall tax revenues about 20-to-25 percent above the House bill—amounting to about $9 billion more over the next five years.

The House bill, which was weakened by floor amendments, would leave oil companies with after-tax windfall gains of more than $42 billion over five years, the AFL-CIO estimated. This would be on top of the current after-tax profit of about $15 billion a year.

(Continued on Page 3)

Federal Reserve Estimate:

8.25% Jobless Rate Predicted for 1980

The head of the Federal Reserve Board foresees a deeper recession than envisioned by the White House.

FRB Chairman G. William Miller told the House Banking Committee that he expects less favorable economic growth, greater unemployment, and higher inflation this year and next than predicted by President Carter.

Miller said that the board forecasts a seasonally adjusted jobless rate of 6.25 to 7 percent in the final period of this year and 6.75 to 8.25 percent in the fourth quarter of 1980. The Administration predicts that unemployment in the fourth quarter of 1979 will rise to 6.6 percent and to 6.9 percent in the similar quarter next year.

The Fed's figures on joblessness for this year are about in line with the Congressional Budget Office forecast for fourth quarter 1979, but gloomier than CBO's fourth quarter 1980 prediction.

Economic output is expected to decline five-tenths of 1 percent to 2 percent from the fourth quarter of last year to 1979's fourth quarter, Miller said. The Administration sees a drop of five-tenths of 1 percent over the same period.

The FRB estimates that inflation will rise 9.5 to 11 percent this year and 8.5 to 10.5 percent next year while the Carter economists look for a 9.8 percent increase in 1979 and an 8.1 percent rise in 1980.

Miller blamed the coming economic downturn on recent oil price hikes by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. He said the increases will add at least 2 percentage points to this year's inflation rate.

Miller cautioned that the Fed "must resist financing" the inflationary effects of the latest OPEC increases by easing its monetary stance. He suggested, however, that any further tightening of the money supply would aggravate the downturn.

He also said that the OPEC price increases had pushed back "by one year or more" his estimate for the length of time it will take the country to lick inflation.

At a House Budget Committee

(Continued on Page 2)

House Panel Drops Airwave Deregulation

A House subcommittee has decided to drop plans for a massive rewriting of the Communications Act that labor and consumer groups feared would have sacrificed the public interest in the name of deregulation of the airwaves.

Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin (D-Calif.), sponsor of the controversial bill and chairman of the subcommittee, announced a "consensus" among panel members to concentrate on more limited legislation.

His original bill would have ended or phased out nearly all federal regulation of radio and television broadcasting, eliminating obligations to air both sides of controversies under the fairness doctrine, and discarding relicensing procedures that allow stations to be challenged on how they fulfilled their obligations to the public interest.

Other provisions of the bill, strongly criticized by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, would have

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Steelworkers Denounce Shipyard Stalling Tactic

Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride charged the conglomerate that owns the Newport News shipyard with defying a National Labor Relations Board bargaining order as part of a deliberate "cruel and cynical strategy to deny the workers a union of their choice."

The Steelworkers won an NLRB election to represent the Virginia shipyard's 15,500 workers more than 18 months ago. But the company, a subsidiary of Tenneco. Inc., challenged the vote and refused to accept the results even after the NLRB ordered it to bargain. Instead, it contested the NLRB order in the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The appellate court refused to set aside the election but sent the case back to the NLRB for further consideration of a company claim that there had been illegal "chain voting" in the election that ousted a long-entrenched unaffiliated unit.

A unanimous NLRB panel last month rejected the company's contention and again ordered it to bargain. Instead, the company once more is asking the appellate court to overturn the NLRB order.

McBride noted that the shipyard workers went on strike once to try to force the company to the bargaining table and he warned that Tenneco is inviting "the possibility of a second unfair labor practice strike."

He asked the local to consider the alternatives at a special membership meeting and pledged the USWA's full resources.



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS and changing conditions in Asia and the Middle East affecting programs of the Asian-American Free Labor Institute were explored at the AAFLI annual board of trustees meeting in Washington. Discussions were led by AAFLI Executive Director Morris Paladino, center, and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

Federal Purchase Role Urged for Oil Imports

America's oil companies are willing captives of the OPEC cartel, the AFL-CIO charged in testimony urging that the federal government become the sole purchaser of imported oil.

"Private oil companies have neither the ability nor the incentive" to bargain effectively with OPEC, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said.

OPEC, the price-fixing organization of petroleum-exporting countries, can easily play off one oil company against another by threatening to withhold supplies. But in fact, Oswald contended, the big oil companies have no reason to even try to hold down prices.

Just the opposite is the case, he said. "Higher OPEC prices and shortages produce huge windfall gains for oil companies because their domestic crude oil, natural gas and other energy holdings increase in value and profitability with every increase in OPEC prices."

Oswald noted that the first big jump in the price of imported oil resulted in the profits of major U.S. oil companies jumping in 1974 to more than double their 1972 levels —"a direct result of higher OPEC prices."

This year's OPEC price rises, he said, are again bringing a sharp rise in oil company profits. Thus, "it is easy and profitable for oil companies to have an accommodating stance toward OPEC price increases" instead of acting "as an aggressive bargainer."

The hearings on oil import policies were conducted by a subcommittee on Trade of the House Ways & Means Committee. Oswald told the panel that the disruptions in the American economy caused by the sharply higher oil prices are the price that is being paid for the lack of a strategy for negotiating with OPEC.

"A single large purchaser for the American economy would greatly increase the bargaining power on behalf of the American consumer," he said. And a requirement for sealed competitive bidding for oil sales to the United States, he urged, "would encourage competition among OPEC countries to supply the American market."

As an additional step, Oswald urged the panel to support legislation to establish "a national energy corporation . . . which would operate in all phases of energy production and provide a yardstick for measuring the performance of private oil companies."

Labor Cites Continuing Oil Guarantee to Israel

New York—The United States, in its war for energy independence, must not forgo its commitments to guarantee Israel the oil she needs to survive, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said.

"It was the government of the United States that urged Israel to surrender control of the Sinai oil fields in order to bring about peace with Egypt," Kirkland observed. "Israel took that risk, and agreed to that sacrifice because of its trust in President Carter's guarantee that the oil Israel needs to survive would be delivered, come what may, from other sources."

Kirkland, speaking at a dinner honoring Laborers' Vice President Robert Powell for his activities in behalf of Histadrut, the Israeli labor confederation, stressed that at the same time that the United States is regaining control of its economy and destiny, "America must meet its solemn obligations to the State of Israel."

Kirkland emphasized that American trade unionists stand ready to make the sacrifices necessary to insure the country's energy future.

"We insist only that there be equality of sacrifice, for we shall not sacrifice alone," he said.

Kirkland deplored the turn-about in America's response to the price-gouging of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

"Nobody's going to dump Arab gasoline in Boston harbor, as we did English tea," he said. "Where once we said 'millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute,' we now find ourselves paying billions of dollars in tribute and inviting the pirates to deposit the loot in our country at high interest rates."

It is time for the U.S. to recover its self-respect, and "recognize that what we are facing today is a war for economic independence that is every bit as crucial to America's future as the war for political independence of 200 years ago," Kirkland said.

Proceeds from the dinner, sponsored by the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut, will go toward the establishment of a Robert E. Powell Histadrut scholarship fund on behalf of the Afro-Asian Institute in Israel.

Abuse Charged In Classifying 'Contractors'

Employers shouldn't be allowed to avoid social insurance taxes by classifying regular workers as independent contractors, the AFL-CIO urged at House hearings.

A Ways & Means subcommittee is considering both the abuse of independent contractor classifications by employers and the related problem of loss of income tax revenue because nearly half the persons classified as contractors do not report or pay taxes on their income, according to a Treasury Dept. estimate.

Legislative Rep. Stephen Koplan stressed the AFL-CIO's concern about "unscrupulous employers" who seek to avoid paying unemployment insurance and social security payroll taxes by manipulating jobs so as to classify workers as contractors rather than as employees.

Workers so classified, Koplan said, lose eligibility for unemployment benefits, are required to pay social security taxes at the higher self-employed rate, and have no legal right to collective bargaining.

He noted also that contractors, as opposed to employees, are not protected under workers' compensation, are not covered by civil rights protections or by labor standards.

While an Administration proposal points in the right direction, Koplan testified, still stronger tests are needed to assure that the independent contractor category is not abused and to assure that the Treasury is not shortchanged by providing for withholding taxes on payments to persons who do qualify as independent contractors.

Jobless Rate Rise to 8.25% Seen for '80

(Continued from Page 1)

hearing, economists Walter Heller and Leif Olsen also warned that the widely heralded recession will cause unemployment to rise higher than predicted by President Carter or the CBO.

Both Heller and Olsen anticipate a jobless rate peaking at about 8 percent in 1980 as economic output declines by more than 2 percent. Heller is a former chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Kennedy. Olsen is chief economist for Citibank of New York.

Unemployment now stands at 5.6 percent. Layoffs tend to lag in a downturn, however, and the rate is expected gradually to rise.

Pensions, Job Security Issues:

Three Unions Strike Westinghouse Units

Pittsburgh—A group of unions representing some 50,000 Westinghouse Electric Corp. workers struck the company's nearly 100 production plants and service shops across the nation after negotiations hit an impasse over pension and job security issues.

The largest of the unions, the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, announced that the walkout was highly effective, with pickets up at all locations. The IUE, representing about 20,000 workers, is part of the Coordinated Bargaining Committee of GE-Westinghouse Unions that is negotiating with the giant electrical firm.

The CBC charged that Westinghouse forced the strike by breaking off negotiations here 30 hours before the old contracts were due to run out. IUE, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers, spearheaded the talks. National contracts with Westinghouse expired July 16.

The major issue in the strike is the company's insistence that employees begin making contributions toward their pension benefits. The unions have labeled the demand a "takeaway" measure.

The unions pointed out that the company proposal would change a 23-year-old contract provision of a non-contributory pension, and require workers to pay in 3 percent of their hourly earnings over $6.45 to their own retirement fund.

"I regret that Westinghouse has made this decision to hold fast to such a totally unacceptable proposal," IUE President David J. Fitzmaurice said.

"We deplore strikes, but we must protect the benefits we have won for our members over the years. But, unfortunately, Westinghouse wants to sell its workers down the river."

Fitzmaurice, who participated in the final stages of the talks, said that the company did not present its package until July 9. Four days later, the IUE-Westinghouse Conference Board voted unanimously to reject the company's offer.

Westinghouse would not agree to abandon its contributory pension proposal and proceed with further meaningful negotiations, and broke off talks the following day.

Vincent Vingle, IUE's chief negotiator, said that the firm had "deliberately adopted a corporate policy of anti-unionism, a policy that has corroded 23 years of cooperation between us. The company is attempting to force its own employees to shoulder the burden for management's errors in judgment."

IUE has filed unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board, contending that Westinghouse has engaged in bad-faith bargaining. The union specifically charged that the firm refused to turn over information it had requested, engaged in take-it-or-leave-it bargaining, and refused to include a certified IUE unit in Charlotte, N.C., in the national contract.

Bargaining separately and outside the CBC, the unaffiliated Federation of Westinghouse Independent Salaried Unions continued to hold talks with the company. No new talks were scheduled, however, with the major CBC unions.

Westinghouse employs about 120,000 workers nationwide. IUE's members are employed at 35 plants, while IBEW has some 15,000 members at 49 locations, and UE represents about 10,000 workers at 13 plants. The in-house salaried workers' union represents about 12,000 employees.

Some 10,000 workers are represented by other unions that make up the CBC. The unions include the Machinists, Steelworkers, Carpenters, and Sheet Metal Workers.

Goodyear Pact Keyed To Industry Pattern

Akron, Ohio—The Rubber Workers wound up their bargaining with the Big Four tiremakers by concluding an agreement with the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

The settlement with Goodyear basically follows the pattern that the URW forged at B.F. Goodrich Co. last month, and was subsequently agreed to by Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., and Uniroyal.

All four agreements provide for substantial wage increases, improved cost-of-living protection, increased job security, and greater retirement benefits.

The contract does not contain a neutrality clause aimed at preventing the company from involvement in URW organizing drives at Goodyear's non-union tire plants. Another difference between the Goodyear and Goodrich settlements is the inclusion of a newly-created vision care program in the Goodyear pact.

The Goodyear contract averted a strike set for July 17. The agreement, covering about 22,000 URW members, must be ratified by a majority of the union's locals at the company's 14 plants.

Under the agreement, workers at 11 of the plants will receive hourly wage increases of 32 cents this year and 20 cents in both 1980 and 1981. Workers at Goodyear plants in New Bedford, Mass., Windsor, Vt., and St. Mary's, Ohio, will get smaller increases because of competitive conditions there.

The raises would be retroactive to Apr. 21, when the old contract expired.

In addition, workers will receive cost-of-living pay adjustments at the rate of 1 cent for every three-tenths of a point rise in the consumer price index in the first year of the contract. In the second and third years, the formula improves to a 1-cent increase for every .26 rise in the CPI.

Carpenters Given Training Contract

The Carpenters will assist 660 jobless or underemployed persons in passing apprenticeship entry tests or entering apprenticeship under a $1.5 million contract renewal with the Labor Dept.

The program, which will operate in 32 states under subcontracts with joint apprenticeship committees and housing contractors with bargaining agreements with the union, will stress the recruitment of women, Vietnam-era veterans, and minority group members who are economically disadvantaged.

Financial Stability for Union:

Dues Plan Tied to Pay Voted By Communications Workers

Detroit—The Communications Workers adopted a dues structure of two hours' pay per member per month at the union's 41st annual convention here.

The new dues structure, replacing a flat-rate formula, was approved by an overwhelming majority of the more than 2,000 delegates after an hour's debate. The effective date is Sept. 1.

The action was in stark contrast to the 1978 convention, where delegates debated a similar dues proposal for three days and finally postponed action. CWA President Glenn E. Watts praised the delegates "for your positive action to move this union ahead, at both the national and local levels."

The dues program will allocate 40 percent, plus 50 cents per member per month, to the national union, with the remainder going to the local unions. The 50 cents is to be allocated directly to the CWA Defense Fund.

The union finance committee, in unanimously recommending the new dues structure to the convention, reported that the two hours average rate structure in CWA will produce $15.54 per member each month.

Watts said that he believes the dues structure will provide the union with financial stability, perhaps for the first time in its 41-year history.

In his keynote address, Watts said that "almost every day, the knife of inflation rips another hole in our pockets," and added: "The wage-price guidelines have failed. They have failed because the Congress abdicated its responsibility. The Congress abandoned the American worker to inflation by refusing to adopt the Carter 'real wage' insurance program, which we in CWA considered the 'other half' of the President's proposals for the voluntary control of inflation."

President Carter was enthusiastically welcomed by delegates as he addressed the convention one day after his nationally televised speech on energy. He pledged to "defend our common national purpose against those narrow special interests who often forget the overriding needs of America. I will persuade, I will speak against, I will fight any special interests that undermine our national purpose. . . ."

Carter fielded a dozen questions from CWA delegates, including one from Norman O. Henschel, president of Local 1108, Long Island, N.Y. Henschel questioned whether it is "fair or realistic to stay with 7 percent wage guidelines" in a period of double-digit inflation.

"We have been consulting very closely with Glenn Watts, and with Doug Fraser of the UAW, and with other labor leaders and also with leaders in management, to try to set wage and price guidelines that will be fair and equitable.

"I do not want to punish any working people, obviously. But it must be remembered that everybody has to take the best interests of our nation at heart," Carter responded, concluding:

"I have been very pleased at the response of the workers of our country in very strong, well organized unions in trying to accommodate the needs of other Americans in the wage settlements. Most, I think, have been satisfying. And I would predict that CWA, one of the best organized unions in America, can very carefully, on their own, negotiate a contract that would be fair to the workers . . . and also fair to our country."

On the government's purchases of J. P. Stevens products, Carter said: "It would be very difficult for the United States government to enforce a law that all products bought by the government had to be made by union workers. There would be a lot of products that would be on the borderline between what was manufactured and what was not, and I think that ordinarily we work very closely with the trade unions in assuring that their products are adequately assessed. . . . I don't think that we can completely freeze out, though, the purchases of any goods that might be produced by non-union workers, even though you might prefer it."

In convention action, delegates approved resolutions calling for Congress to authorize the striking of a special gold commemorative medal to honor the late A. Philip Randolph, who founded the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in 1925; supporting ratification of the constitutional amendment that would extend congressional voting representation to the District of Columbia, and supporting the International Year of the Child observance this year and urging congressional adoption of a comprehensive child care program.



NEWSPAPER GUILD in-coming Sec.-Treas. Charles Dale, elected without opposition to succeed the late Robert Crocker, heads toward the podium to make his acceptance speech at the union's recent convention in Boston. Dale, a veteran field representative for the Guild, will assume office Oct. 15.

Labor Asks Stronger Windfall Profits Tax

(Continued from Page 1)

The AFL-CIO's effort to strengthen the House bill faces an uphill battle in the Senate Finance Committee, where Chairman Russell B. Long (D-La.) has been an ally of the oil industry and an advocate of rapid decontrol of oil prices.

Oil company executives have opposed any new tax on their windfall profits, arguing that bigger profits will result in increased production. One company president complained at the Senate hearings that imposing a windfall tax "tells the world that the United States will continue a policy of paying more for imported crude than it is willing to pay its own producers for domestic crude oil."

Oswald told the committee that the AFL-CIO opposes any group "profiteering from the hardship of others." He reiterated labor's continued opposition to decontrol, which allows U.S. producers to raise their prices to the artificially high levels set by the OPEC cartel. Even as the House was debating the windfall profits bill, Oswald noted, OPEC announced a new price hike that will add billions to the revenues of domestic oil producers.

The House had cut the windfall profits tax rate from the 70 percent recommended by its Ways & Means Committee to 60 percent and phased out the tax instead of leaving part of it as permanent legislation.

Oswald asked that the windfall profits tax rate be set at 85 percent on the increase in the price of oil resulting from deregulation and rises in OPEC-set world prices.

He also proposed several technical changes in the tax bill to increase revenue, including making portions of the legislation permanent.

The Carter Administration has urged the Senate not to phase out the windfall tax entirely. Treasury Sec. W. Michael Blumenthal also argued against a Republican proposal to exempt from the windfall tax funds that the oil companies invested in additional production.

Such a provision, he said, would be impossible to administer and would not necessarily result in more oil.

Oswald told the committee that the AFL-CIO agrees in principle with the Administration's desire to use windfall profits tax receipts to advance energy technology, improve mass transit and help lower-income households pay their higher fuel and utility bills.

But "in view of the enormity of the task facing the nation," Oswald said, "general revenue should be available as needed and progress toward achievement of energy goals should not be arbitrarily limited" by the amount of windfall revenues.

In a related area, Oswald urged the committee to place stricter limits than the Administration has proposed on the use of foreign tax credits by multinational oil companies as a device to avoid U.S. income taxes.

Companies can now use payments to foreign countries to offset taxes owed to the United States. While the Administration proposal would curb some abuses, Oswald told the committee that it would not go far enough.

He urged more effective steps to close loopholes and end "the tax-privileged status of firms operating overseas."

Senate Defeats Attack On Davis-Bacon Act

The Senate rejected an attempt to undercut the Davis-Bacon Act through an amendment to a federal housing bill that would have permitted non-profit organizations to ignore apprenticeship training ratios on housing rehabilitation projects covered by Davis-Bacon.

The labor-opposed amendment was rejected, 57-35, on July 13.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 46

Baucus (Mont.)	Gravel (Alaska)	Metzenbaum (Ohio)
Bayh (Ind.)	Hart (Colo.)	Moynihan (N.Y.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Heflin (Ala.)	Muskie (Me.)
Biden (Del.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Nelson (Wis.)
Bradley (N.J.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Pell (R.I.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Inouye (Hawaii)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Jackson (Wash.)	Randolph (W.Va.)
Byrd, R. (W.Va.)	Johnston (La.)	Riegle (Mich.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Sarbanes (Md.)
Church (Idaho)	Leahy (Vt.)	Sasser (Tenn.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Levin (Mich.)	Stewart (Ala.)
Culver (Iowa)	Long (La.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
DeConcini (Ariz.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Tsongas (Mass.)
Durkin (N.H.)	McGovern (S.D.)	Williams (N.J.)
Ford (Ky.)	Melcher (Mont.)	Zorinsky (Neb.)
Glenn (Ohio)		

Republicans 11

Chafee (R.I.)	Javits (N.Y.)	Percy (Ill.)
Danforth (Mo.)	Mathias (Md.)	Schweiker (Pa.)
Domenici (N.M.)	Packwood (Ore.)	Stafford (Vt.)
Durenberger (Minn.)		Weicker (Conn.)

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 9

Boren (Okla.)	Exon (Neb.)	Pryor (Ark.)
Byrd, H. (Va.)	Morgan (N.C.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Chiles (Fla.)	Nunn (Ga.)	Stone (Fla.)

Republicans 26

Baker (Tenn.)	Helms (N.C.)	Roth (Del.)
Bellmon (Okla.)	Humphrey (N.H.)	Schmitt (N.M.)
Boschwitz (Minn.)	Jepsen (Iowa)	Simpson (Wyo.)
Cochran (Miss.)	Kassebaum (Kan.)	Stevens (Alaska)
Cohen (Me.)	Laxalt (Nev.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Dole (Kan.)	Lugar (Ind.)	Tower (Tex.)
Garn (Utah)	McClure (Idaho)	Wallop (Wyo.)
Hatfield (Ore.)	Pressler (S.D.)	Warner (Va.)
Hayakawa (Calif.)		Young (N.D.)

Absent: Armstrong (R-Colo.), Eagleton (D-Mo.), Goldwater (R-Ariz.), Hatch (R-Utah), Heinz (R-Pa.), Matsunaga (D-Hawaii), Ribicoff (D-Conn.), Stennis (D-Miss.)

Prevailing Wage Law Upheld on Key Votes

(Continued from Page 1)

would have exempted all military construction from Davis-Bacon Act coverage. Delaying tactics by opponents of Davis-Bacon prevented an immediate vote on an amendment by Williams to delete that provision and retain Davis-Bacon coverage. The bill was then sent to the Labor Committee for consideration of Davis-Bacon issues with assurance of final Senate action late in July.

There are indications that foes of Davis-Bacon don't expect to be able to exclude all military construction but plan to focus on an amendment that would exempt all construction contracts under $50,000 from coverage. The present "threshold" for applying Davis-Bacon prevailing wage determinations is $2,000.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall told the committee that a $50,000 threshold would exclude nearly one-fourth of the workforce on government construction contracts from Davis-Bacon protection.

"The issue is whether the federal government wants to espouse double standards in the government contract area—wage protection for employees on large contracts and none for those on small contracts. I strongly oppose any such disparate treatment of federal construction workers," Marshall said.

As for the proposal to exclude all military construction, Marshall said the Administration opposes such an exemption "as strongly as we oppose the repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act itself."

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young and President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. challenged assertions by foes of the law that it is inflationary, requires payment of union scales in areas where there are few union workers, and that the conditions which led to its enactment back in 1931 no longer apply.

Georgine cited data showing that 57 percent of the prevailing wage determinations made under the Davis-Bacon Act were below the wages in applicable union agreements.

To abolish Davis-Bacon, he warned, would invite "pressures for wage-cutting as a means to underbid competitors."

Young told the committee that the AFL-CIO considers the attack on Davis-Bacon "a first step" toward dismantling the entire framework of social legislation.

The Road to Independence

IN HIS SPEECH the President accurately stated the depth of the energy crisis confronting the nation and properly pointed out that failure to deal with this crisis had shaken the confidence of the American people in their government and its leaders. We agree with the President's somber description of the problem and the need for action.

He sounded a call for all Americans to rally in the spirit of sacrifice to convincingly assert the nation's independence in energy and, thus, free its economic system from domination by foreign cartels, which threatens the nation's political, as well as economic, stability.

The President's six-point energy program is good, long overdue and warrants the support of the American people. If his program is forcefully executed, America will be on the road to energy independence, free from coercive pressures.

Obviously, the twin economic evils of inflation and unemployment—which are greatly affected by both the supply and price of energy—likewise require the same resolve and commitment the President has displayed on energy. Eliminating these problems will also necessitate clear goals and specific programs.

The President's speech was forceful; the goals it set are both necessary and attainable. We can assure the President that American workers will do their part, as they have always done when the nation was in trouble. They will accept their fair share of the sacrifice that must be forthcoming from everyone.

We have long been urging action of the type the President is now spelling out, and we will strongly support the thrust of his program.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany.

Dealing With OPEC

IT IS DISTRESSING that five and one-half years have passed since the OPEC price hikes severely disrupted the American economy and the United States still has no strategy for negotiating with the OPEC cartel. The American people are now paying the price—another round of price increases and serious hardship for the American people.

Private oil companies have neither the ability nor the incentive to deal effectively with the OPEC cartel. The OPEC countries can easily play companies off one another by threatening to deny them access to oil supplies. Oil companies have little bargaining power in the present relationship. The ability of OPEC countries to manipulate oil companies makes the argument compelling that oil companies have become captives of the OPEC cartel.

The companies have no incentive to bargain for low prices. In fact, the opposite is true. Higher OPEC prices and shortages produce huge windfall gains for oil companies because their domestic crude oil, natural gas, and other energy holdings increase in value and profitability with every increase in OPEC prices.

Making the government the sole importer of oil is an important step to deal with bargaining power of the OPEC cartel, and we strongly support that proposal.

—From AFL-CIO testimony.

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LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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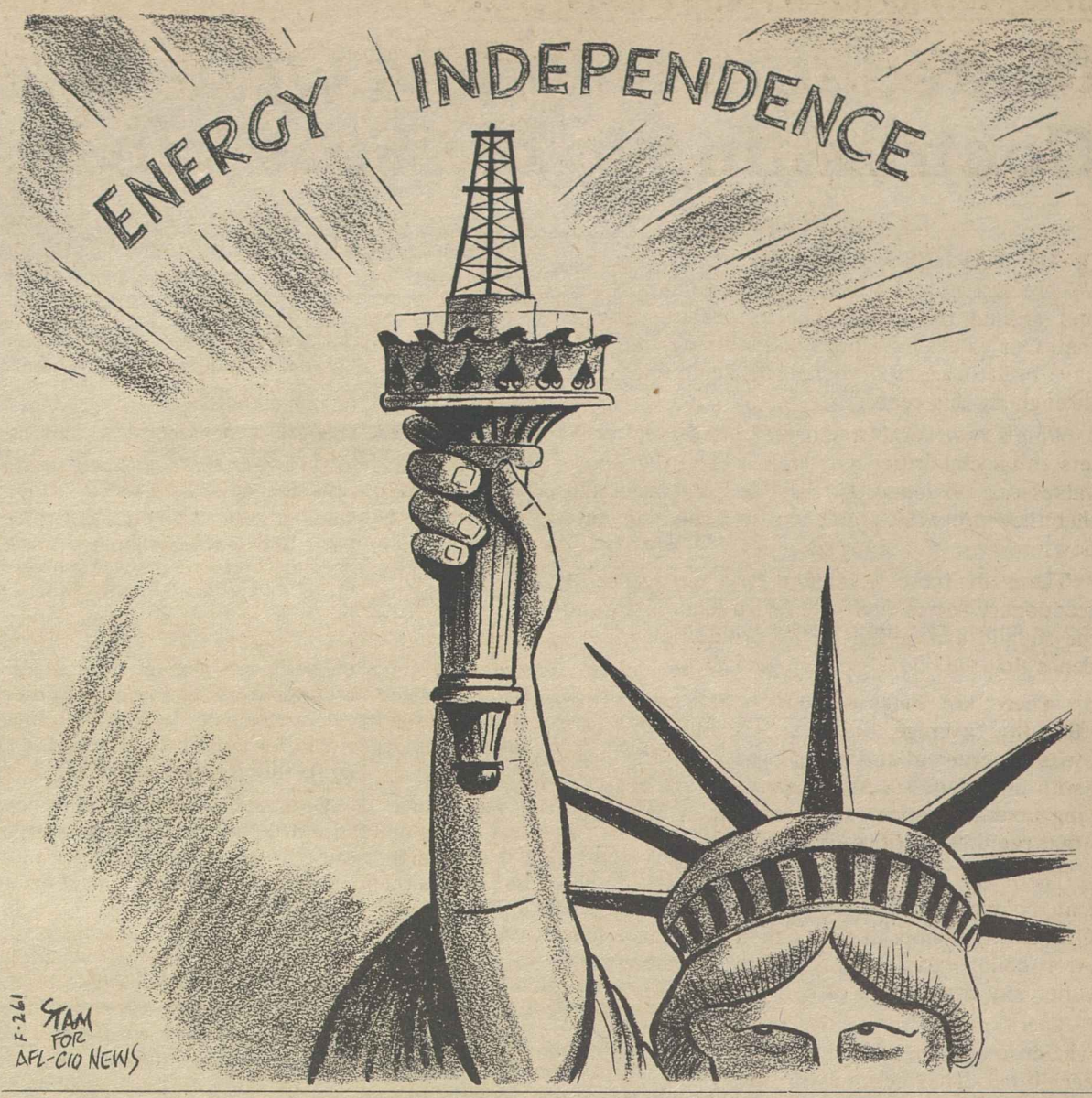
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Jews of the Orient:

Tragedy of Chinese Refugees Reflects Rising Anti-Sinoism

By Gus Tyler

THE CHINESE have been called the Jews of the Orient. And right now, the Chinese are suffering from a mounting anti-Sinoism in Asia, the eastern equivalent of anti-Semitism.

When the Chinese are referred to as the Jews of the Orient, the comment is generally meant to be flattering. Both people appear to have a high talent for the abstract: language and mathematics. In American schools, for instance, both groups score very high in the verbal and arithmetical tests for college entrance.

The common reference to Jews and Chinese also refers to their success in business. Wherever they land, no matter how far from home, these two people have displayed better than average business acumen.

In other respects, too, Jews and Chinese have been exposed to a similar fate: they have been wanderers. In the case of the Jews this is obvious and the reasons are well known: when the Jewish kingdom was destroyed by enemies a couple of centuries ago, the Jew had to wander around the globe for a home.

In the case of the Chinese, the reason is not so clear because China is and has long been an established nation that could, theoretically, serve as a home and refuge for the Chinese. But this is more seeming than real, for China is not a homogeneous entity but a collection of different peoples, speaking different languages, practicing different customs, under one imperial rule.

Over the centuries, millions of Chinese have felt the need to leave the lands of their birth after conquest by a military neighbor. They have settled heavily in Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia.

Both Jews and Chinese found it difficult to own land. Wherever they went, the soil was already occupied by feudal lords and serfs, by peasants and small farmers. Indeed, in some countries, Jews were simply denied the right to own land—by law.

Both Jews and Chinese turned to trade and commerce—often at a pitiably low level, as peddlers and hawkers—to stay alive. They also dedicated themselves and their children to learning with the hope that some day their ability to read, write, add, subtract and keep books would make them valuable in a society of growing complexity.

As western and then eastern civilization began to move away from rural feudalism toward urban industrialism, Jews and Chinese began to enjoy success as entrepreneurs, administrators, financiers, professionals.

In western society, the Jewish success became a rationale for anti-Semitism. Now in the Orient, the Chinese success has become a rationale for anti-Sinoism. In Vietnam, the ruling Communists stripped the Chinese of their property and then ordered them either to quit the country entirely or to accept location in some barren backward unyielding part of the land. In Indonesia, anti-Chinese sentiment rises, propelled by a fanatical Islamic movement to cleanse the land of foreign faiths.

In one respect, Jews and Chinese differ. Israel has an open door for every Jew in the world—no matter how beggared, burdened or, as in the case of the Yemenite Jews—black. China is not ready to open its doors to all the Chinese refugees, several million of them, who have been cast into limbo by their Asian neighbors.

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Davis-Bacon Goals Remain Valid Today

This Administration believes that the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage provisions make an essential contribution to our nation's economic and social well-being. We therefore oppose any effort to repeal this law or to decrease the protections.

In adopting the Davis-Bacon Act, Congress committed itself to the philosophy that the federal government should not allow federal construction funds to be used to depress or inflate wages. . . . Rather, the government decided to use its procurement powers to encourage competitors to compete on the basis of efficiency and technical expertise.

This philosophy is as valid today as when the Act was first passed.

Outright or piecemeal repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act or an increase in its coverage threshold would be a critical step in the wrong direction.

—Testimony by Sec. of Labor Ray Marshall.

Interpreting the Average American:

Misreading of Public Opinion Contributing to Nation's Woes

By Lane Kirkland

THE VALUES WE SHARE are under heavy fire just now, both here in the United States and around the world. There's nothing new in that. Our values have been under attack, and they have been successfully defended, again and again throughout this century.

What's new is the number of intellectual arbiters and social critics who seem to feel that those values can no longer be defended and who hint that they probably aren't worth defending, anyhow.

There are those who point to a resurgence of reactionary forces such as the Ku Klux Klan and the squalid evangelists of tax prohibition as evidence that the tide is running against us.

There are those who solemnly assure us that the "average American" is tired—fed up with government and bureaucracy, disillusioned with ambitious social programs, weary of paying taxes, impatient and resentful of anything that requires sacrifice or discomfort.

There are even those who say that the American people are ready to knuckle under to the OPEC oil monopolists, resigned to wearing the Arab collar, ready to pay any price rather than suffer any deprivation of petroleum products.

There are many who say these things, but where do they hear them? They hear them from each other. They certainly do not hear them from the average American they pretend to know so well.

American businessmen and politicians look on the public opinion survey as an infallible oracle when it comes to making marketing decisions involving millions of dollars or monitoring minute fluctuations in presidential popularity. Why not take such surveys with equal seriousness on more important issues?

For a long time, now, in every public opinion poll, a majority of Americans have been saying yes, they want mandatory wage and price controls; yes, they want price controls on oil to continue; yes, they want gasoline rationing; yes, they want national health security; yes, they want more and better public transportation; yes, they want tighter administration of occupational health and safety laws and more effective regulation of industry.

All of these are things the syndicated wise men and the political tea-leaf readers solemnly assure us the people won't stand for.

MANY OF THOSE who presume to tell the American people what they think and what they will and will not put up with are projecting their own views. Others, including the oil companies, are transparently attempting to manipulate public opinion, cultivating what they hope will be a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Some, including such government figures as the ineffable Barry Bosworth, go so far as to try to use the American people as scapegoats to explain away their own shortcomings. It was Mr. Bosworth, you may recall, who recently said the average American, in his mindless selfishness, is to blame for the failure of the so-called "voluntary" anti-inflation program that Mr. Bosworth helped design. Surely, that is an echo of Richard Nixon's complaint that the average American is "like the child in the family."

But the American people, as a whole, are neither selfish nor childish. The timidity and helplessness that public officials seem to feel in the face of the energy crisis, for example, is not based on any true reading of the temper of public opinion.

All of this comes as no surprise to us in the labor movement. The 105 unions in the AFL-CIO are by all odds the biggest and most representative cross-section of the American public that exists. Their members speak up at 65,000 union meetings a month, all across the land. They also write letters to their international unions and to the AFL-CIO.

The American people are not only more perceptive than their elected leaders give them credit for, they are far more realistic, resilient and resolute in adversity.

—From an address at a dinner in New York honoring Laborers Vice President Robert Powell.

Kistler Cites NLRB Finding:

Businesses Making Wider Use Of Union-Busting Consultants

THE SHARP RISE of labor violations is strong evidence that the commitment of the U.S. business community to free collective bargaining is more superficial than real, Director Alan Kistler of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Service charged.

"Almost every year the National Labor Relations Board posts a new record-high of unfair labor practices committed by employers," Kistler said, adding that unlawful discharges are a favorite management tactic. He said that the "character of the opposition to union organizing has changed considerably," particularly in the increasing use of consultants to sidetrack organizing campaigns or to oust unions already certified.

Kistler said that the consultants employers call in are professionals in the art and skill of frustrating the rights of workers trying to form a union, and commonly advise employers to "break the law, because the law is ineffective and the remedies that exist are so inadequate."

Appearing on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Kistler said that a federation subcommittee has already identified some 300 lawyers and others who are now directly involved in anti-union campaigns. They are not just providing "remote advice, not just conducting seminars on how to keep the union out or how to get rid of the union once it is in and long-established—but directly conducting the campaigns," he said.

Kistler cited the corporate policy of the J. P. Stevens textile chain as "a classic example of the most intense form of the opposition to unionization."

Firms such as Stevens, he said, "have never accepted" the national labor policy and have no qualms about violating the rights of their employees.

"They train the supervisors how to maintain surveillance, how to solicit information from the employees, how to interrogate them, how to intimidate them, how to fire them."

Kistler said the labor movement is "developing our own counter-attack" through training programs, special seminars and a newsletter for organizers known as the RUB sheet—a Report on Union Busters.

But the activities of the management consultants, Kistler said, are a major reason "why unfair labor practice complaints are up 300 percent over 10 or 11 years ago, while the elections that the NLRB conducts are up only 10 percent in the same period."

In adopting such tactics, employers have "thrown off the cloak of deception—they say openly that they want a union-free environment, and they are going to get it by foul means or fair," Kistler told the interviewers.

He noted that it is a violation of legal ethics for lawyers to advise employers to violate the law in order to turn back a union drive. He said that a committee of union attorneys is now considering that issue, and the failure of the profession to take appropriate disciplinary action.

Reporters questioning Kistler were Philip Shabecoff of the New York Times and Drew Von Bergen of United Press International. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and broadcast weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

FOR THE SEVENTH straight year Rep. Charles A. Vanik (D-Ohio) has published the effective federal tax rates of 142 top industrial, banking, transportation, utility and retailing companies.

Vanik has the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation, with the aid of the General Accounting Office, analyze annual financial reports to stockholders and separate reports to the Securities & Exchange Commission. The results are shocking—every year.

The latest study, Vanik said, documents that the significant decline in the effective corporate tax rate during the 1970s is continuing.

"This trend line makes hash of the argument—for large corporations at least—that federal taxes take too much venture capital and that additional general corporate tax relief is needed," Vanik said.

Overall, these top corporations paid an effective federal income tax rate of 17.8 percent in 1977. They paid 26.9 percent in 1969 and the rate has been pulled down steadily during the 1970s.

Vanik does not charge business with any illegalities. "Corporations have simply taken advantage—quite effectively—of the multitude of tax subsidies put into our tax laws," he observed.

The giant American Telephone & Telegraph Co. earned $7.1 billion in 1977 and paid $568 million in taxes, yielding an effective tax rate of 8 percent.

The most shocking revelation is that 17 corporations made more than $2 billion in pre-tax income and paid zero income tax in 1977.

THE ZERO TAXPAYERS were: U.S. Steel, Rockwell International, Esmark, National Steel, Republic Steel, Inland Steel, United Brands, American Motors, American Airlines, Eastern Airlines, Pan American World Airways, Seaboard Coastline Industries, American Electric Power, Commonwealth Edison, Southern California Edison, A&P and First Chicago Corp.

Also in 1977, 38 corporations with worldwide pre-tax income of $33.8 billion each paid less than 10 percent in effective U.S. federal income taxes.

Remember these oil companies as they plead for incentive capital: Exxon, 7.4 percent; Mobil, 2.5 percent; Texaco, 6.3 percent; Gulf Oil, 6.3 percent; Atlantic Richfield, 1.3 percent; Occidental Petroleum, 0.9 percent; Union Oil of California, 8.1 percent; Marathon Oil, 6.6 percent; Standard Oil (Ohio), 0.6 percent.

As you read the notices with your utility bills explaining why the rates went up again, remember the taxes paid by these companies, excluding the zero group already mentioned: Pacific Gas & Electric, 1.9 percent; Public Service Electric & Gas, 2.7 percent; Virginia Electric & Power, 3.8 percent.

By group, the 1976 tax changes virtually removed the airlines and railroads from the list of federal taxpayers.

The big banks did very well, bringing their effective federal tax rate down from 31.7 percent in 1969 to 7.1 percent in 1977. The utilities pulled their tax bite down from 41.7 percent in 1969 to 7.2 percent in 1977.

The big slouches were in retailing, still paying a high 33.6 percent in 1977, and industrial companies at 26.5 percent.

Vanik points out that the statutory corporate tax rate of 48 percent in 1977 "is a myth." The effective rate paid by corporations in 1977 was 17.8 percent.

The Revenue Act of 1978 cut the scheduled corporate tax rate from 48 to 46 percent, handing big business another $5 billion, to say nothing of the bonanza of tax breaks for the wealthy.

The trend of the 1970s simply continues the postwar pattern of big corporations shifting the cost of the federal government to the shoulders of working people and the middle class. True tax reform could help restore the faith of the people in their government and in the fairness of American society.



ONLY SUPERFICIAL commitment to free collective bargaining is found in the business community, where labor law violations post new record highs year after year, Director Alan Kistler, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organizing & Field Services, declared on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Philip Shabecoff, left, of the New York Times and Drew Von Bergen of United Press International. The public affairs program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Rollcall Vote on Dept. of Education Bill

The House voted 210-206 for a bill opposed by both the AFL-CIO and the American Federation of Teachers to carve up the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare in order to create a separate Dept. of Education.

As the AFL-CIO sees it, right votes (R) were cast by the 89 Democrats and 117 Republicans who voted against a separate department. Voting wrong (W) were 175 Democrats and 35 Republicans.

Numerals show House districts; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) R
2. Dickinson (R) R
3. Nichols (D) R
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Flippo (D) W
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Shelby (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) R
2. Udall (D) W
3. Stump (D) R
4. Rudd (R) R

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) W
2. Bethune (R) R
3. Hammerschmidt (R) R
4. Anthony (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) W
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Matsui (D) W
4. Fazio (D) W
5. Burton, John L. (D) A
6. Burton, Phillip (D) W
7. Miller (D) W
8. Dellums (D) W
9. Stark (D) W
10. Edwards (D) W
11. Royer (R) R
12. McCloskey (R) A
13. Mineta (D) W
14. Shumway (R) R
15. Coelho (D) W
16. Panetta (D) W
17. Pashayan (R) R
18. Thomas (R) R
19. Lagomarsino (R) R
20. Goldwater (R) PR
21. Corman (D) W
22. Moorhead (R) R
23. Beilenson (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) W
26. Rousselot (R) R
27. Dornan (R) W
28. Dixon (D) W
29. Hawkins (D) W
30. Danielson (D) W
31. Wilson, C. H. (D) R
32. Anderson (D) W
33. Grisham (R) R
34. Lungren (R) R
35. Lloyd (D) R
36. Brown (D) W
37. Lewis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) W
39. Dannemeyer (R) R
40. Badham (R) R
41. Wilson, Bob (R) R
42. Van Deerlin (D) W
43. Burgener (R) R

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) W
3. Kogovsek (D) W
4. Johnson (R) R
5. Kramer (R) R

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) W
2. Dodd (D) W
3. Giaimo (D) W
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Ratchford (D) W
6. Moffett (D) W

DELAWARE
AL Evans (R) R

FLORIDA
1. Hutto (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) R
4. Chappell (D) R
5. Kelly (R) R
6. Young (R) R
7. Gibbons (D) R
8. Ireland (D) W
9. Nelson (D) R
10. Bafalis (R) R
11. Mica (D) W
12. Stack (D) W
13. Lehman (D) W
14. Pepper (D) W
15. Fascell (D) W

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Fowler (D) W
6. Gingrich (R) W
7. McDonald (D) R
8. Evans (D) W
9. Jenkins (D) W
10. Barnard (D) W

HAWAII
1. Heftel (D) W
2. Akaka (D) W

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) R
2. Hansen (R) R

ILLINOIS
1. Stewart (D) R
2. Murphy (D) W
3. Russo (D) W
4. Derwinski (R) R
5. Fary (D) W
6. Hyde (R) R
7. Collins (D) A
8. Rostenkowski (D) W
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) PW
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane, Philip (R) R
13. McClory (R) R
14. Erlenborn (R) R
15. Corcoran (R) W
16. Anderson (R) A
17. O'Brien (R) R
18. Michel (R) R
19. Railsback (R) R
20. Findley (R) R
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Crane, Dan (R) R
23. Price (D) W
24. Simon (D) W

INDIANA
1. Benjamin (D) W
2. Fithian (D) W
3. Brademas (D) W
4. Quayle (R) R
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) W
7. Myers (R) R
8. Deckard (R) R
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) W
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Leach (R) W
2. Tauke (R) R
3. Grassley (R) R
4. Smith (D) W
5. Harkin (D) W
6. Bedell (D) W

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) R
2. Jeffries (R) R
3. Winn (R) R
4. Glickman (D) R
5. Whittaker (R) R

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) W
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) R
5. Carter (R) R
6. Hopkins (R) R
7. Perkins (D) W

LOUISIANA
1. Livingston (R) R
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) PR
4. Leach (D) R
5. Huckaby (D) W
6. Moore (R) R
7. Breaux (D) R
8. Long (D) W

MAINE
1. Emery (R) PR
2. Snowe (R) R

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) R
2. Long (D) R
3. Mikulski (D) R
4. Holt (R) R
5. Spellman (D) A
6. Byron (D) R
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Barnes (D) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) W
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) W
5. Shannon (D) W
6. Mavroules (D) W
7. Markey (D) W
8. O'Neill (D) Speaker
9. Moakley (D) W
10. Heckler (R) W
11. Donnelly (D) R
12. Studds (D) W

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Pursell (R) W
3. Wolpe (D) W
4. Stockman (R) R
5. Sawyer (R) R
6. Carr (D) W
7. Kildee (D) W
8. Traxler (D) W
9. Vander Jagt (R) R
10. Albosta (D) W
11. Davis (R) W
12. Bonior (D) W
13. Diggs (D) W
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) W
16. Dingell (D) R
17. Brodhead (D) W
18. Blanchard (D) W
19. Broomfield (R) R

MINNESOTA
1. Erdahl (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) R
3. Frenzel (R) R
4. Vento (D) W
5. Sabo (D) R
6. Nolan (D) W
7. Stangeland (R) R
8. Oberstar (D) W

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Hinson (R) R
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) W
2. Young (D) W
3. Gephardt (D) R
4. Skelton (D) PW
5. Bolling (D) A
6. Coleman (R) R
7. Taylor (R) R
8. Ichord (D) R
9. Volkmer (D) W
10. Burlison (D) W

MONTANA
1. Williams (D) R
2. Marlenee (R) R

NEBRASKA
1. Bereuter (R) R
2. Cavanaugh (D) W
3. Smith (R) R

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) W

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) PW
2. Cleveland (R) R

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) W
3. Howard (D) W
4. Thompson (D) W
5. Fenwick (R) R
6. Forsythe (R) A
7. Maguire (D) W
8. Roe (D) W
9. Hollenbeck (R) W
10. Rodino (D) A
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) W
13. Courter (R) W
14. Guarini (D) R
15. Patten (D) W

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) R
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Carney (R) R
2. Downey (D) W
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) R
5. Wydler (R) R
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Ferraro (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) A
18. Green (R) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Weiss (D) R
21. Garcia (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (D) R
24. Ottinger (D) W
25. Fish (R) W
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Solomon (R) R
30. McEwen (R) R
31. Michell (R) R
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Lee (R) R
34. Horton (R) W
35. Conable (R) R
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) R
39. Lundine (D) R

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) R
3. Whitley (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) W
6. Preyer (D) W
7. Rose (D) W
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) R
10. Broyhill (R) R
11. Gudger (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) R
2. Luken (D) R
3. Hall (D) W
4. Guyer (R) R
5. Latta (R) R
6. Harsha (R) R
7. Brown (R) R
8. Kindness (R) R
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) R
11. Stanton (R) R
12. Devine (R) R
13. Pease (D) W
14. Seiberling (D) W
15. Wylie (R) R
16. Regula (R) R
17. Ashbrook (R) R
18. Applegate (D) R
19. Williams (R) W
20. Oakar (D) W
21. Stokes (D) W
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) W

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Synar (D) W
3. Watkins (D) W
4. Steed (D) W
5. Edwards (R) R
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) W
2. Ullman (D) W
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) PW

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Myers (D) R
2. Gray (D) R
3. Lederer (D) R
4. Dougherty (R) W
5. Schulze (R) R
6. Yatron (D) W
7. Edgar (D) W
8. Kostmayer (D) R
9. Shuster (R) R
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) PR
12. Murtha (D) W
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Ritter (R) R
16. Walker (R) R
17. Ertel (D) W
18. Walgren (D) R
19. Goodling (R) A
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Bailey (D) R
22. Murphy (D) W
23. Clinger (R) R
24. Marks (R) W
25. Atkinson (D) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) W
2. Beard (D) W

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) W
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) W
4. Campbell (R) W
5. Holland (D) W
6. Jenrette (D) W

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Daschle (D) W
2. Abdnor (R) R

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Bouquard (D) W
4. Gore (D) W
5. Boner (D) W
6. Beard (R) R
7. Jones (D) W
8. Ford (D) W

TEXAS
1. Hall (D) R
2. Wilson (D) W
3. Collins (R) R
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Mattox (D) W
6. Gramm (D) W
7. Archer (R) R
8. Eckhardt (D) W
9. Brooks (D) W
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Leath (D) R
12. Wright (D) W
13. Hightower (D) R
14. Wyatt (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) R
16. White (D) W
17. Stenholm (D) R
18. Leland (D) W
19. Hance (D) R
20. Gonzalez (D) W
21. Loeffler (R) R
22. Paul (R) R
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Frost (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Marriott (R) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) W

VIRGINIA
1. Trible (R) W
2. Whitehurst (R) R
3. Satterfield (D) R
4. Daniel, Robert (R) R
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) R
7. Robinson (R) R
8. Harris (D) W
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) W

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Swift (D) W
3. Bonker (D) W
4. McCormack (D) W
5. Foley (D) W
6. Dicks (D) W
7. Lowry (D) W

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) W
2. Staggers (D) W
3. Slack (D) R
4. Rahall (D) W

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) W
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) W
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) W
6. Petri (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Roth (R) R
9. Sensenbrenner (R) R

WYOMING
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Gleason Reviews Gains:

Job Stability Goal Of Longshoremen

Bal Harbour, Fla.—The Longshoremen's union has made great headway in the past four years as an "activist, concerned union" and will continue to press the fight for job security and stability on the docks, ILA President Thomas W. Gleason told the 44th convention here.

In his report to the more than 850 delegates keynoting the convention, Gleason said a major task for the union is to help rebuild the American maritime industry and meet the specific challenge posed by the Soviet bloc merchant fleet which is driving the free world's fleet, and particularly that of the United States, into "moth balls and scrap."

The president of the 130,000-member union reviewed the achievements of strengthening the pension and health and welfare funds in negotiations with the industry and the continued effectiveness of a guaranteed annual wage and said that "now that the job security program is a reality, we will take aim to broaden collective bargaining and to obtain uniform conditions in all of the ports which would stabilize competition and eliminate employers' whipsaw tactics of playing one port against another."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland traced the union's key role in the work of the labor movement and Gleason's role in international affairs on behalf of the AFL-CIO and voiced the federation's favorable reaction to President Carter's energy program.

He stressed that the AFL-CIO had called for many of the programs urged by the President as long as six years ago and the new move for energy independence "is the best kind of news." In its broad outlines, he said, the President's program "moves in the right direction" although the AFL-CIO would like to see an excess profits tax on oil "a great deal higher and more stringent than the President has asked."

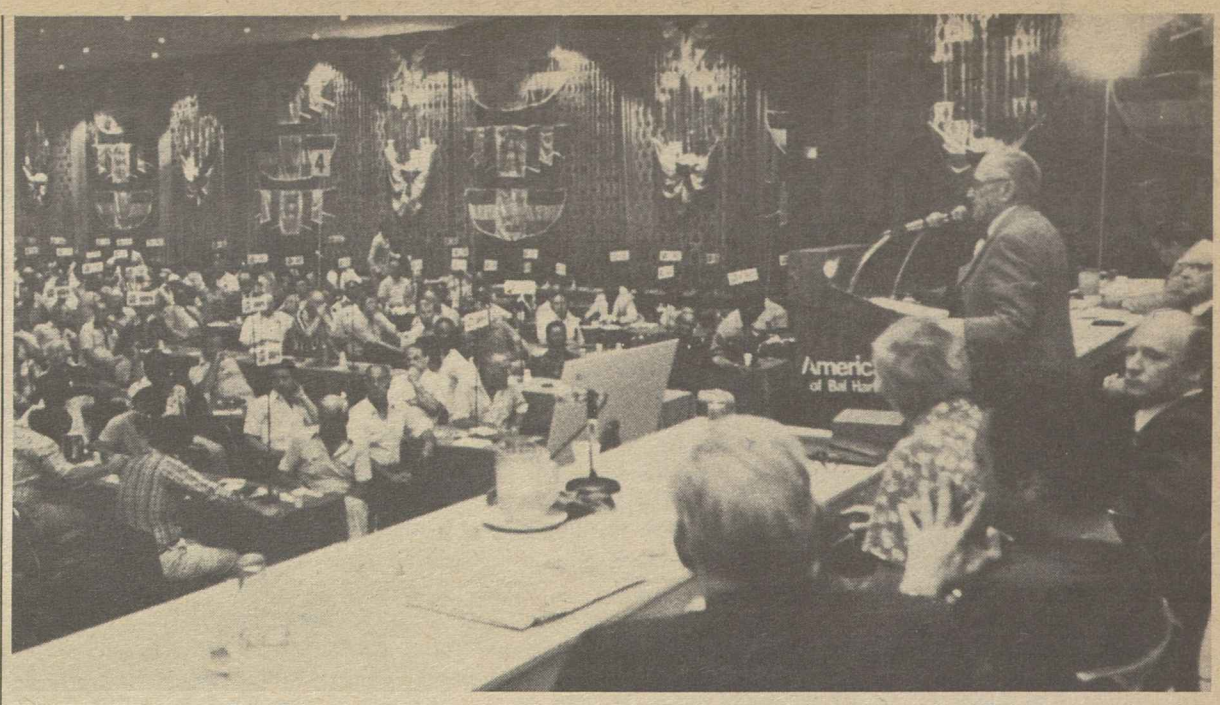
The battle for energy independence, he said, is a fight for economic independence and one that the American trade union movement and the American people will support wholeheartedly. "I think most Americans were way ahead of the President. They have been eager for the war to begin, they have been impatient with delay and they want no more of it."

In his report Gleason took note of the union's role in beating back efforts to water down the Longshoremen's & Harborworkers' Compensation Act affecting health and safety standards and the successful effort to protect the Panama Canal Zone workers in the recent treaties.

"We will strive to improve safety conditions and to make sure that all vessels calling at our ports are built and managed safely and can be loaded and off-loaded without endangering the health of our members," Gleason said.

He pledged that the union will work to obtain a uniform national policy on shipping with emphasis on a new unified direction, and to help revitalize free world competition in the maritime industry.

The delegates will consider a series of changes to update the union's constitution as well as a number of resolutions reflecting the ILA's wide-ranging interests. A large number of trade union leaders, government officials and members of Congress addressed the opening sessions.



LONGSHOREMEN'S President Thomas Gleason, reporting to delegates at the ILA convention in Bal Harbour, Fla., said that the union's main concern is the deteriorating condition of the U.S. maritime industry. He also pledged that the union will seek greater job security for its members.

Labor Pledges Strong Support For Carter Energy Proposals

(Continued from Page 1)

"The generation-long growth in our dependence on foreign oil will be stopped dead in its tracks, right now — and then reversed as we move through the 1980s," Carter declared.

- The "most massive peacetime commitment of funds and resources in our nation's history" will be directed toward developing alternative sources of fuel at home.

Carter will ask Congress to create an Energy Security Corporation to lead the effort to replace 2.5 million barrels of imported oil a day by 1990. The corporation, similar to that proposed by the AFL-CIO, would provide financial assistance to the private sector to develop synthetic fuels, tap the oil in oil-shale deposits, and develop other alternative energy supplies.

- To cut through the red tape, delays, and roadblocks often involved in completing key energy projects, an Energy Mobilization Board would also be created by Congress. Similar to the War Production Board in World War II, the new panel would be empowered to coordinate regulatory procedures at all levels of government, local, state, and federal.

- Requirements that utilities cut their current oil consumption by 50 percent over the next decade, thereby saving an estimated 750,000 barrels of oil per day, and finance energy-conservation measures, such as added insulation for homes and offices.

- An investment of $16.5 billion in new funds over the next 10 years for improving the nation's mass transportation systems and in promoting automobile fuel efficiency.

- An average $2.4 billion annually in aid to low-income families who cannot afford rapidly rising energy prices.

In addition, the President said he would again ask Congress for the power to impose gasoline rationing in case of an emergency. And he implored all Americans to stop wasting energy—"to take no unnecessary trips, to use carpools or public transportation wherever you can, to park your car one extra day or week, to obey the speed limit, and to set your thermostats to save fuel."

Parts of the President's complex program had been proposed previously by the Administration, and some elements, such as his requests for standby gasoline rationing authority and for a windfall profits tax, are already in the legislative pipeline. The difference this time lay in the urgency and somberness in which Carter couched his words.

America faces a "crisis of confidence," which is "threatening to destroy the social and the political fabric" of the nation, he warned. "Energy will be the immediate test of our ability to unite the nation. On the battlefield of energy, we can win for our nation a new confidence—and we can seize control of our common destiny."

In his statement on the President's July 15 TV address, Meany said that Carter "accurately stated the depth of the energy crisis confronting the nation, and properly pointed out that failure to deal with this crisis had shaken the confidence of the American people in their government and its leaders."

The goals set forth in the President's speech, Meany observed, are both necessary and attainable, and he guaranteed that "American workers will do their part, as they have always done when the nation was in trouble. They will accept their fair share of the sacrifice that must be forthcoming from everyone."

In addressing the CWA convention, Carter spoke of the divisions that this summer's gasoline and oil shortages have engendered in the land.

"When you have to sit in a gas line, or when your home heating bill goes up, it doesn't pull people together. It separates people one from another because you are mad at your neighbors, you are mad at the government, you are mad at OPEC (the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries), you are mad at the oil companies. It divides us apart."

The President also assured the CWA delegates that he will not allow the oil companies to hold back on production waiting for gasoline pump prices to go up.

Using his authority to press the big oil companies to increase their output, Carter said that the production rate of the nation's refineries has risen from 82 to 91 percent in the past six weeks.

Robt. Kinghorn Elected Head of Idaho AFL-CIO

Pocatello, Ida.—Robert C. Kinghorn was unanimously elected president of the Idaho State AFL-CIO at the organization's 21st annual convention here.

A member of the Operating Engineers, Kinghorn succeeds Robert Macfarlane, who resigned earlier this year for health reasons.

The close to 200 delegates, the largest number ever to attend an Idaho State AFL-CIO convention, unanimously passed a resolution creating the position of president-emeritus and appointed Macfarlane to it.

A special testimonial dinner for Macfarlane was held, with Idaho Gov. John Evans a featured speaker.

The delegates also re-elected James E. Kerns as secretary-treasurer and Edward Johnson as vice president.

Speakers included Al Barkan, national director of the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education, who warned of the increasing attacks on organized labor from corporate, conservative, and right-wing elements in the country.

Also addressing the delegates were Sec.-Treas. Earl D. McDavid of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept., Frank Emig, assistant director of the Dept. of Organization & Field Services; James W. Murry, executive secretary of the Montana State AFL-CIO; Sec.-Treas. Darwin Aycock of the Arizona State AFL-CIO, and President Joseph Davis of the Washington State AFL-CIO.

The convention acted on 35 resolutions. Among those approved were a call for collective bargaining for Idaho public employees, support for the constitutional amendment to establish congressional representation for the District of Columbia, an appeal to keep Amtrak rail service in southern Idaho, a proposal for a statewide labor newspaper, and a call for equitable assessment of all property in the state.

Funds Approved For 2 Railroads

Two midwest railroads will receive $29.5 million in federal assistance through agreements signed with the Dept. of Transportation.

A loan of $20 million will be guaranteed by the DOT's Federal Railroad Administration for the bankrupt Milwaukee Road to continue operations.

The FRA also will purchase $9.5 million in trustee certificates from the Rock Island Railroad, the proceeds to be used to purchase track materials to upgrade 305 miles of its mainlines.

The AFL-CIO and affiliated railroad unions have repeatedly called for federal aid for troubled carriers.

U.S. Pay Comparability Termed 'Meaningless'

The salary comparability law that is supposed to tie the pay of federal workers to private industry patterns has been transformed into "a meaningless exercise," the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. charged.

PED President William H. McClennan said the white-collar salary survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics points up the unfairness of President Carter's announced intention to hold government pay raises this October to a 5.5 percent ceiling.

Preliminary results of the survey, on which the comparability salary adjustments are supposed to be based, show a 7.8 percent pattern of pay increases in the private sector over the past year, McClennan noted.

By having decided in advance of the survey the ceiling for government workers, "the President has ignored the clear intent of the comparability law," he charged.

McClennan, who is also president of the Fire Fighters, noted that Carter's 5.5 percent ceiling is lower than the guidelines the Administration is trying to enforce on the private sector. "It's sad the President doesn't demand the same kind of sacrifice by the oil companies," he said.

Under the procedures set by law, the BLS survey findings are referred to a panel of government officials who apply the data to the white collar pay schedule, invite comments, and submit recommendations to the President.

"Unfortunately," McClennan said, "President Carter has prejudged the issue."

James Luken Dies, Cincinnati Official

Cincinnati—James T. Luken, president of a directly affiliated AFL-CIO local union and a former mayor of Cincinnati, died July 12 of cancer at Holmes Hospital. He was 57.

Luken had been president of DALU 98 since it was chartered by the federation in 1961 after he led a Cincinnati area 2,200-member local of milk drivers and dairy workers out of the Teamsters. He also had been head of a Teamsters joint district council.

Survivors include his wife Ida Mae and four children. Services were held July 14 at St. Peter-in-Chains church and burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery in Cincinnati.

AFL-CIO Hits Tax Plan:

Shift of Health Costs To Workers Scored

The AFL-CIO registered strong objection to legislative proposals that would make workers pay part of the cost of their company's health benefits.

An assortment of proposals to use government tax policy to make workers and employers feel the pinch of health care costs is being considered by two House subcommittees which held joint hearings on inflation in health care costs.

Their common theory is that it will be easier to hold down costs and avoid unnecessary expenses if consumers of health services and purchasers of health insurance feel the pinch of paying the bills.

Thus, a bill by Rep. James R. Jones (D-Okla.) would allow employers to deduct as a business expense only health insurance plans that require workers to share the cost—either through deductibles that would have to be paid out of pocket before the insurance takes over or through shared payment of the cost of the insurance.

And Alice M. Rivlin, director of the Congressional Budget Office, proposed to make workers pay income taxes on at least part of the value of health insurance premiums paid by employers. She claimed that such a tax "would encourage employers to offer and employees to request less expensive health insurance plans."

To the AFL-CIO, such proposals take an obviously backward approach to the problem since "doctors, not patients, control the demand for medical services."

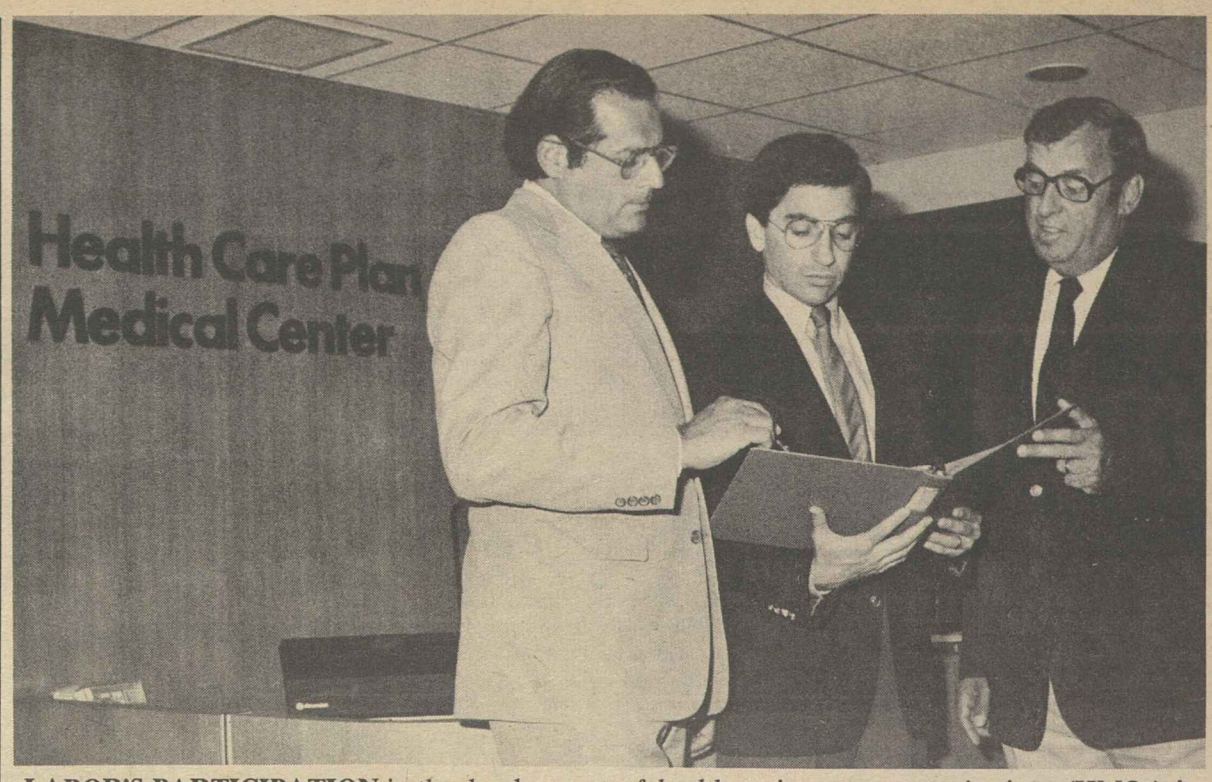
Legislative Director Kenneth Young expressed the AFL-CIO's concerns in a statement submitted to the House panels that held joint hearings on the issue—a task force of the Budget Committee and a Ways & Means subcommittee.

"This concept of requiring employee payments in order to makes him cost-conscious and to stimulate him to shop around for less expensive doctors, more economical hospitals and lower cost insurance policies has been promoted by a few economists who do not appear to have even a rudimentary understanding of the health industry," he said.

Patients don't decide the level of health care they receive, the statement emphasized. "It is the doctor who decides whether a patient goes to a hospital . . . what laboratory tests or diagnostic procedures need to be performed." Thus any fiscal controls designed to control costs "must be placed on the physician and not the patient."

Young said a California study of a co-payment requirement found that it led to a drop in early medical treatment—but a consequent costly rise in the need for hospitalization. The added cost of hospitalization more than offset the other savings.

Young served notice that the AFL-CIO will oppose any bill "that places the burden of cost containment on consumers rather than upon providers."



LABOR'S PARTICIPATION in the development of health maintenance organizations (HMOs) is typified by the Health Care Plan, an HMO serving the Buffalo, N.Y., area. Instrumental in its early development phase in 1975, President George Wessel of the Buffalo AFL-CIO, right, assumed the position of Vice Chairman of HCP's board. Dr. Arthur Goshin, HCP president, center, attributes much of the HMO's success to a genuine commitment of area labor leaders such as Wessel. At left, is Dr. Edward Marine, HCP medical director.

No-Limit Interest Rates Would Affect Housing

Most Americans would lose more than they would gain from legislation phasing out ceilings on interest rates of banks and other savings institutions, the AFL-CIO contended at Senate hearings.

A deregulation bill being considered by a Banking subcommittee includes provisions that labor supports. But Urban Affairs Director Henry B. Schechter stressed the AFL-CIO's opposition to features that would push up interest rates and drain away funds needed for housing mortgages.

Schechter linked excessive interest rates to past economic downturns. A return to a "free market" on savings deposits, he warned, would only "lead to greater instability and economic inefficiency for residential construction and the economy as a whole."

Federal regulations now limit the interest rates that can be paid on various forms of deposits and allow savings institutions, as the chief source of mortgage funds, to offer a higher interest rate than commercial banks to help them attract deposits.

An unregulated competition for deposits, Schechter warned, would add to the cost of almost all consumer goods. The burden would fall hardest on lower-income households who in effect would be subsidizing the higher interest rates without benefiting from them.

Even families with modest savings accounts would find that a few dollars extra in interest payments wouldn't compensate for the added cost of the things they buy, the AFL-CIO said.

Thirty-seven percent of families have no savings accounts, Schechter noted, and another 29 percent have interest-drawing savings accounts of less than $2,000. And many with savings above that level would still be losers through higher mortgage payments and other ripple effects on the economy.

The AFL-CIO also objected to provisions that would allow savings and loan associations to channel increased funds into investments that provide higher returns than residential mortgages.

On the plus side, Schechter endorsed the provisions of the bill to affirm the right of savings institutions to offer special forms of checking services. A federal court ruled last April that legislation is needed to allow such accounts and gave Congress until the end of the year to remedy the situation.

Consumers benefits from the convenience of such accounts, he testified, and Congress should pass the needed legislation.

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Committee Approves Hospital Cost Curbs

The House was assured of an opportunity to vote on a hospital cost containment bill that President Carter considers an essential cornerstone to any national health insurance program.

As cleared for the House floor by a 22-14 vote, the bill was substantially watered down from its original version. Mandatory controls would be triggered only if the increase in hospital costs this year exceeds 11.6 percent. And even then, either the House or Senate could block controls from taking effect by a simple resolution of disapproval.

Other weakening amendments added by the committee would exempt a majority of the nation's hospitals from mandatory cost curbs.

It took intensive White House lobbying to prod the bill out of committee, where the hospital industry had hoped to keep it bottled up. A majority was achieved under an agreement that the bill would be considered on the House floor under an open rule, allowing unlimited amendments.

When it comes to the House floor, probably after the August recess of Congress, a key battle will be over an amendment that would eliminate all mandatory controls, thus gutting the bill completely.

There was also concern that sponsors of a labor-opposed bill that would compel workers to pay part of the cost of their company health benefits might seek to attach it as an amendment.

The Senate picture was at least equally clouded. A hospital cost containment bill has been approved by the Labor & Human Resources Committee. But the Finance Committee, which is the counterpart of the House Ways & Means Committee, rejected the Administration plan and approved an entirely different measure limited to Medicare and Medicaid payments.

In another area, the Administration succeeded in reviving at least a limited version of standby authority for the President to ration gasoline.

Last May, the House rejected a standby rationing plan that had been passed by the Senate.

In the wake of recent gasoline lines, however, the House Commerce Committee voted to authorize the President to impose gasoline rationing if he anticipates a severe shortage. The term "severe" is defined in the bill as at least 20 percent, which is substantially more than the estimated shortfall of recent weeks. Either the House or Senate would be able to veto a rationing plan promulgated by the President.

On the House floor as the AFL-CIO News went to press was a bill authorizing funds for Amtrak passenger train service, and rail unions were hoping to amend it to stave off a scheduled drastic cutback in Amtrak mileage that would leave most of the nation without passenger trains.

In a letter to House members, the AFL-CIO said the fuel and energy crisis reinforces the case for strengthening public transportation instead of dismantling the present rail system.

And with a July 24 vote set in the House on a proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit busing of students beyond their neighborhood schools, the civil rights coalition was mobilizing a nationwide effort to block the two-thirds majority needed to keep the amendment alive. A discharge petition signed by a majority of the House enabled its sponsors to bypass the Judiciary Committee and move to bring the amendment to the floor.

Broadcasting Deregulation Bill Dropped

(Continued from Page 1)

blurred the distinction between public and commercial broadcasting and enhance the influence of corporations over programming.

At recent subcommittee hearings, the AFL-CIO Dept. for Public Employees protested any greater inroads by corporations into public broadcasting programming.

The proposed legislation, the department warned, would reduce public television to "a pale replica of commercial broadcasting."

In a letter to subcommittee members before the decision to drop the measure, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young voiced labor's concern at "objectionable" features of all the bill.

Communication of ideas and information is "of critical importance to a democracy," Young wrote, and laws governing the communications system "are among the most important a free society can enact."

Van Deerling noted that the Senate counterpart committee is also proceeding with amendments to the 1934 Communications Act rather than scrapping the law and rewriting it from scratch.

He indicated that the main changes will be in sections affecting telecommunications carriers, specifically the relationship between the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. and rival carriers offering specialized services.

Police Spying Charges Filed Against Stevens

Macon, Ga.—The Clothing & Textile Workers Union has charged J. P. Stevens & Co. with discouraging lawful union activity and exchange of information obtained through illegal police spying in the Baldwin County area of Georgia.

The union filed an amended complaint in U.S. district court here in the case involving Milledgeville, Ga., city officials, whom the union had earlier charged with unlawful surveillance of ACTWU representatives.

The charges against Stevens were made also against Grumman Aerospace Corp., Concord Fabrics and Meadow Industries.

The suit is the latest incident in the union's ongoing campaign to organize the Stevens plant here, a campaign dating to mid-1976.

The union said that deposition testimony given by Milledgeville Mayor Robert Rice admitted an agreement with J. P. Stevens and the other companies to monitor the comings and goings of union representatives and supply the data to the companies to help identify union sympathizers.

Five days after the first suit was filed the mayor and the police chief agreed to cease and desist, directly and indirectly, from surveillance activities and a Holiday Inn manager pledged not to permit use of the motel premises for surveillance.

Prices Soar, Real Wages Down in Year

AFL-CIO News

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Tight Money, Output Drop Build Recession Pressure

Housing, Fuel Pace June Rise

Consumer prices were 10.9 percent higher in June 1979 than a year ago and workers' real spendable earnings were down 3.5 percent over the same period.

That was the major thrust of the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports as the Consumer Price Index registered a full percentage point higher last month to bring the annual rate of price increases for the past six months to 13.2 percent.

Higher prices for housing, mostly interest rates, and energy—gasoline and heating oil—led the June increases as the pace of other price increases slowed, notably food. The June index was the fifth straight month of price increases of one percent or higher.

During the first six months of 1979, transportation, housing and food led the price increases. The first quarter increase was at an annual rate of 13 percent; the second quarter at 13.4 percent, the largest quarterly rise since a 14 percent increase in the first quarter of 1974.

The BLS reported that real spendable earnings—average weekly earnings reduced by social security and federal income taxes—for a married worker with three dependents decreased eight-tenths of 1 percent from May to June and over the year dropped 3.5 percent. The increase in average weekly earnings was wiped out by a drop in average hours worked and the sharp increase in consumer prices.

In June 1979 dollars, spendable earnings for the worker with three dependents was $194.39, compared to $181.34 a year earlier. In real earnings (1967 dollars) the June 1978 $92.85 dropped to $89.62 in June 1979.

The housing index rose 1.3 percent in June with house prices up 1.5 percent, home financing costs (interest rates) up 2.1 percent and fuel oil prices up 8.6 percent.

The transportation index was up for the eighth straight month with gasoline prices up 5.6 percent in June and surged at an annual rate of 60.8 percent for the first six months of 1979.

Food prices showed the smallest increase since July 1978 at two-tenths of 1 percent.

The CPI stood at 216.6 in June. This means that a market basket of goods and services that cost $100 in 1967 cost $216.60 last month.

Oil Firms Post Huge Profit Gains

The nation's major oil companies reported huge profits during the second quarter of 1979, a period in which gasoline and heating oil prices rose to their highest-ever levels.

While many Americans were waiting in gasoline station lines to pay up to $1 a gallon—or more in some localities— companies like Gulf Oil Corp., Exxon Corp., and Standard Oil Co. (Ohio) were totaling up abnormally high earnings.

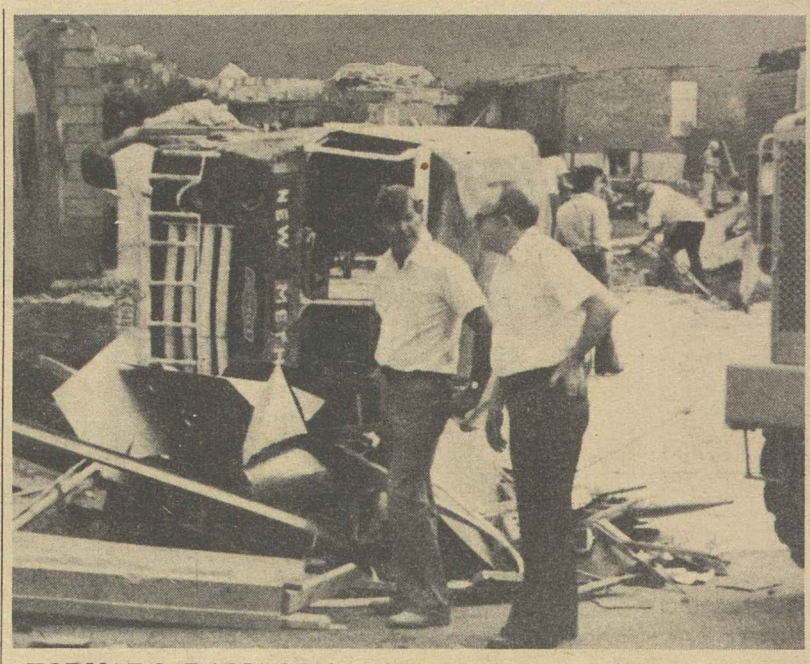
Gulf, the nation's fifth largest oil company, posted a 65 percent rise in second-quarter profits. Exxon, the world's largest oil company, reported a 20 percent increase during the same period. Sohio's profits jumped 70 percent.

Also benefiting from the bonanza were Standard Oil Co. of Indiana (Amoco), with second-quarter earnings up 36 percent; Amerada Hess Corp., whose profits rose a spectacular 235 percent; Cities Service Co., with profits up 90 percent, and Shell Oil Co., up 55 percent. Occidental and Pennzoil also reported big profit margins.

The string of fat profits reports followed a similar earnings surge in the first three months of the year for the same companies, a time when profits for all of corporate America surged 35 percent over year-earlier levels.

Gulf, whose earnings over the

(Continued on Page 6)



TORNADO DAMAGE in Cheyenne is assessed by Wyoming AFL-CIO Executive Secretary Keith Henning, left, and Joe Lynch, a field representative for the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services. The Wyoming AFL-CIO coordinated formation of emergency teams of union members to provide food, clothing, shelter and housing repairs for the estimated 1,000 left homeless by Wyoming's worst tornado. **(Story, page 7.)**

Constitutional Amendment Loses:

House Rejects Move To Forbid Busing

By David L. Perlman

The House decisively turned down a constitutional amendment to ban school busing that the AFL-CIO warned would embroil every state legislature "in divisive and bitter controversy" and leave a moral blot on the Constitution if ratified.

A constitutional amendment needs a two-thirds vote by the House and Senate to be sent to the states for ratification. But the anti-busing amendment was blocked at the starting gate when it failed to muster even a simple majority.

The House rejected it, 216-209, even though a majority of members had signed the discharge petition that took the amendment out of a hostile Judiciary Committee and allowed it to be called up directly to the floor of the House.

As originally introduced by Rep. Ronald M. Mottl (D-Ohio), the amendment would have imposed a sweeping ban on requiring a child to attend school outside of his immediate neighborhood for any reason. But the House agreed to allow Rep. Marjorie S. Holt (R-Md.) to substitute tighter language to ban only busing designed to desegregate schools. The prohibition would have been ironclad, whether the busing was court-ordered to overcome deliberate segregation policies or whether it was voluntary action by school districts to avoid one-race schools.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland expressed labor's position in a message to an NAACP prayer vigil. He termed the anti-busing

(Continued on Page 8)

Fed's Cure Aggravates Inflation

By James M. Shevis

An unexpectedly large decline in economic output in April, May and June, coupled with a move by the Federal Reserve Board to tighten credit by boosting key interest rates, heightened the possibility of a deeper recession than the Administration anticipates.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said that higher interest rates are the "worst medicine that could be applied to an already sick economy reeling from inflation and heading into a recession.

"Rather than curing inflation, higher interest rates will aggravate the situation, raising the costs to business borrowers and thus prices, as well as the interest charges to consumers."

The Commerce Dept.'s announcement that "real" gross national product (GNP)—the market value of the nation's total output of goods and services adjusted for inflation—plunged at a 3.3 percent annual rate in the second quarter of the year confirmed that the recession forecast earlier this month by the Administration and the Congressional Budget Office is under way.

The decline in real GNP—the steepest in more than four years—was larger than the department's earlier prediction of a 2.4 percent drop or a White House estimate of an almost 3 percent slide. The size of the slump raised the possibility that before the year is out the na-

(Continued on Page 3)

Free Chilean Unions, AFL-CIO Condemn New Labor Decrees

The AFL-CIO joined representatives of Chile's principal democratic trade unions in condemning a series of new labor decrees issued by the military government of President Augusto Pinochet.

In a joint statement by the AFL-CIO and the Group of Ten, the package of decrees was described as working to "hobble" the struggling democratic labor movement in Chile by giving employers and the Pinochet regime a clear upper hand in labor-government dealings.

The Group of Ten is the representative union organization recognized by the AFL-CIO as the voice of democratic labor in Chile.

The net impact of the new decrees, announced on July 1, is to continue the "union divisionist practices" initiated under President Salvador Allende Gossen's leftist government, and conducted in Gen. Pinochet's regime since the onset of its authoritarian coup d'etat in 1973, the joint statement declared.

The new decrees, issued in the name of freedom of association for workers, actually would drastically undermine the rights of Chilean organized labor, the AFL-CIO/Group of Ten statement pointed out.

"While the government of Chile attempted to give the appearance of respect for human rights and freedoms in this new legislation," it said, "the truth is that rights and freedoms as understood by the democratic trade-union movements throughout the world are emasculated by these decrees."

The two groups also denied reports by the Pinochet government that the AFL-CIO had been in continuous contact with the regime, or that there had been a constructive dialog between the government and democratic worker organizations in Chile.

"By the adoption of these decrees, the Chilean government has acted in bad faith in view of the public promises and commitments it made in January 1979 to normalize the union situation in Chile with

(Continued on Page 2)

Energy Plan Relief Urged On Fuel Bite

America's development of alternative energy sources and relief for low-income households hardest hit by uncontrolled fuel prices should not be limited by the size of the windfall profits tax, the AFL-CIO declared.

Research Director Rudy Oswald pressed the AFL-CIO's case for direct consumer relief that would approximately triple President Carter's proposals, and for a commitment to needed energy programs that does not depend on the uncertainties of windfall profits tax receipts.

Oswald testified at House Ways & Means Committee hearings on

(Continued on Page 3)





BRITISH TRADE UNION LEADERS met for three days with top AFL-CIO officials at federation headquarters. In picture at top, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland confers with Gen. Sec. Lionel Murray, center, of the British Trades Union Congress and TUC President Thomas Jackson. Bottom picture shows AFL-CIO Vice Presidents J. C. Turner, left, and Sol Chaikin, right, with TUC Council Member Frank Chapple. Chaired by Kirkland, the meeting ranged over a variety of topics, including the trade union situation in Britain, the United States, and the free world, energy, international economic and political developments, and international labor organizations.

Reactionary Forces Threaten Gains For Labor, Minorities, Kirkland Says

Chicago—The progress that workers and minorities have made in recent years is menaced by a revival of reactionary forces in many areas of American life, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland warned in an address before the National Urban League here.

The anti-busing Mottl amendment that reached the House floor only to be beaten back is not the only assault that is under way in the United States today, he said.

"In the Congress, in the state houses and city halls, we see elected officials riding on the anti-tax bandwagon, calling for the elimination of public programs and services that make life worth living for the people who elected them," he said.

"Not only welfare programs are under attack," Kirkland pointed out. "Public health programs, occupational safety and health programs, government regulatory programs of all kinds, fair employment laws, the minimum wage—all are under constant siege in this effort to take from the many for the benefit of the few."

Kirkland said that these assaults on democracy have an economic base, and come at a time when the nation's economic climate makes the American people more vulnerable to divisive tactics. The heart of the country's trouble lies in the fact that the economy is unbalanced, he said.

"Consumer prices are soaring. Corporate profit statements are going into orbit. Yet, the purchasing power of American workers and consumers is shrinking every week," he said. "The average American worker now is able to buy less with his wages than he could in 1965.

"At the same time, workers are very much aware that the future looks even more bleak. Inflation will continue. Unemployment will increase. Production will drop. There will be fewer houses to live in at higher prices and higher interest rates.

"No wonder Americans are uneasy, insecure, and distrustful of their leaders and their neighbors."

Kirkland said that the country is seeing a revival of anti-unionism unmatched since the industrial dark ages of two generations ago. Employers are hiring professional union-busters to subvert the law and labor-relations "consultants" to destroy the collective bargaining system, he said.

Addressing the same audience, AFL-CIO Vice President J. C. Turner scored attacks by conservatives on the Davis-Bacon prevailing-wage law. Just as minorities are making substantial gains in construction employment, he noted, Davis-Bacon is threatened.

Turner, who is president of the Operating Engineers, stressed the importance of continuing Davis-Bacon coverage on relatively small contracts, the area in which minority contractors are gaining a foothold in the industry. The 1931 law requires that contractors pay locally prevaling wages and fringe benefits on all federal construction projects above $2,000.

In his remarks to the intercity minority coalition, Kirkland pledged that the trade-union movement in coming weeks will work to see that President Carter's energy program is carried out in ways that will benefit the American people, "without subversion or diversion by those who have benefited unfairly from the energy shortage and would like to see it continue so they can profit even more handsomely."

He called on the Urban League to join in this fight as it has so often lined up with labor in the past.

"In our view, the commitment to energy independence, with all the effort and expense and sacrifice it will require, is the essential first step toward setting America's house in order," Kirkland said.

Chilean Labor Decrees Would Cripple Unions

(Continued from Page 1)

the full participation of the Chilean democratic workers," they charged.

In a lengthy analysis of the new Chilean labor code, the Group of Ten said that the new labor code favors well organized minority groups, such as the Marxists, "while it condemns the democratic union movement to a slow but sure death."

In addition, the new legislation works to prevent the autonomy of union organizations, bans strikes in any activity that affects national security, public services or the "public interest," and makes payment of union dues by workers voluntary.

Also, by legalizing strikebreakers, use of lockouts and by placing significant economic responsibilities on the strikers, the decrees make a strike "more a threat to the worker than the employer," the Group of Ten observed. "This effectively bars the right to strike."

The only recognized bargaining units under the decrees are unions in individual factories, farms, or other work units. Union federations cannot be formed as bargaining agents with employers. Hence, the peasant labor unions, which developed on the basis of contracts covering farm workers by provincial districts, are in effect destroyed.

"Our Chilean trade-union organizations cannot survive with the repressive measures of these new decrees, and we are confident that in solidarity with us, the free trade unions throughout the world will be in agreement," the analysis concluded.

Small Business Exemption:

OSHA Protection Limited by Senate

The Senate voted to weaken job safety and health protection for America's workers by exempting from inspection most establishments with 10 or fewer workers in supposedly non-hazardous industries.

It wrote the small business exemption into an appropriations bill for the Labor Dept. and the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare after a key 54-38 procedural vote allowed the labor-opposed amendment to be offered. **(Rollcall, Page 6.)**

The final version was less damaging than the original amendment proposed by Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho) at the instigation of employer organizations.

Church proposed a sweeping ban that would have excluded some 9.7 million workers in 3 million business establishments. It would have exempted more than 15 percent of all workers covered by the law and more than 70 percent of the business establishments.

A compromise proposed by Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.) somewhat reduced the exclusions of the original Church amendment but still would take away protection from up to 5.5 million workers now covered by the Occupational Safety & Health Act.

As sent to a House-Senate conference committee as part of the massive appropriations bill, the measure would bar normal OSHA inspections of small business firms in industries having low job-injury rates providing the employer certified each year that his establishment did not have an accident rate of six or more lost workdays per 10 employees.

OSHA would be allowed to enforce toxic substance regulations, to investigate serious accidents or to respond to employee complaints. But it could not impose any penalty unless an employer fails to correct an "imminent danger" or a "willful violation" of the law within a "reasonable" time.

Church sought to get the Senate to stick with his amendment and reject the compromise, but lost, 61-31.

Small farm operations continue to be exempt from OSHA coverage, as both the House and Senate continued exclusions that were written into last year's appropriations bill.

The House-passed bill made no changes in OSHA's small business coverage, so the issue will have to be resolved in conference.

On other features:

- Labor's position was upheld when the Senate voted 50-43 to kill an attempt to slash the number of public service jobs under Title VI of the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act. The rejected amendment would have reduced the job level at the end of the 1980 fiscal year from 200,000 in the Senate bill and the President's budget to 100,000.
- The Senate went along with the House and exempted surface mining operations—sand, gravel, limestone and clay mines—from a provision of the Mine Safety & Health Act requiring safety training and yearly safety refresher training for workers. Urging continued coverage, the AFL-CIO noted that last year there were 77 fatalities in such mines and disabling injuries are common. The Senate voted 59-35 against labor's position.

In overall dollar amounts, the $73 billion Senate bill is in the same range as the House version and the President's budget proposals, although there are differences in the funding of various programs. In terms of services, most areas of special concern to labor would be continued close to current levels except for the CETA public service program, which is being trimmed back.

Marketing Pact Fails To Stem TV Imports

A continuing high import flow of color television sets from the Orient has undermined the U.S.-Japan orderly marketing agreement (OMA) to the detriment of American industry and its workers, the labor-industry coalition COMPACT said.

In assessing the impact of the two-year-old OMA, the coalition noted that the 1.7 million limitation of Japanese sets was exceeded by more than a million in 1978 because of additional shipments from Taiwan, Korea and Singapore.

That appraisal was issued by COMPACT co-chairmen Jacob Clayman, president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., and Allen W. Dawson, executive vice president of Corning Glass Works. COMPACT is the acronym for the Committee to Preserve American Color Televison.

"End runs around the OMA with Japan—first by Taiwan and Korea, and now by Singapore—have prevented the industry and the 65,000 workers whose jobs depend on it from receiving the full measure of relief from import injury" under the 1974 Trade Act, Clayman and Dawson said.

"Nonetheless," they said, "the 11 labor organizations and four companies that comprise COMPACT recognize that the industry faced almost certain death without the OMA, largely because of the Treasury Dept.'s refusal to adequately enforce its own 1971 dumping findings against Japanese TV producers."

The coalition leaders noted that only about 1 percent of the $600 million in dumping duties owed by Japanese manufacturers and U.S. importers have been collected eight years after the findings.

During that period, Clayman and Dawson pointed out, the number of U.S. companies producing TV sets dropped from 25 to 11—and four of those 11 are owned by foreign firms.

They charged that Japanese sets being sold in the United States are priced two to three times higher in Tokyo. They also cited an increase in imports from Singapore, noting that shipments to the U.S. market rose nearly 300 percent in one year.

The coalition said that color TV imports totaled 2.7 million units last year, a 9.3 percent increase over 1977, and only 59,000 units less than the record reached in 1976.

Windfall Profits Scope:

Energy Plan Relief Urged on Fuel Bite

(Continued from Page 1)

legislation to govern the use of the trust fund scheduled to be set up with windfall profits tax receipts. The tax itself has not yet been enacted. The House passed a windfall tax bill after weakening the measure drawn up by the Ways & Means Committee. And that weakened bill is currently being reshaped even more to the liking of the oil companies by the industry-oriented Senate Finance Committee.

Oswald told the panel that the already-ordered decontrol of domestic oil prices will cost America's consumers about $500 billion over the next decade.

Over that period, the Administration program calls for returning only $24 billion—$2.4 billion a year—in fuel rebates or subsidies.

That's too little, Oswald insisted. It would mean helping only "the very poor, the welfare and food stamp recipients."

He urged the committee to take account of the "many workers employed at low wages who simply cannot stretch their already tight budgets to pay for the greatly increased price of gasoline they must buy to get to their jobs, or heating oil and other forms of energy."

One possible benchmark, he suggested, would be to provide fuel cost offsets for workers eligible for earned income credits, to at least provide relief for a family of four with income up to $10,000. Another test might be the lower-level City Workers Family Budget, currently at $11,546.

As for the use of a trust fund to finance needed energy programs, Oswald said that the AFL-CIO is "particularly disturbed" at a White House fact sheet on its program declaring, "Any reduction in the receipts from the windfall profits tax will require reductions in these program levels."

To the contrary, Oswald said, "if Congress is determined to use a trust fund, we urge that it be framed in such a way as to assure continuation of essential programs through use of general revenue if necessary."

Commenting on specifics of the Administration's energy proposals, the AFL-CIO made these points:

● Tax credits proposed for "unconventional" gas and oil shale producers may not be appropriate for those companies that already are reaping huge profit increases as a result of decontrol. And a proposed tax credit of up to $300 for wood-burning stoves appears an unnecessary diversion of funds from more needed programs.

● The Energy Security Corp. the Administration proposed to develop synthetic fuels is a concept labor supported. In addition to helping to fund programs when other sources of capital cannot be obtained, it should follow the example of the Tennessee Valley Authority and "undertake energy projects which private corporations fail to undertake."

● While the AFL-CIO supports development of synthetic fuels, this should not be the only major emphasis. "One continued area of concern is balancing the developments with environmental goals." Synfuel should not be emphasized "at the expense of other energy programs—particularly solar—and conservation goals."

● Immediate price decontrol for all heavy oil and natural gas from tight sands—both of which involve added costs of extraction—is too broad a step at this point. The price should be sufficient to cover production costs and provide incentives, but not arbitrarily decontrolled and exempted from the windfall profits tax.

● The AFL-CIO supports Administration proposals to reduce the use of oil in utility boilers and to require utilities to provide long-term financing for customers to make conservation improvements. Similar opportunities should be given to homeowners using oil heat.

● Labor also agrees with the concept of a solar bank to help finance solar heating installations for residential and commercial buildings. But "devices to be financed and installers should be certified by a competent government agency, and there should be a maximum selling price established, allowing for a fair return to producers and installers."

George DeNucci Dies, CIO Pioneer

Columbus, O.—George DeNucci, a leader in building the CIO in Ohio in the 1930s, died here on July 23 of cancer. He was 77.

A garment cutter by trade, DeNucci was a leading figure in Ohio labor for nearly 50 years, serving as a leader of the Garment Workers, the Columbus Federation of Labor, the CIO regional office.

After merger, he joined the AFL-CIO staff as assistant director for Ohio and West Virginia before going to the Steelworkers as a district organizing director.

AFL-CIO President George Meany wrote his wife Lena that "he was a fine trade unionist who served his fellow workers with dedication and distinction."



HARRIS DUNCAN CIVILETTI MILLER

Carter Signs Bill to Fulfill Trade Pacts

Congress approved and President Carter signed trade legislation to carry out agreements negotiated by the United States and its principal trading partners during six years of multilateral trade talks.

Carter had sent the legislation to Congress, after preliminary negotiations, under the special no-amendment procedure set forth in the 1974 Trade Act. The House passed the measure earlier this month, 395-7, and the Senate followed through with a 90-4 approval.

The legislation was needed to bring U.S. laws into conformity with agreements designed to eliminate non-tariff barriers to world trade.

The AFL-CIO had reservations about some of the provisions that would open up additional U.S. markets to imports, but the Administration insisted the concessions were necessary to enlarge U.S. export trade.

An AFL-CIO statement when the bill was sent to Congress stressed that "continued vigilance" will be needed to assure that job safeguards are not circumvented.

Cabinet Shifts Affect 6 Major Departments

Senate committees began confirmation hearings on President Carter's new Cabinet appointees but there was no assurance that the process would be completed before Congress starts a one-month recess on Aug. 6.

The first wave of changes affected six of the 12 Cabinet departments and the Federal Reserve Board—an unprecedented first-term reshuffle.

At the Cabinet level, there were these shifts:

● Joseph A. Califano, Jr., was to be replaced as Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare by Patricia Roberts Harris, who has been Secretary of Housing & Urban Development. The replacement at HUD had not yet been named when the AFL-CIO News went to press.

● Attorney Gen. Griffin B. Bell, whose intent to resign had been announced before the Cabinet changes, was to be suceeded by Deputy Atty. Gen. Benjamin R. Civiletti.

● Treasury Sec. W. Michael Blumenthal was to be replaced by G. William Miller, who is giving up the chairmanship of the Federal Reserve Board with 13 years remaining of his 14-year term. To replace Miller as FRB chairman, Carter chose Paul Volcker, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and a Treasury Dept. official in both the Johnson and Nixon administrations.

● As Secretary of Energy, James R. Schlesinger was to be replaced by Deputy Defense Sec. Charles W. Duncan, Jr.

● Transportation Dept. Sec. Brock Adams resigned with a blast at the presidential evaluation test devised by the White House staff. A replacement had not been named as the AFL-CIO News went to press but Navy Sec. W. Graham Claytor was assigned to run the department for 30 days and then become the deputy secretary of defense.

Carter said he did not expect to make any further Cabinet-level changes but continuing White House evaluations were expected to bring a number of subcabinet changes. Hamilton Jordan, given the title of chief of staff at the White House, is expected to have a major voice on further changes.

The President added to his highest-level White House staff Hedley Donovan, retired editor-in-chief of Time, Inc.

Donovan was designated a senior adviser on both foreign and domestic issues. He and National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski are the only persons on the White House staff who will report directly to Carter without going through Jordan.

In a televised news conference, Carter defended his sweeping Cabinet changes and said the "abrupt action" he took was better than "dragging it out."

Tight Money, Slump in Output Worsen Danger of Recession

(Continued from Page 1)

tion's current jobless rate of 5.6 percent could rise even higher than the 6.6 percent rate forecast by the Administration.

The definition of a recession, formularized years ago by the private National Bureau of Economic Research and accepted by most economists, is two consecutive quarters of negative growth. If real GNP were to fall below zero in the current July-September quarter, as many analysts believe it will, the recession would therefore be official.

Economic activity in the first six months of 1979 has fallen at an annual rate slightly in excess of 1 percent. With such a downturn in progress, conventional wisdom would call for the Federal Reserve Board to ease credit and lower interest rates.

Instead, on the very day that last quarter's decline in output was reported, the central bank did just the opposite. First, it raised its discount rate—what member banks must pay to borrow from the Fed—a half-percentage rate to 10 percent, the highest level ever. Then, hours later, it withdrew money from the banking system, acting to drive up the interest rate on interbank loans—called the federal funds rate — from 10.25 to 10.625 percent.

The effect of the rate increases, particularly the higher federal funds rate, is to lift short-term interest rates throughout the economy generally. The Fed justified its actions as part of an attempt to strengthen the dollar in the foreign-exchange markets.

One immediate result of the boost in the discount rate was Chase Manhattan Bank's announcement that it would raise its mortgage rate from 10.5 to 11 percent. Federally chartered banks, such as Chase, may charge one percentage point more than the discount rate on mortgages, regardless of state usury laws.

Another development was a quarter-point increase in the prime, or minimum, lending rate demanded by Chicago's First National Bank of its large corporate customers. First Chicago's action in lifting its prime rate to 11.75 percent was seen likely to spread quickly among other major banks.

The second-quarter decline in economic growth was the sharpest since a 9.1 percent drop in the first quarter of 1975. Leading the downturn was a slump in final sales, which fell at a 4.5 percent annual rate after rising by 1.1 percent in the January-March quarter.

Consumer spending for durable goods, especially automobiles and related products, accounted for most of the decrease in final sales, the Commerce Dept. said.

The shortage and high price of gasoline during the last quarter particularly crimped the sale of big cars.

Consumer expenditures increased at a $20 billion annual rate, or slightly more than half the $38.8 billion rate in the January-March period. Spending for durables fell at a $6.5 billion rate, after rising at a $1.7 billion pace in the first quarter.

Purchases of nondurable goods rose at a $7.6 billion rate after rising at a $13 billion rate in the first quarter. Services did better, with outlays rising at an $18.9 billion rate, compared to the first-quarter rate of $24.2 billion.

The Commerce Dept. also announced that inflation, as measured by its "implicit price deflator," rose by 9.9 percent from April to June, the highest level since the second quarter of 1978. The price deflator, which measures price increases throughout the economy and not just at the consumer level, is regarded as the most reliable barometer of inflation.

In other economic developments, the Commerce Dept. reported that June factory orders fell by 1.1 percent after rising by 2.1 percent in May and dropping a sharp 8.2 percent in April. The drop in orders, which generally presage future sales, was a further indication that the economy began sliding into a recession in the second quarter.

Ban on Bias Backed in Jobs For Disabled

The AFL-CIO has endorsed legislation that would amend the equal employment opportunity section of the Civil Rights Act to prohibit job discrimination against handicapped workers.

Employers doing business with the government are prohibited from discrimination against handicapped workers, but AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged that the protection be broadened to cover all employment.

He wrote Chairman Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) of the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee that the proposed addition to the Civil Rights Act would make it possible to use "an existing enforcement mechanism" to "strengthen the federal government's commitment to end discrimination against the handicapped."

The Assault on Democracy

IN THE CONGRESS, in the state houses and city halls we see elected officials riding on the anti-tax bandwagon, calling for the elimination of public programs and services that make life worth living for the people who elected them.

We see candidates appealing to voters to give them the reins of government because they are anti-government. We see cunning anti-tax evangelists preaching salvation through selfishness, calling on taxpayers to offer up the welfare of the weakest and neediest of their neighbors as scapegoats in order to reduce taxes for those best able to pay them.

Not only welfare programs are under attack. Public health programs, occupational safety and health programs, government regulatory programs of all kinds, fair employment laws, the minimum wage are all under constant seige in this effort to take from the many for the benefit of the few.

The same destructive force is alive and growing in the world of work, where we are seeing a revival of anti-unionism unmatched since the industrial dark ages of two generations ago.

Employers in private industry and public employment, as well, are hiring professional union-busters in unprecedented numbers. These are not the club and brass-knuckles union-busters of the past. They are well-tailored lawyers who specialize in subverting the law. They are psychologists and sociologists who specialize in sowing distrust and dissension, turning workers against each other. They are labor relations specialists who aim at destroying the collective bargaining system.

They are the front-line troops in what amounts to a national campaign by leaders of business and industry to create what they call a "union-free environment," which translates into the death of democracy in the workplace, the conversion of the employer-employee relationship into a monologue, instead of a dialogue.

THESE ASSAULTS ON DEMOCRACY have an economic base, and they are coming together at this time largely because the country's cloudy economic climate makes the American people more vulnerable to divisive tactics, more fearful of losing what they have, readier to look for scapegoats to blame for the things that are going wrong.

The heart of America's trouble lies in the fact that America's economy is unbalanced. Consumer prices are soaring. Corporate profit statements are going into orbit. Yet, the purchasing power of American workers and consumers is shrinking every week. The average American worker now is able to buy less with his wages than he could in 1965.

At the same time, workers are very much aware that the future looks even more bleak. Inflation will continue. Unemployment will increase. Production will drop. There will be fewer houses to live in at higher prices and higher interest rates.

No wonder Americans are uneasy, insecure and distrustful toward their leaders and their neighbors.

We in the AFL-CIO are convinced that the solution to America's social and political problems can only come through strong economic action and leadership on the part of the Administration and the Congress.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to the National Urban League

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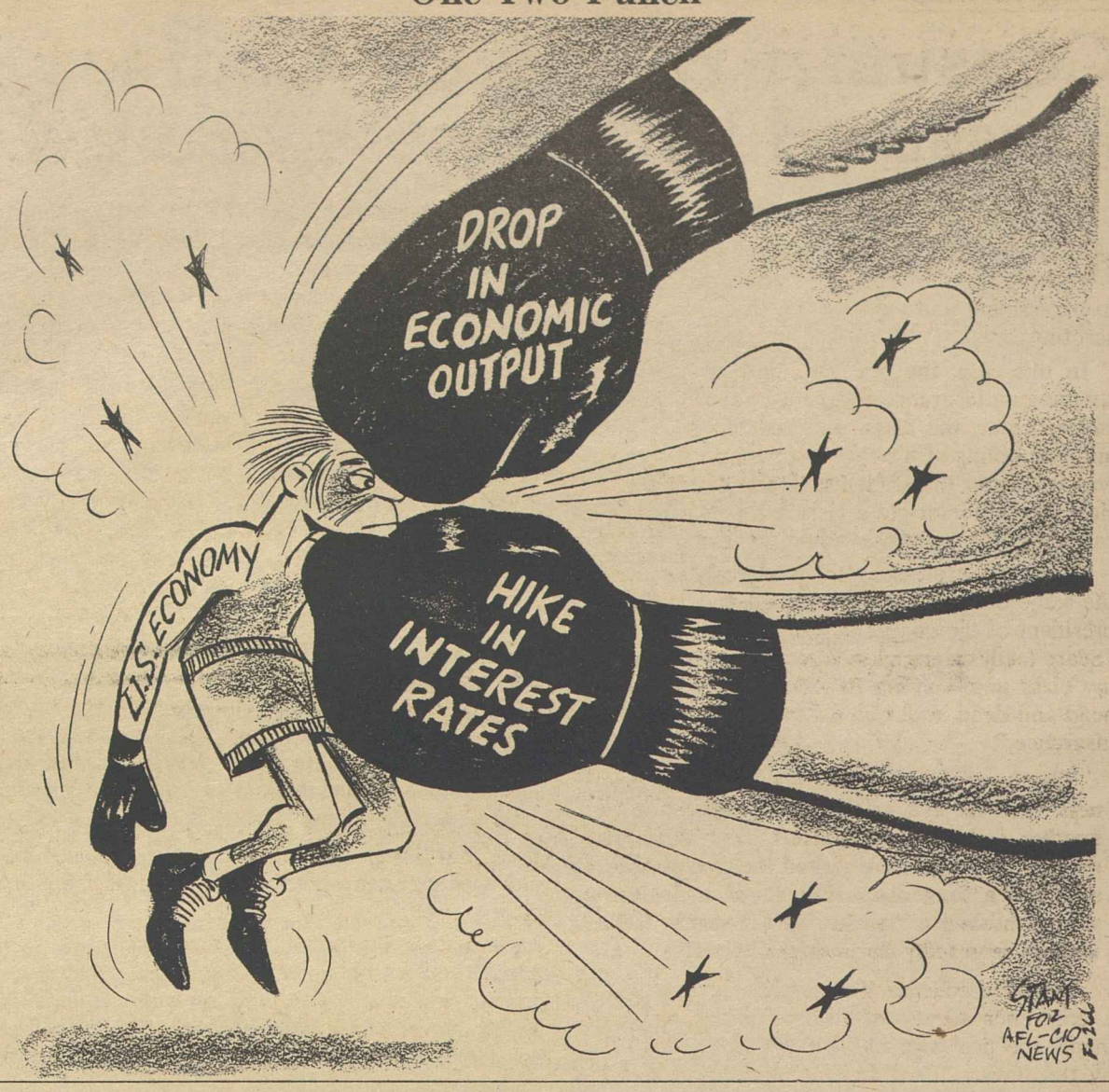
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One-Two Punch



Well-Heeled Campaign:

Attacks on Construction Unions Turn Minority Hopes to Dross

By Gus Tyler

WHAT'S THE USE of learning the game, if every time we do, they change the rules on us? That was the bitter complaint of a brilliant young black scholar several years ago.

I was reminded of it recently by the plight of black youth who have studied and worked, sweated out an apprenticeship and gained union membership to get a job in the construction trades. For the blue-collar worker, these were the choice posts—once almost totally monopolized by whites.

In recent years, through the cooperation of unions, government, employers and black organizations, the minority presence in these "elite" manual jobs has been firmly established. Black youngsters now hold one out of every five apprenticeships as plumbers, operating engineers, plasterers, cement masons.

But even as the percentage of blacks in these better paying positions rises to exceed the percentage of blacks in the total population, wages in the construction trades are falling behind. The chief reason is that the construction unions are on the defensive, under heavy fire from the wealthiest and most sophisticated section of the business community.

Once upon a time, the battle over the wage in the construction industry was carried on between unions and contractors—tens of thousands of them. In the last 10 years, another party has intervened to tip the scales in favor of the employers.

The third party, according to J. C. Turner, president of the Operating Engineers, comes from the pinnacles of the business community. They started out calling themselves the Construction Users Anti-Inflation Roundtable. In a way, these giant industrialists were—and are—the employers of the construction contractors who employ the construction workers.

The Users merged with like-minded firms to form the Business Roundtable. By 1978, says Turner, "the new federation boasted almost 200 members and let me tell you there's only one membership qualification: you've got to be big."

The Users whipped the contractors into line. They put pressure on local contractors to "form local or regional bargaining units," says Turner. The Users get into these bodies as "associate members" working to "coordinate" the labor relations policies of the "local User groups as well as the local contractors."

As Turner sees it, the Business Roundtable sets policy for the construction contractors by "the threat of its enormous purchasing power, which is held constantly, though usually silently, over the heads of the contractors."

At a Houston conference of the big employers, a speaker called upon the banks and insurance companies of the country to withhold financing from contractors who do not toe the line.

The Davis-Bacon law to assure prevailing wages to workers employed under government contract, enacted way back in the days of Hoover, is now challenged by a series of bills to repeal the act in whole or in part.

This well-designed and well-heeled campaign is turning the affluent soil of the once highly unionized construction industry into a parched terrain. Union operations, at present, make up only 25 percent of all construction work in the nation's capital, 17 percent in Houston, 15 percent in Baltimore.

So as blacks enter the promised land of construction, the dream turns to dross.

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Busing Amendment Called 'Labor Issue'

The AFL-CIO does not consider the vote on the constitutional amendment to be simply another "anti-busing" vote. As Laurence H. Tribe, Harvard professor of law, has pointed out: "It is one thing to specify, by legislation, that busing must truly be a last resort; it is quite another to mandate, by constitutional amendment, that even when needed to eliminate deliberate segregation, busing is ruled out."

The AFL-CIO consistently has opposed all amendments to prohibit busing as a tool to desegregate our schools. On many occasions we have been told: "This is not a labor issue" and "you don't speak for your members." The AFL-CIO strongly disagrees.

Civil rights is a labor issue, as is public education. . . . While our members—like other Americans — prefer neighborhood schools, numerous surveys have demonstrated that union members strongly oppose deliberate segregation and vigorously support the principles of equality under law.

—Letter to House members by AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young.

How to Buy:

Consumer Education Courses Pressured by Business Groups

By Sidney Margolius

A COLLEGE LESSON in insurance taught one professor that consumer education can lead to harassment and worse from the industry under scrutiny.

In this case, the professor and his class were studying an insurance company's sales techniques. In particular, the class analyzed the good points and bad points of a policy the insurance company was selling to the students. Shortly after the session, the professor got a visitor: the company's local agent, who was upset about the lesson.

After the professor and a colleague teaching the same course met with the agent and the vice president of the company, the first professor said, "Scare tactics were used, like wanting to sit in on my class and wanting to talk to my department head and dean about how I treat the topic of life insurance."

The insurance industry isn't the only business with its eye on consumer education. In another college, three officers of a state food merchants' association visited the vice president and had a long discussion about a professor who published a "market basket survey." The visitors reportedly threatened a lawsuit.

At a third college, after the announcement that a consumer survey of funeral prices would be made, the professor making the study was asked by the lawyer for a funeral association to meet with him. At the meeting, the counsel asked the professor, "What would you think if your association went on record as favoring the lowering of university professors' salaries?

Teachers, at least those at a college level, are not immune from the scrutiny, nor from pressures or threats, of business, government or the school itself.

Although it should be made clear that these cases are not the rule, the vignettes above are examples of the types of pressures that consumer educators can expect.

The cases were reported in a survey conducted by a professor who has himself experienced similar pressures. The study drew from the experiences of 20 college professors teaching consumer subjects. The survey indicated that 10 of them claimed they had experienced some pressure. Although they reported negative experiences from various concerns, the most pressure reported came from insurance companies.

The survey, which asked the consumer educators for detailed reports, was done by Dr. Stewart Lee, economics chairman at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pa. He is also president of the American Council of Consumer Interests and is editor of its newsletter. Lee's study derived from his experiences in almost 30 years of teaching consumer education. He said he has been pressured on campus and in his off-campus consumer-related activities by industry representatives who objected to his stands. He also reported that the president and dean of his college had been contacted in regard to his consumer teachings.

Of course, not all companies respond so defensively. One educator noted in his survey response, "What are we to make of a particular attempt to bring pressure? Certainly there are fools in business, as in academe. The fact that these pressures develop should not be taken to represent all business."

In the cases above, threats did not become action. In the insurance-lesson case, for example, when the two professors demonstrated to the insurance company representatives that they both knew about insurance and knew what they were talking about, the industry representatives left and took no further action.

NO PROFESSOR surveyed reported being fired, but some were subsequently harassed because of company pressure or pressure from the college itself.

One professor lost a state grant of $15,000 after legislators complained about the professor's having published a survey on state legislators' voting records on a consumer bill. This was done for a non-college consumer organization that gave endorsements to those representatives that supported its issues.

In another case, the school itself put the pressure on. After a dispute over canned mushrooms, a university educational television station was pressed to do programs of a "corrective" nature.

The hassle began over the reading of a Food & Drug Administration news release on a broadcast about consumer items. It warned of possible botulism in canned mushrooms. In response, a professor suggested that the consumer eat fresh mushrooms temporarily. The professor reported that he was reminded that mushroom research was of great financial importance to the college. And the "corrective" program was aired.

More often, the schools fully supported their professors. One teacher was called to a meeting with his college president and a member of the state education board after the professor gave a speech on aging and mentioned high drug costs.

They told him they had received a complaint from the state pharmaceutical association in which the writer asked: "Why is it every time I meet a faculty member from your university, he is a communist?"

The respondent to the survey wrote that the president gave full support to the professor.

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Labor to Fight Passage:

Catastrophic Health Proposals Could Bankrupt Many Families

THE NARROW catastrophic health insurance schemes pushed by the Carter Administration and Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) offer little hope and even less help for millions of Americans who have only limited protection against high health care costs or none at all, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman warned.

Seidman said that the federation will go all out to fight passage of such inadequate health care legislation. He pointed out that, except for pregnant women and infants up to the age of one year, "nobody would have coverage for health care under the Carter program until they had already paid out $2,500" in the year, and that the Long program sets a higher threshold of $3,500.

The real catastrophe, Seidman declared, is that a large proportion of American families would have to "spend themselves bankrupt before they could get any coverage for their health care expenses."

Seidman stressed on Labor News Conference that it's not just poor and disadvantaged families who have little or no health insurance coverage. He said that an estimated 26 million people "who are working fulltime have no medical insurance of any kind;" that a great many others have policies that provide only inadequate coverage; and that others "may have some kind of insurance, but they can't do very much with it because they live in areas where there is no ready access to medical care."

He said that the only way to assure that every American has reasonable access to top-quality, full-coverage health care at affordable costs is through the comprehensive and universal national health insurance plan that is spelled out in the Kennedy-Waxman Health Care for All Americans bill. He said that by every measure of public opinion—including a poll conducted recently by the health insurance industry's own trade association—a large majority of Americans strongly favor the Kennedy-Waxman-type of proposal over the narrowly limited plans urged by President Carter, Sen. Long and others.

Reporters questioning Seidman on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The program is broadcast weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD psychological counseling? How much do you drink? What political and community organizations do you belong to?

These questions and others are asked today on many employment application forms, according to a new national opinion research survey probing public and leadership attitudes toward personal privacy.

The survey was conducted by the national opinion research firm of Louis Harris & Associates for Sentry Insurance. Advising on the project was Dr. Alan F. Westin of Columbia University, an expert on the subject of privacy and a consultant in the drafting of the Federal Privacy Act of 1974 and to the U.S. Privacy Protection Study Commission between 1975 and 1977.

The Harris Survey asked some 200 questions of more than 2,000 adult Americans and representatives of "leadership groups" such as corporate executives and government officials.

The survey revealed significant differences in opinion between workers and employers as to how deeply an employer should be allowed to probe into employees' work habits and personal history.

For example, 83 percent of the public said employers should not be "listening in on the conversations of employees to find out what they think about their supervisors and managers." But 30 percent of business employers said there is nothing wrong with such eavesdropping.

THE SURVEY REVEALED employers as anxious to remain in control of employee access to personnel files. The question: "Do you think employers should decide what rights employees have regarding access to their personnel files or do you think a law should be passed to specify these rights?" While only one-third of all employers thought a law was required, more than two-thirds of all full-time employed workers surveyed said such a law was necessary.

While employers and their employees had obvious differences of opinion on many privacy issues, an encouraging result of the poll was the growing awareness by all concerned that privacy is a serious issue.

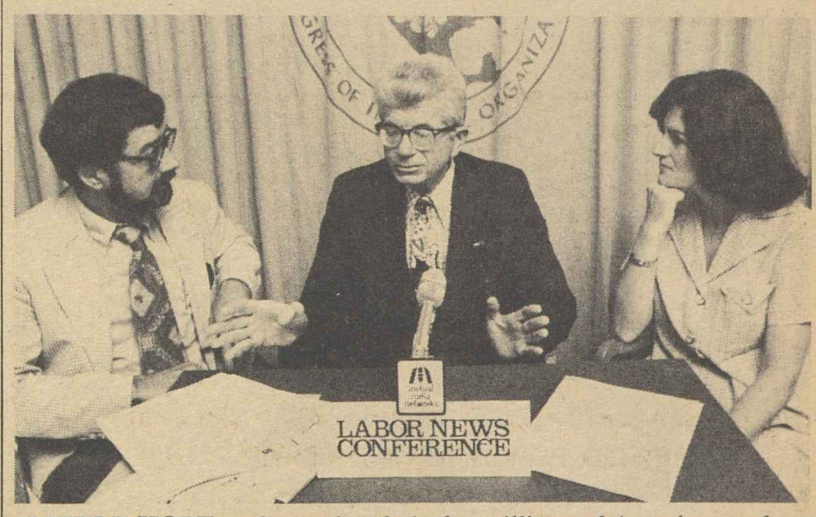
Earlier warnings have not gone ignored. The Fair Credit Reporting Act of 1970 gave people who were denied credit, insurance or employment on the basis of a credit investigation firm's report the right—which they had never had before—to know that a report had been made, to learn what was in it, and to have its accuracy rechecked.

Four years later, the exposure of illegal invasions of privacy during Watergate and by the FBI, CIA and other federal agencies resulted in passage of the Federal Privacy Act of 1974. That law put all federal agencies under a code of fair information practices and created the Privacy Protection Study Commission to examine whether similar rules were needed to control information practices in the private sector.

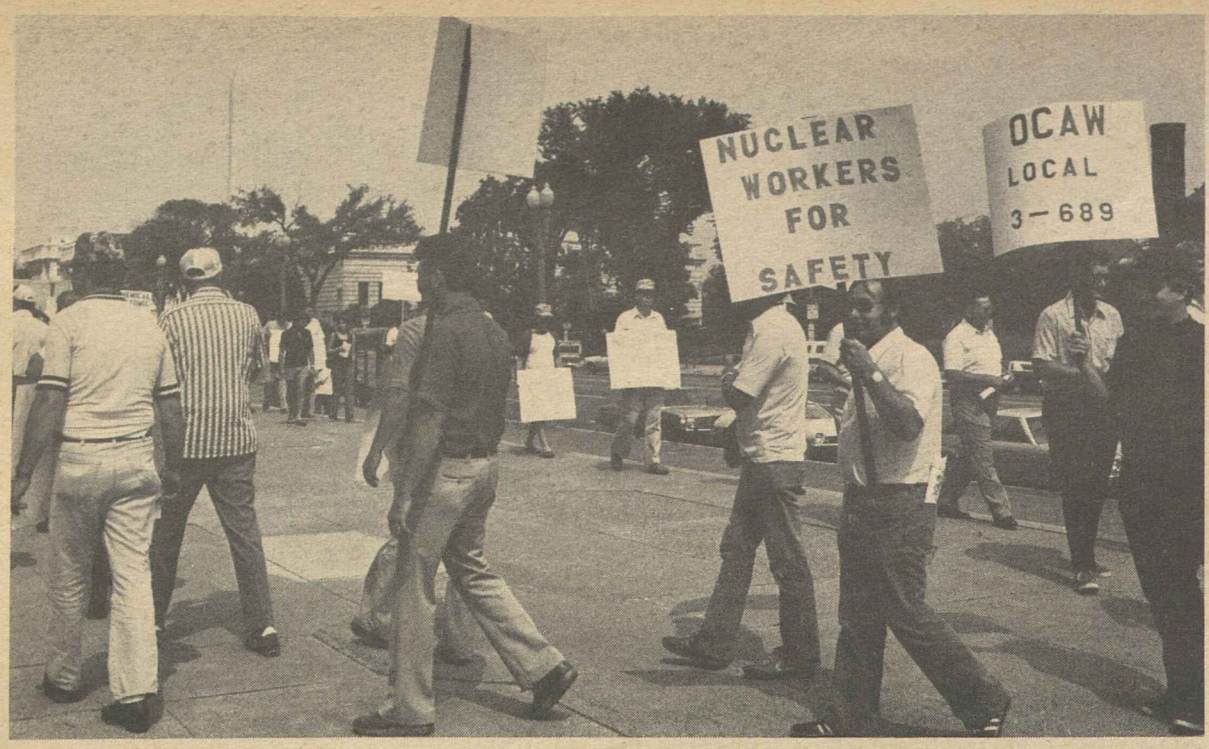
Nine states since 1974 have passed laws similar to the Federal Privacy Act, putting state agencies under fair information practice codes. And an amendment to the law wrote new rules of confidentiality and individual access to records for schools and colleges receiving federal aid.

The Privacy Commission issued its report in 1977, calling for major new privacy rules in banking, credit, insurance, employment, health care, credit cards, mailing lists, research and other areas. In some of these, the commission recommended new federal or state laws; in others, it urged voluntary action by organization managers.

The Carter Administration has announced a privacy package that includes many of the commission's recommendations. If Congress is to heed the "warning shot across our national bow" that Harris found in the privacy survey, it should give the plan serious consideration.



LITTLE HOPE and even less help for millions of Americans who have inadequate health care insurance or none at all will flow from the catastrophic insurance schemes being pushed by President Carter and Sen. Russell Long (D-La.), AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, center, warned on Labor News Conference Questioning him were Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc., The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is broadcast Tuesdays on the Mutual network.



PROTESTING DANGERS at struck member plants, members of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers picketed the Dept. of Energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the nation's capital. The union charged that uranium enrichment and nuclear fuelmaking plants in Ohio and Tennessee are being operated by untrained personnel while workers at the two locations have been on strike for more than three months. OCAW wants the plants closed until the strikes are settled.

Rubber Union Wins Election At Firestone

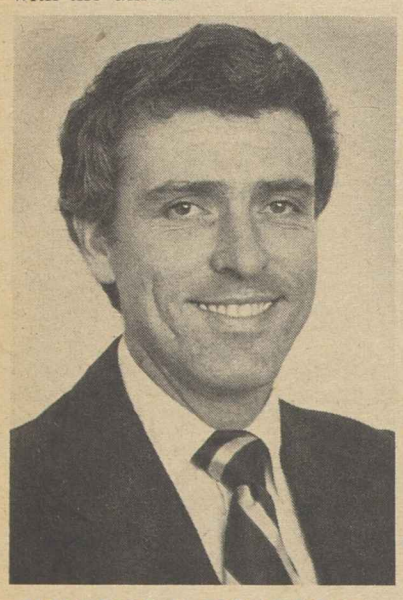
Nashville, Tenn.—The Rubber Workers won a representation election at Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.'s truck tire plant here, where more than 800 workers went on strike last June 30.

The election, conducted by a Vanderbilt University law school professor, favored the URW against no union by a 4 to 1 margin.

The Rubber Workers had attempted to organize the plant for several years. Two years ago, Firestone helped persuade the workers to vote against unionization in a National Labor Relations Board election at the facility. This past summer, however, an NLRB judge found the company guilty of unfair labor practices during the election, and recommended that Firestone recognize the union without holding another election.

The judge granted the company a 30-day extension to file exceptions to his ruling, which the company had indicated it would do. That latest move prompted the strike.

Since then, Firestone has agreed to remain neutral in any union effort to organize its tire plants. The neutrality pledge was part of the company's new master contract with the union.



WILLIAM P. HOBGOOD is President Carter's nominee as Assistant Sec. of Labor for Labor-Management Relations, succeeding Francis X. Burkhardt, who resigned several months ago. Hobgood, whose appointment must be confirmed by the Senate, is director of mediation services for the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

Convention Reinforces CWA Organizing Goals

Detroit—The 2,000 delegates to the 41st annual convention of the Communications Workers reaffirmed the CWA's goals to expand membership rolls through stepped-up organizing efforts.

Unanimously adopting a "recommitment to growth" resolution, the convention called on the union's executive board to "design, implement and carry out the details of an aggressive program that will serve the best interest of the members."

CWA has been highly active in the organizing of new telecommunications companies that deal with inter-connect and data transmission services in the traditional telephone industry.

Delegates took particular note of a sophisticated anti-labor industry "that has grown up in our society with the purpose of keeping the unorganized workers unorganized at any cost."

The intent, the CWA warned, "is to defeat and ultimately destroy or severely weaken unions and the American labor movement. These anti-union consultants and lawyers, organizations and associations make great profits from advising management on how to beat union organizing efforts, on how to intimidate and frighten unorganized workers and how to create and maintain what they call a 'union-free environment.'"

At the CWA convention in 1965, delegates adopted the union's original growth resolution, which relied almost entirely on voluntary efforts at the local union level.

The 1979 resolution pointed out that, despite economic setbacks and financial restrictions since 1965, the CWA has added over 200,000 workers to its rolls.

Delegates said, "today, however, we must renew our total commitment to the goal of organizing the unorganized," and added: "We have not yet been able to devote the strength, the energy, the resources or the talent needed to organize."

CWA President Glenn Watts lauded delegates for their action on organizing and in adopting a permanent and adequate means of financing the union through a new minimum dues structure.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall pledged in an address to the convention that the Carter Administration is "determined to bring down inflation; to make sure that pay checks can support families; that hard work can mean a good life.

"We are determined to accomplish these goals through a growing economy, better productivity, and new jobs," said Marshall, who spoke to the convention three days after President Carter addressed delegates.

Other convention speakers included Sen. Donald W. Riegle, Jr. (D-Mich.), President Vincent Sombrotto of the Letter Carriers, UAW President Douglas Fraser and Executive Director William Hutton of the National Council of Senior Citizens.

Among key resolutions adopted at the week-long convention, delegates called for legislation guaranteeing rights of public employees to bargain collectively and to strike, federal standards on workers' compensation laws, and improved protections on minimum wages, pensions and occupational safety and health.

Delegates also voiced strong support for AFL-CIO's Operation Price Watch, terming it "the only action to resist the onslaught of price increases for Americans" until an effective system of controls is put into operation.

Brown Named To Rail, Air Dispute Board

Under Sec. of Labor Robert J. Brown has been nominated by President Carter to a three-year term on the National Mediation Board, the agency set up to deal with labor-management disputes in the railroad and airlines industries.

Brown, who has held a succession of high level Labor Dept. posts since 1966, is a former UAW local union president and served as commissioner of the Minnesota Conservation Dept. before coming to Washington in the Johnson Administration.

At the Labor Dept., he had been director of the U.S. Employment Service, associate manpower administrator and a regional director of the Employment & Training Administration before moving up to the department's number two spot.

When confirmed by the Senate, he will succeed David H. Stowe as one of the three members of the National Mediation Board. The President has not designated a successor to Brown as under secretary.

Key Procedural Votes:

Senate Rollcalls on Safety, Oil Issues

Key votes on legislation often occur on procedural issues. That was the case in both these Senate votes.

Vote No. 1 *allowed a labor-opposed amendment curtailing job safety and occupational health coverage to be added to an appropriations bill. The 54-38 vote on July 20 rejected a point of order that the anti-OSHA amendment was not germane to the bill being considered by the Senate. Senators opposing the point of order were in effect voting to cut OSHA coverage. Wrong votes (W) against labor's position were cast by 24 Democrats and 30 Republicans. Voting right (R) were 29 Democrats and 9 Republicans. Absent senators are marked A.*

Vote No. 2, *on an Export Administration bill, supported labor's position. The Senate on July 21 tabled and thus killed an amendment that would have allowed Alaskan oil to be sold to Japan. On the 52-30 rollcall, 43 Democrats and 9 Republicans voted right; 5 Democrats and 25 Republicans were wrong.*

	1	2
ALABAMA		
Heflin (D)	A	A
Stewart (D)	W	R
ALASKA		
Gravel (D)	A	A
Stevens (R)	R	W
ARIZONA		
DeConcini (D)	W	R
Goldwater (R)	W	W
ARKANSAS		
Bumpers (D)	W	R
Pryor (D)	W	R
CALIFORNIA		
Cranston (D)	W	R
Hayakawa (R)	W	W
COLORADO		
Hart (D)	W	A
Armstrong (R)	W	W
CONNECTICUT		
Ribicoff (D)	A	A
Weicker (R)	R	A
DELAWARE		
Biden (D)	R	A
Roth (R)	W	W
FLORIDA		
Chiles (D)	W	R
Stone (D)	W	W
GEORGIA		
Nunn (D)	W	R
Talmadge (D)	A	A
HAWAII		
Inouye (D)	R	R
Matsunaga (D)	W	R
IDAHO		
Church (D)	W	R
McClure (R)	W	W
ILLINOIS		
Stevenson (D)	R	W
Percy (R)	W	W
INDIANA		
Bayh (D)	R	R
Lugar (R)	W	W
IOWA		
Culver (D)	R	A
Jepsen (R)	W	W
KANSAS		
Dole (R)	W	W
Kassebaum (R)	W	W
KENTUCKY		
Ford (D)	A	A
Huddleston (D)	W	R

	1	2
LOUISIANA		
Johnston (D)	W	R
Long (D)	R	W
MAINE		
Muskie (D)	R	R
Cohen (R)	W	A
MARYLAND		
Sarbanes (D)	R	R
Mathias (R)	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS		
Kennedy (D)	R	R
Tsongas (D)	R	R
MICHIGAN		
Levin (D)	R	R
Riegle (D)	R	R
MINNESOTA		
Boschwitz (R)	W	W
Durenberger (R)	R	A
MISSISSIPPI		
Stennis (D)	W	W
Cochran (R)	W	A
MISSOURI		
Eagleton (D)	R	R
Danforth (R)	W	R
MONTANA		
Baucus (D)	W	R
Melcher (D)	R	R
NEBRASKA		
Exon (D)	A	A
Zorinsky (D)	W	R
NEVADA		
Cannon (D)	W	R
Laxalt (R)	W	W
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
Durkin (D)	R	R
Humphrey (R)	W	R
NEW JERSEY		
Bradley (D)	R	R
Williams (D)	R	R
NEW MEXICO		
Domenici (R)	W	W
Schmitt (R)	W	W
NEW YORK		
Moynihan (D)	R	R
Javits (R)	R	R
NORTH CAROLINA		
Morgan (D)	R	A
Helms (R)	W	W
NORTH DAKOTA		
Burdick (D)	R	A
Young (R)	W	A

	1	2
OHIO		
Glenn (D)	R	R
Metzenbaum (D)	R	R
OKLAHOMA		
Boren (D)	W	R
Bellmon (R)	W	W
OREGON		
Hatfield (R)	W	A
Packwood (R)	W	R
PENNSYLVANIA		
Heinz (R)	R	W
Schweiker (R)	R	R
RHODE ISLAND		
Pell (D)	R	R
Chafee (R)	R	W
SOUTH CAROLINA		
Hollings (D)	W	R
Thurmond (R)	W	W
SOUTH DAKOTA		
McGovern (D)	R	R
Pressler (R)	W	R
TENNESSEE		
Sasser (D)	W	R
Baker (R)	A	W
TEXAS		
Bentsen (D)	W	R
Tower (R)	A	A
UTAH		
Garn (R)	W	W
Hatch (R)	W	W
VERMONT		
Leahy (D)	W	R
Stafford (R)	R	R
VIRGINIA		
Byrd (D)	W	R
Warner (R)	W	R
WASHINGTON		
Jackson (D)	R	R
Magnuson (D)	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA		
Byrd (D)	W	W
Randolph (D)	R	R
WISCONSIN		
Nelson (D)	R	R
Proxmire (D)	R	R
WYOMING		
Simpson (R)	W	W
Wallop (R)	W	W

Oil Firms Hit Profit Bonanza

(Continued from Page 1)

first half of the year rose by 60 percent, attributed its second-quarter profits rise almost entirely to its overseas operations. On the other hand, Sohio, the 15th largest U.S. oil concern, said that a $57 million write-off caused by the abandonment of a proposed Alaskan oil pipeline was easily offset by higher profit margins at gas pumps and rising prices of crude oil.

Both Exxon and Amoco said that their earnings were hampered by an increase in costs in U.S. operations that exceeded price rises. But that was more than made up for, they said, by substantial increases in profits from overseas operations. Foreign operations are more profitable because they are not under the price controls oil companies must deal with in the domestic market.

Satellite Stations Explored:

Bill Hillman Elected AFTRA President

Nashville, Tenn.—Bill Hillman, a news broadcaster for a San Francisco television station, was elected president of the Television & Radio Artists at AFTRA's 42nd annual convention here.

Hillman, a member of AFTRA since 1948, had held every elected office in his home local and was unopposed for the presidency. He succeeds Joe Slattery, who declined to seek a fourth term.



BILL HILLMAN

A special concern of the convention delegates was the emergence of "superstations" such as Atlanta's Channel 17 which beams much of its local programming by satellite to 46 states.

Delegates approved a recommendation of the convention's National Satellite Committee to seek through collective bargaining payments to performers on commercials and programs based on the number of households receiving the program. The committee summed up its position with the slogan, "If it's playable, it's payable."

Another convention resolution urged the Senate to allow live broadcast coverage of the SALT II debate. The convention also urged AFTRA locals to affiliate with AFL-CIO city and state central bodies and to take an active role in establishing committees on the arts.

Jackson Beck, former president of AFTRA's New York local, was elected first vice president. In the only contested election, Rubin Weiss of Detroit defeated Louis Nunley of Nashville for second vice president.

The union's George Heller Gold Card Award, AFTRA's highest honor, was presented to Tyler McVey, who served as president from 1965-67.

A convention memorial service was a tribute to former AFTRA President Kenneth Harvey, San Francisco Local President Jerry Walter and to three members killed on foreign assignments—Don Harris and Bob Brown, who were killed in Guyana, and Bill Stewart, who was murdered in Nicaragua.

AFTRA Executive Sec. Bud Wolff delivered his annual report to the convention, the union outlined bargaining goals in contract negotiations over the next year, and a report covering a three-year period through last November showed that income of members working under AFTRA contracts had increased 43 percent over the period.

More than 300 delegates represented the union's 41,000 members and the convention was the largest in AFTRA's history. Hillman, the incoming president, welcomed the large number of first-time delegates—about one-fourth of the total—as a source of "new ideas, new vigor, new leadership."

Grain Millers Strike Widens Over Controls

Minneapolis—Negotiations have been broken off between the Grain Millers and two more grain elevator companies, bringing to nine the number of elevators closed by a strike which began July 6.

The strike, by some 400 members of Grain Millers Local 118, came after the companies failed to show any movement in creation of a cost-of-living clause in bargaining to renew a two-year contract which expired June 30.

Frank Hoese, president of the Grain Millers, said the companies were also hiding behind President Carter's wage guideline of 7 percent. Even if he wanted to, Hoese said, he could not convince union members to settle under the President's guidelines without a cost-of-living clause—"not while inflation is running at 11 percent."

Hoese said eight different companies owned the elevators under the Grain Millers' contract, and the two groups of workers who recently joined the strike mean that all eight are now out. One company had locked its workers out after negotiations broke off with other employers.

Hoese said straight time hourly earnings are about $8 an hour for the 400 workers, who hold a variety of jobs in the grain elevators.

Shipment of grain—now at its peak in the wake of the 1979 harvest—is affected at several Lake Superior ports, including Duluth, Minn., and Superior, Wis.

Unionists Aid Victims Of Wyoming Tornado

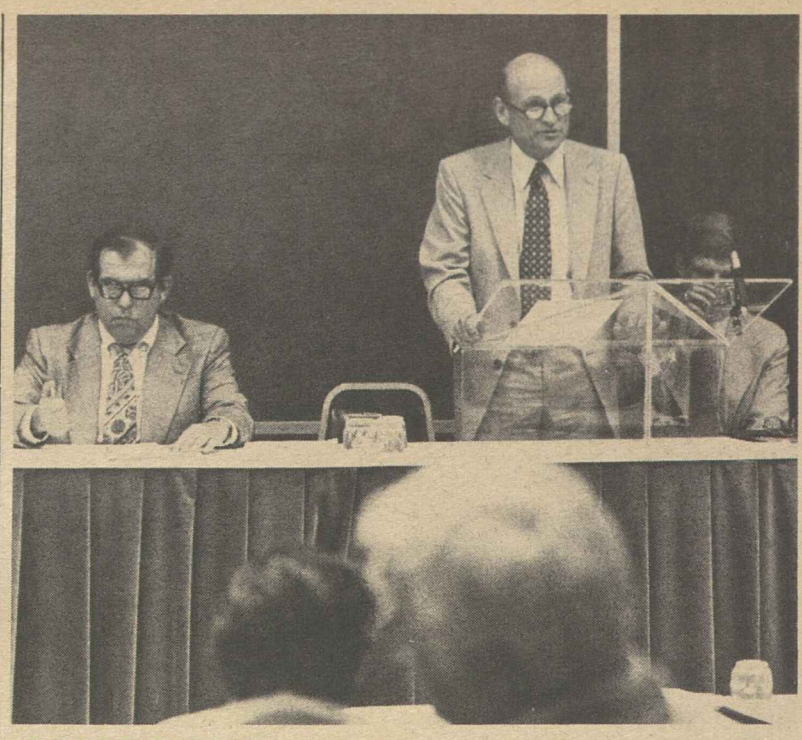
Cheyenne, Wyo.—Emergency provisions of food, clothing and shelter are being delivered by Wyoming trade unionists to victims of a July 16 tornado that left 1,000 people homeless in Cheyenne.

Keith Henning, executive secretary of the Wyoming AFL-CIO, said the Cheyenne Building Trades Council and contractors were cooperating in a rebuilding program to provide both emergency and permanent repairs. An estimated 15 to 20 percent of the tornado victims are union members, Henning said.

Meanwhile, skilled craftsmen and other union volunteers have formed AFL-CIO home assistance teams to take care of more immediate needs, including emergency home repairs. One person, a 14-month boy, was killed and 57 were injured in the July 16 tornado, the worst ever to hit Wyoming.

Henning said the plight of the victims was typified by the case of Lucille Bishop, a retired widow whose home was completely destroyed. Mrs. Bishop, an active member of Retail Clerks Local 187 for 20 years, was left with nothing.

Early estimates set the overall tornado damage at $32 million. The tornado damaged 500 homes.



IMPORT QUOTAS on leather garments are sought in a petition filed with the International Trade Commission by three AFL-CIO unions. Announcement of the filing by the Clothing & Textile Workers, Ladies' Garment Workers, and Food & Commercial Workers was made at a news conference. Shown here are ACTWU Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman, standing, and ILGWU Executive Vice President Wilbur Daniels, left.

3 Unions Ask Quotas On Leather Garments

Three AFL-CIO unions have called for quotas on future leather garment imports and increased tariffs to stem the loss of jobs.

They petitioned the International Trade Commission for action to reverse the steady attrition of the leather apparel industry caused by imports. The petition notes that since 1977 more leather garments sold in the U.S. have been of foreign origin than are produced domestically.

The unions are the Clothing and Textile Workers, the Ladies' Garment Workers and the Food & Commercial Workers. They joined the National Outerwear and Sportwear Association and the Tanners Council of America in petitioning the ITC for action.

The petition showed that imports of leather apparel in 1978 was up 44.4 percent over the preceding year. Most of the imports came from Korea, China, Argentina, Uruguay and Mexico.

Direct employment in the industry dropped 37 percent between 1974 and 1977.

Jacob Sheinkman, secretary-treasurer of the Clothing & Textile Workers, said that during the past five years "we have seen over 4,000 workers" become unemployed—"a loss of more than 35 percent of the jobs in the leather wearing apparel industry since the Trade Act of 1974 was passed."

He pointed out that a major portion of the work force in the industry is comprised of minorities and women, mostly in urban areas, and that these workers do not have favorable re-employment prospects as import penetration continues.

Wilbur Daniels, executive vice president of the Garment Workers, said the womens' end of the leather apparel business was the first to be hit by import surges with substantial permanent layoffs and frequent underemployment. Import relief is needed "so that we may step up our efforts to remain competitive, reopen our manufacturing plants and re-employ the workers in the industry."

The leather apparel industry is not covered by the Multifiber Arrangement which covers other apparel products, the petitioners pointed out. Under the provisions of the 1974 Trade Act the ITC has six months to complete its investigation and make recommendations to the President under the Section 201 "escape clause" provisions. The President then has 60 days to act on the recommendations.

Brooklyn Nurses Vote In AFT Unit

New York—Nurses at the Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn voted overwhelmingly to be represented by the United Federation of Teachers, an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers.

The nurses chose the AFT affiliate over the New York State Nurses Association by a 237 to 14 vote.

Amtrak Bill Limits Scope Of Route Cuts

The House took a strong stand for preservation of railroad passenger service despite the narrow 214-197 defeat of a veto-threatened proposal to block any cutback of the Amtrak system this year.

Rail unions and the AFL-CIO had supported a proposal by Representatives Albert Gore, Jr. (D-Tenn.) and Wyche Fowler, Jr. (D-Ga.) to block Amtrak's planned 43 percent reduction in the present passenger system and to add funds to continue operations over the next year.

The gasoline shortage of recent weeks and the overall energy outlook have brought a wave of congressional converts to the potential of passenger trains and it took a strongly reiterated Administration veto threat to defeat the amendment.

But the House followed through by a series of amendments that would have the effect of restoring about half of the planned cutbacks and sent the measure to the Senate by a 397-18 vote.

The House adopted a formula to save short-distance passenger trains serving an average of at least 80 passengers and losing no more than 9 cents per passenger mile. The formula for long distance trains is that they must carry an average of at least 150 passengers and not lose more than 7 cents per passenger mile.

Another amendment, adopted at the urging of Rep. Robert Duncan (D-Ore.), would divide the nation into four regions and require that each region be served by at least one long-distance Amtrak train.

The Administration is seeking to eliminate lightly-traveled routes covering 12,000 of Amtrak's 27,500 miles of passenger service. The House bill would allow elimination of only about 5,000 miles of routes.

Longshoremen Press Help for 'Boat People'

Bal Harbour, Fla.—Delegates to the Longshoremen's union 44th convention fashioned a program to guide the union for the next four years and elected President Thomas W. Gleason to a fifth, four-year term, hailing him for the breakthroughs on job security on the docks.

The convention elected to the leadership team Anthony Scotto, head of the union's largest local in Brooklyn, N.Y., as general organizer and created a new full-time position of assistant general organizer and named Carl Gardiner of Port Newark to the post.

Sec.-Treas. Harry Hasselgren and Executive Vice President John Bowers were re-elected and 26 vice presidents were named.

The convention approved a strong resolution urging the U.S. government to organize an immediate and massive rescue effort to save the thousands of "boat people" and to advise all shipping companies "that appropriate action will be taken against the vessels of any of those steamship companies whose ships have abandoned refugees. . . ."

In other resolutions the convention called for a job security program for Great Lakes dockers, an exploration of possible merger with the Grain Millers union, opposition to the building of the Westway highway in New York City, support for a strong merchant marine policy to overcome the threat of foreign-flag domination and establishment of an ILA scholarship fund in Gleason's name for the children of ILA members.

The delegates also approved a number of constitutional "housekeeping" amendments and approved the union's current dues, per capita and financial structure.

James R. Herman, president of the unaffiliated Longshoremen and Warehousemen, which represents dock workers on the West Coast and Hawaii, told the convention that his union would support the ILA in any struggle and that the pact of friendship and cooperation between the two unions is important in the struggle for better working conditions and protections for dock workers.

The 120,000-member ILA represents dockworkers in Atlantic and Gulf ports, the Great Lakes, Puerto Rico and a number of major rivers and includes a Masters, Mates & Pilots division as well as the United Marine Division in New York.

Funding Backed For Power Project

The AFL-CIO reiterated support for construction of the Dickey-Lincoln hydroelectric project on the St. John River in Maine.

Legislative Director Kenneth Young asked senators to vote against an amendment to an appropriations bill that would delete planning funds for the project.

Its completion would provide low-cost public power for New England and lessen dependence on foreign energy sources, he said.

Security Safeguards Tightened:

Senate Votes to Bar Alaska Oil Exports

The Senate approved a tight ban on the export of Alaskan oil and adopted a package of labor-supported restrictions on the sale to totalitarian countries of products and technology that could weaken U.S. security.

Under the Senate bill and a companion measure that is awaiting House action, oil produced in Alaska could be sold or swapped to other nations only if the President determined that it would not reduce total U.S. oil supplies and that it would result in savings that would be passed on to consumers. Further, both the House and Senate would have to approve such a finding. The only exception allowed would be if a transfer of U.S. oil were necessary to carry out the guarantee made to Israel when it agreed to give up Sinai oil fields.

In a letter to senators, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young challenged the argument that bars to exports have caused a glut of Alaskan oil on the West Coast.

Every barrel of Alaskan oil is either handled in West Coast refineries or shipped to refineries that can process the oil, he noted. Even with shipping costs, Alaska oil has been hugely profitable to producers and allowing it to be exported would "remove all incentive to update U.S. refinery capacity and build the West-to-East crude oil pipelines our country so badly needs."

The Senate killed by a 52-30 vote a labor-opposed attempt to make it easier to export Alaskan oil.

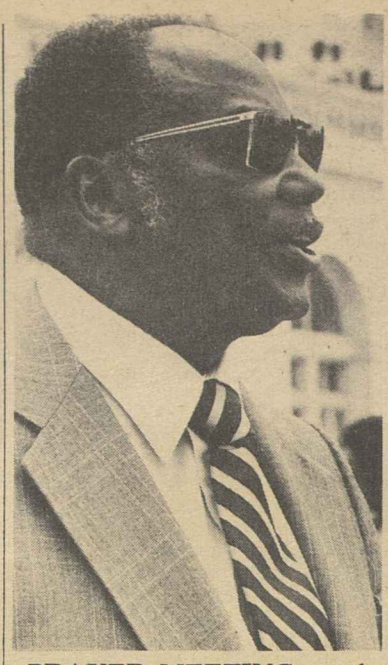
On the security issues, the Senate adopted amendments by Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) and others to assure that the United States doesn't add to the military strength of its adversaries through a lax strategic export policy.

The amendments were to an Export Administration Act that is to replace a 1969 law that expires at the end of September.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Industrial Union Dept. President Jacob Clayman wrote senators before the vote of labor's concern at the routine approval the Commerce Dept. has been giving to requests for export licenses.

Thus, an advanced technology truck plant built by U.S. firms in the Soviet Union was supposed to be for the production of trucks to be used for agriculture and industry. But there is evidence that it is in fact being used to turn out military vehicles.

Among the adopted amendments were provisions giving the Defense Dept. a greater voice in reviewing strategic exports, a firmer ban on exports of critical items to nations threatening U.S. security, and stronger curbs on re-export of such critical items by non-Communist nations to Communist countries.





PRAYER MEETING on the Capitol grounds, sponsored by the NAACP, preceded the House vote rejecting a constitutional amendment to ban school busing as a tool of desegregation. AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William Pollard, left, reads a message from Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland attacking the amendment as a rejection of equal rights to an education.

Davis-Bacon Supported In 12-3 Committee Vote

The Senate was urged by its Labor & Human Resources Committee to retain Davis-Bacon coverage for the nation's $1.4 billion military construction program and to reject an attempt to abolish prevailing wage protections on construction contracts of less than $50,000.

All nine committee Democrats and three of the six Republicans joined in recommending that the Senate delete a Davis-Bacon exclusion that the conservative-dominated Armed Services Committee had written into the military construction bill.

The Senate earlier this month sent the bill to the Labor Committee for hearings on the Davis-Bacon issue, with a guarantee of a Senate vote before the August recess of Congress.

The showdown has been tentatively set for July 30, but the Senate already demonstrated its leanings when it rejected, 57-35, an attempt by Sen. Jake Garn (R-Utah) to partly exempt non-profit housing rehabilitation projects from Davis-Bacon requirements.

Opponents of Davis-Bacon are expected to focus their efforts behind the only other Davis-Bacon amendment that will be in order when the Senate resumes consideration of the bill—a motion to raise the minimum contract level at which the prevailing wage law applies. It is currently $2,000 and Sen. James Exon (D-Neb.) has proposed to raise it to $50,000, which would exclude about half of all projects, employing nearly one-fourth of the workers now covered by the law.

At the hearings, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall strongly opposed lifting the dollar cutoff and warned that it would create a "double standard" on government contracts, with wage protection for one group of workers and no protection for others.

In other congressional developments:

- President Carter's revived proposal for standby gasoline rationing legislation met an unexpected setback in the House when 79 Democrats joined 153 Republicans to pass an amendment that the Administration regards as rendering the legislation meaningless. House Democratic leaders took the bill off the floor to gain time to try to reverse the 232-187 vote.

The AFL-CIO supported the standby rationing authority and opposed the amendment which would have given both the House and Senate two opportunities to disapprove any rationing plan devised by the President.

- Federal blue-collar workers won at least a temporary reprieve through a point of order that forced elimination of a section of a House appropriations bill that would have imposed a 5.5 percent pay raise ceiling for the 1980 fiscal year. Hourly paid federal workers are supposed to be paid local prevailing wages, but Congress last year held them to the same 5.5 percent ceiling imposed on salaried federal employees. The next move is up to the Senate.

New Funding Approved For Food Stamp Costs

The Senate passed an emergency bill needed to avoid a drastic cutback in food stamp benefits during the next two months after taking the teeth out of an amendment intended to make needy families of strikers ineligible for food stamps.

The legislation carries urgency because the spending ceiling Congress set last year on food stamp appropriations has been made obsolete by the sharp inflation in food costs. The Senate bill and its House counterpart raise the authorization for this fiscal year by $620 million.

At the same time, the Senate adopted a bipartisan amendment strongly supported by the AFL-CIO that would avoid this problem in the future by eliminating the dollar ceiling concept for the 1980 and 1981 fiscal years. Food stamp recipients would have to meet the same stringent tests of need and eligibility. But their benefits would not depend on whether Congress had correctly guessed a year in advance how much assistance would be needed.

The food stamp for strikers issue is a perennial cause for the congressional right-wing, and this year it was Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) who presented the employer argument that allowing needy families of strikers to obtain food stamps amounts to a government subsidy for strikers.

As the floor manager for the bill, Sen. George S. McGovern (D-S. Dak.) retorted, such a restriction "would single out one group of Americans who would become ineligible for the food stamp program." He reminded Thurmond that "going on strike does not qualify anyone for food stamps." Everyone has to meet the same "very tough criteria" of need that are set by law.

McGovern then proposed a substitute for Thurmond's motion, which the Senate adopted by voice vote, that in effect reiterated what is already the law. It said that no household containing a person involved in a labor-management dispute shall be eligible to participate in the food stamp program unless it meets "the income guidelines, asset requirements and work-registration requirements" that are set by law.

The only purpose of his amendment, McGovern said, is to make clear what is already required by law.

The closest vote on any food stamp issue was an attempt by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) to delete the provision lifting spending ceilings for the 1980 and 1981 fiscal years. His amendment was beaten, 57-37.

The bill now goes to a House-Senate conference committee, where the issue of future spending ceilings will be the chief difference to be resolved.

Two States Join Boycott Of Labor Law Violators

Two New England states—Connecticut and Massachusetts—joined other jurisdictions that have taken action to halt purchases from the anti-union J. P. Stevens & Co., branded by labor as "the nation's No. 1 labor-law violator."

In Connecticut, Gov. Ella Grasso signed into law a bill barring from state contracts any firm which has been cited for violations of the National Labor Relations Act three times within five years. J. P. Stevens, with its long list of NLRA violations, easily qualifies for the contract ban.

Meanwhile, Massachusetts Gov. Edward King has directed all state institutions, agencies, commissions, and departments to refrain from entering into any contractual agreements to buy the company's products.

Stevens, the nation's second largest textile firm, is the object of a worldwide consumer boycott organized by the Clothing & Textile Workers.

A growing number of state and local governments, as well as church and civic bodies, have cut off all purchases of Stevens products, which range from towels and bedsheets to draperies and carpeting.

House Stops Constitutional Busing Ban

(Continued from Page 1)

amendment "obscene," an attack on the spirit of the Constitution and on 25 years of struggle to overcome the effects of enforced school segregation.

"Busing has been only one of a range of tools that have been used to equalize educational opportunity," Kirkland said. "No one supports it for its own sake. No one denies that it is inconvenient and expensive. The goal of every school district should be to observe the principle of equal rights in ways that make busing unnecessary, and many districts have done so."

But when the Constitution and the law are flouted, when other resources are inadequate, children must be given the opportunity to which they are entitled, he said.

Labor worked closely with the civil rights coalition to muster the maximum vote against the proposed amendment. And AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young cautioned House members not to be deceived into a belief that the federation doesn't speak for union members generally on this issue.

"While our members—like other Americans — prefer neighborhood schools," Young said, "numerous surveys have demonstrated that union members strongly oppose deliberate segregation and vigorously support the principle of equality under law."

During the House debate, Judiciary Committee Chairman Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (D-N.J.) read a letter from President Carter strongly opposing the amendment.

The 25th anniversary of the Supreme Court's unanimous school desegregation decision "is a time to renew our commitment," Carter wrote, "not a time to retreat."

Ironically, while many House members from northern and border states were jumping on what they saw as an anti-busing bandwagon, conservative southerners spoke out against the amendment and warned that its adoption would resurrect divisive problems that have been already solved.

Thus, Rep. Mendel Davis (D-S.C.) said busing has been "a positive good" and suggested that Congress "should be more concerned for the welfare of the children rather than the emotions of the parents."

And Rep. Bill Alexander (D-Ark.) told the amendment's supporters that he could "see no value in resurrecting this issue."

On the rollcall, 95 Democrats and 114 Republicans supported the amendment, while 176 Democrats and 40 Republicans opposed it.

7/28/79

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Profits Top 1978 Mark By 19.6%

Despite the onset of a recession in the second quarter of 1979, corporate profits increased 19.6 percent over the same quarter a year earlier, with oil profits leading the way.

The Wall Street Journal's survey of 437 major corporations produced the 19.6 percent after-tax profits figure, an increase that followed a 37 percent jump in the first three months of the year.

The profits report comes on the heels of a decline of 3.3 percent in the gross national product—the total value of goods and services—in the April-June period and other reports that a recession has set in.

The Journal noted that "corporate profits to some extent are being buoyed by smaller-than-expected increases in wage costs." The article pointed out that average hourly earnings rose only one-tenth of 1 percent in May, the smallest increase since April 1975.

Of the 23 industry, railroad, utility and bank groups surveyed by the Journal only three groups showed a decline in profits—airlines, distillers and office equipment.

Mining and nonferrous metal showed the largest increase of 91.8 percent followed by petroleum products at 58.5 percent. Railroad profits were up 33.3 percent and banks climbed 19.4 percent.

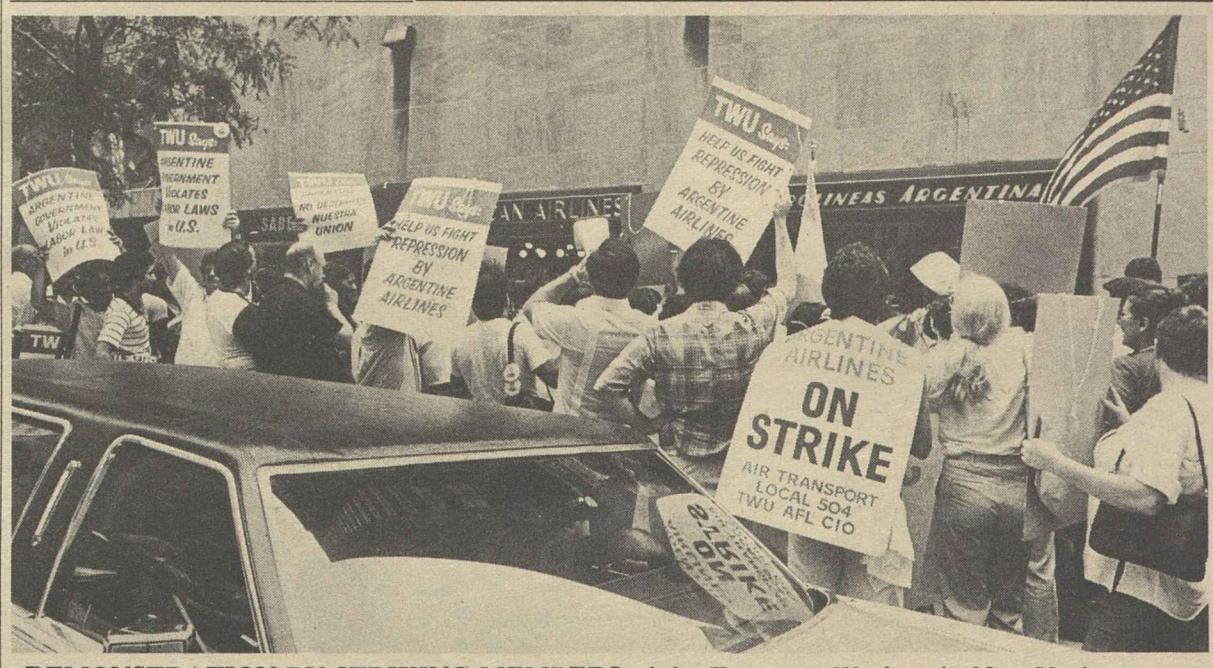
The eight oil companies in the Journal's survey showed after-tax profits for the second quarter of $2,086,256,000 with autos next in line with profits of $1,891,975,000.

Even with the country in a recession the outlook for the third quarter of the year is that profits will be running about 10 percent higher than for the same quarter in 1978, the article said.

The outlook was buttressed by a comment from a business economist, whom the Journal quoted as saying that "meager wage increases and cautious employment policies are protecting profits from the fall-off in final demand."

The forecasters held out good prospects for capital goods industries during the slowdown but said that there probably would be a profits falloff in consumer oriented industries.

Davis-Bacon Foes Routed In Showdown Senate Vote



DEMONSTRATION BY STRIKING MEMBERS of the Transport Workers in New York protests continued union-busting tactics of Argentine Airlines, which is owned and operated by Argentina's military regime. The airline ground employees, on strike since May 11, also held a protest rally outside the United Nations headquarters and called on the Civil Aeronautics Board to revoke the airline's operating permit.

Unions Win Fight Over Standard

By David L. Perlman

An employer-launched attack on the Davis-Bacon Act foundered in the Senate and workers on government-funded construction projects will continue to be guaranteed prevailing wages and benefits.

The showdown came on a series of decisive votes that restored Davis-Bacon coverage to a military construction bill and blocked an attempt to exclude all but the very largest government contracts from the prevailing wage law.

Instead, the Senate adopted a union-endorsed modification of the 48-year-old law that both sides agreed would have only minimal impact in terms of workers covered.

The Senate's action, which is expected to receive House concurrence, appeared to have ended the threat to the Davis-Bacon Act in this Congress. Earlier, both the House and Senate had rejected attempts to whittle away Davis-Bacon coverage through amendments to various bills. Such harassment may continue, but a congressional majority has made clear its support for the law.

A conservative majority of the Senate Armed Services Committee set the stage for the confrontation by writing a Davis-Bacon exclusion into the military construction bill.

When the bill came to the floor, Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) moved to delete that provision and there was no doubt his motion would have carried if conservatives had allowed it to come to a vote. Instead, they bought time with delaying tactics that led to an

(Continued on Page 3)

Threat Still Remains:

Labor Helps Stem Budget Amendment

Labor's efforts have helped stem a right-wing drive to force the calling of a constitutional convention to initiate a balanced budget amendment, but AFL-CIO President George Meany warned that it is still a serious threat.

Meany thanked AFL-CIO affiliates and central bodies for their response to the alert he sounded six months ago after 26 state legislatures had rushed through resolutions to compel a constitutional convention. At that time, Meany noted, the right-wing National Taxpayers Union was predicting that the eight additional state endorsements needed would be obtained before the end of June.

Under a never-used provision of the Constitution, an amendment can be initiated by a constitutional convention called by two-thirds of the states. This would bypass the normal procedure that requires two-thirds approval of both the House and Senate before an amendment can be submitted to the states for ratification.

To date, 30 states have adopted constitutional convention calls. The four adopted since the trade union movement made it a high-priority issue were in Indiana, Iowa, New Hampshire and Utah.

But over the same period, Meany noted, "labor's activities were crucial in rejection of the convention call in a number of states, particularly Minnesota, California, Montana, Rhode Island, Michigan and Missouri."

A number of other states have either formally defeated constitution convention resolutions or bottled them up in committee. In many states, the AFL-CIO has worked with a broad-based Citizens for the Constitution coalition to spotlight both the economic consequences of a rigid balanced budget requirement and the hazards of a never-used convention procedure to rewrite the Constitution.

(Continued on Page 7)

Plant Closing Bills Aimed At Runaways

Two similar bills to discourage plant closings and minimize hardships for workers and communities were unveiled at a Capitol Hill news conference.

The common goals of both bills have strong support of a number of unions and the unusual joint news conference served to emphasize the similarity rather than the differences of the two versions.

One bill is sponsored by two Michigan Democrats—Rep. William D. Ford and Sen. Donald W. Riegle, Jr.—and has 45 co-sponsors in the House.

The other is sponsored by Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), who promised that the Senate Labor & Human Resources Commit-

(Continued on Page 2)

Wages Increase 8.2% In Major 1979 Pacts

Wage increases in major collective bargaining agreements for the first six months of 1979 averaged 8.2 percent in the first year, up from the 7.6 percent in 1978, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Over the life of the 271 contracts covering 1.4 million workers in bargaining units of 1,000 or more, the increases averaged 7 percent per year, up from the 6.4 percent for 1978.

The settlements in the BLS report covered workers in transportation, construction, apparel, trade and refining.

For workers in bargaining units of 5,000 or more, the first year increase of wages and benefits averaged 9.2 percent, up from 8.3 percent last year and the average over the life of the contract was 7.3 percent compared to 6.3 percent.

The existence of cost-of-living provisions are reflected in the scope of the settlements, BLS said. First-year increases in contracts with COLA provisions averaged 6.6 percent, compared to 9.2 percent for contracts without such clauses. Over the life of the contract the difference was 5.4 percent and 7.9 percent.

Cost-of-living adjustments payable to employees during the first six months of 1979 averaged 3.6 percent, returning about 52 percent of the rise in the Consumer Price Index during that period, BLS said. COLA clauses covered

(Continued on Page 8)

Congress Modifies Cut In Amtrak Rail Service

The Senate joined the House in adopting a compromise plan to preserve most of Amtrak's passenger service, and a conference committee is expected to reach early agreement on the relatively minor differences.

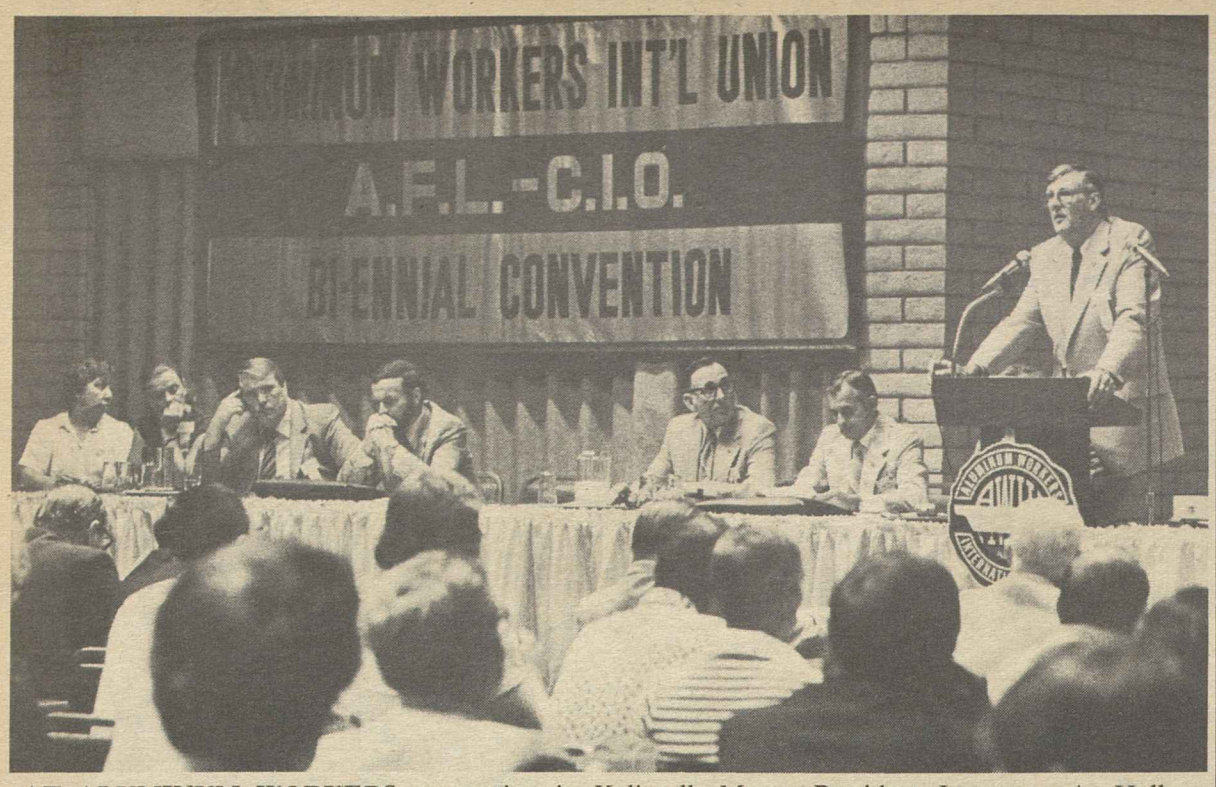
Rail unions and the AFL-CIO had sought a one-year moratorium on the massive cutback the Administration had announced as an economy move—a reduction of 12,000 miles from the Amtrak system, eliminating 43 percent of existing routes.

With an Administration veto threatened if the moratorium were approved, the House defeated the proposal by a 214-197 margin and the Senate rejected it, 65-35.

Instead, the House and Senate bills would hold the cutback to about 5,000 to 5,500 miles and assure that no region will be completely devoid of passenger service. Both bills would also preserve all commuter rail service for at least 18 months.

Either the House or Senate could have blocked the Amtrak cut early this year with a resolution of disapproval, but Congress let the deadline pass. The com-

(Continued on Page 7)



AT ALUMINUM WORKERS convention in Kalispell, Mont., President Lawrence A. Holley reports to delegates on organizing gains, staff training programs and progress in reducing the backlog of grievances and arbitration cases.

Aluminum Workers Vote:

Priority Drives Set On Litter, Recycling

Kalispell, Mont.—Delegates to the Aluminum Workers convention voted top legislative priority to a continuing campaign to eliminate litter and to expand job opportunities.

A convention resolution strongly opposed so-called "ban-the-can" laws that would require deposits on beverage containers or levy extra taxes on non-returnable containers

If the object is to control litter, it's the wrong approach, the delegates said. "Only those responsible for littering should be punished," the resolution urged, "not those whose livelihood is dependent upon the manufacturing of the product."

A "more sensible solution" would be to enact and enforce strict anti-litter laws. In the same resolution, the convention reiterated the union's call for "a federal-funded recycling program that would create jobs and preserve our natural resources."

The convention setting itself symbolized the co-existence of an unspoiled natural environment and job-creating industry. It was held in the dramatically scenic Big Sky country of northwest Montana, near an Anaconda plant that turns out 350 million pounds of aluminum a year on a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week schedule.

In an opening report to the 170 delegates, President Lawrence A. Holley said the union will press for a political education voluntary checkoff in all of its contracts. It has already been obtained at Alcoa plants, he said.

He told the delegates that the union has achieved a 50 percent success in its organizing campaigns, above the national average for representation elections.

"The unorganized are willing to join," he told the delegates. "So let's organize them."

Holley said the international union has stressed staff training because it expects its representatives "to be able to handle any problems we are faced with—and they come through."

The president's term has two more years to run, but delegates unanimously re-elected Sec.-Treas. H. Max Webster to a four-year term.

Delegates re-elected 11 vice presidents and two newcomers—Travis Dawson and Douglas Pate. Re-elected were Robert Nerton, Curtis Peterson, Steve Schwartzkopf, Ernest LaBaff, Kenneth Palmer, Charles Smith, John Robertson, John Murphy, Joseph Thompson, Margaret Williamson and Virgil Hutchinson.

Speakers included Montana Gov. Thomas L. Judge, Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, COPE Director Al Barkan, Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept., Exec. Sec. Howard Chester of the Stone, Glass & Clay Coordinating Committee and Washington State AFL-CIO President Joseph Davis.

Letter Carriers Name Compensation Director

Herbert A. Doyle, Jr., a former director of the Labor Dept.'s workers' compensation programs, has been named to head the Letter Carriers' compensation department and administrative assistant to NRLC President Vincent R. Sombrotto.

Police Union's First Convention Elects Officers, Adopts Program

San Francisco—Delegates to the first convention of the Union of Police Associations unanimously elected Edward J. Kiernan president and Robert D. Gordon secretary-treasurer.

Kiernan and Gordon had been serving as temporary president and secretary-treasurer since last December when 42 police union locals formed the IUPA. The union received its AFL-CIO charter from the Executive Council in February.

Kiernan, a 30-year veteran of the New York city police force, had been president of the local Patrolmen's Benevolent Association before taking up the leadership post at the IUPA. He was elected to a four-year term. Gordon had been with the Freeport, N.Y., police department for 20 years and had served as a vice president of the New York State Police Conference. He was elected to a three-year term.

The convention also elected Jack R. Hawkonsen, who heads IUPA Local 5 in Chicago, first vice president. Twelve other vice presidents and 24 regional vice presidents were elected to one-year terms.

More than 200 delegates representing some 55,000 U.S. and Canadian members in 110 locals participated in the convention.

Since its formation, Kiernan said that the IUPA has grown from 17,000 members in the originally chartered 42 locals.

Kiernan said he foresees a growth potential for the union to 500,000 police and law enforcement officers.

The convention adopted a formal constitution and bylaws and approved per capita of $1 per month to the international. Members had been paying a 75-cent per capita tax on a temporary basis.

In major resolutions adopted at the four-day convention, delegates endorsed passage of the Police Officer's Bill of Rights, to provide for law officers the same protections now provided under the law for citizens. Police are now subjected to personal searches, polygraph tests and arbitrary dismissals in many jurisdictions. A bill to provide equal protection has been sponsored in the House for IUPA by Rep. Dawson Mathis (D-Ga.), and is being introduced in the Senate by Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) in response to a request from IUPA.

Delegates also called for the passage of a national collective bargaining bill, introduced by Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.); a bill to oppose mandatory inclusion of police officers in the social security system; legislation to provide tax exempt pensions for police officers, and legislation to reform the Hatch Act.

The delegates adopted several resolutions to improve the safety of vehicles and operations for highway patrolmen, and voted support of the J. P. Stevens and Coors beer boycotts.

The union's organizing program received major attention at the convention, with the establishment of regional organizing committees in the United States and Canada, led by the regional vice president.

Major convention speakers included Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany; John E. Cosgrove, director of legislation for the Public Employee Dept., and California Gov. Jerry Brown.

Kiernan and Gordon urged all IUPA local unions that have not already done so to affiliate with local and state AFL-CIO central bodies to more effectively represent their members.

New Plant Closing Bills Aim to Curb Runaways

(Continued from Page 1)

tee which he heads will hold hearings "over the next several months" and attempt to come up with a consensus version "capable of being passed by Congress."

Both bills would require companies to give substantial advance notice of an intent to close or relocate a plant, and the Secretary of Labor would be empowered to investigate the circumstances of the proposed shutdown.

The Williams bill would require a one-year notice for all plants. The Ford-Riegle bill would require a two-year notice for firms with over 500 workers, dropping to a six-month notice to companies with fewer than 100 employees. Companies that fail to comply would reimburse communities for lost taxes.

The Ford-Riegle bill authorizes federal grants, loans and loan guarantees to troubled firms to avoid a shutdown, as well as other measures. The Williams bill puts greater emphasis on helping bring about employee ownership of the threatened plant, where this is feasible.

While there are some differences in details, both measures would give workers the right to transfer to a new company location at company expense, receive federal job training, collect severance pay of 85 percent of wages, usually for a period of one year but with additional entitlement for older workers.

The Administration has not taken a position on the legislation, but Ford noted that he had co-sponsored a similar bill in 1974 with Vice President Mondale, who was then a senator from Minnesota.

Williams told reporters that introduction of the two bills is "the first shot in a major battle to bring to Congress and the nation the appropriate kind of remedy for the devastation of runaway plants and factory closings."

Riegle noted the current economic difficulties of the Chrysler Corp. and the simultaneous impact of a national recession.

Help should be provided before communities are left with "jobless workers and empty, gutted buildings," he urged.

Workers Rights Tied To Technology Transfer

There are real and harsh realities in the movement of capital and technology around the world and failure to recognize them can result in serious problems, the AFL-CIO told a congressional committee.

Discussing an upcoming United Nations conference on science and technology, Michael D. Boggs, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs, said that the transfer of technology must be accompanied by protection for the rights of workers and the spread of benefits through equitable income distribution.

This includes, he stressed, "the rights of workers not to be exposed to dangerous pollution in the workplace, to bargain collectively or be represented in some fashion to assure that the fruits of technological transfer accrue to the workers and not to the vested interests alone."

Boggs noted that realization of these rights is "a tall order" given the "unpleasant fact that most of the governments that will be represented (at the UN conference) are non-democratic, non-representative, authoritarian regimes."

He added to the House subcommittee on Science, Research & Technology that "we should not be in the business of reinforcing systems in which serfdom is a continuing factor."

He pointed out that the limits and meaning of the transfer of technology, an awareness of the arguments and risks involved and a broad government policy are all lacking.

Boggs called for national committees composed of labor, community organizations, business and industrial interests and local and state governments to consider specifically the proposed movement of technologies in light of potential damage and the benefits and disadvantages, something that the U.S. government has not done.



ORGANIZING AND LEGISLATIVE goals of the Union of Police Associations are discussed at the union's first convention by IUPA President Edward J. Kiernan, left, Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, and IUPA Sec.-Treas. Robert D. Gordon, right.

Davis-Bacon Showdown:

Employer Groups Lose Fight To Destroy Wage Standard

(Continued from Page 1)

agreement to send the bill to the Labor & Human Resources Committee for hearings on both the Davis-Bacon exclusion and on a substitute proposal by Sen. James Exon (D-Neb.) that would have amended the Davis-Bacon Act to apply only to construction contracts exceeding $50,000.

It was the Exon amendment which represented the more realistic threat to the law. If enacted, it would have removed an estimated 25 percent of all construction workers on government contracts from prevailing wage protection.

The contract "threshold" was set at $5,000 when the Davis-Bacon Act was passed in 1931, during the Hoover Administration, and was lowered in 1935 to cover all contracts of $2,000 or more.

Acknowledging the impact of inflation since 1935, building trades unions and congressional supporters of Davis-Bacon agreed on this three-part amendment, which was introduced by Sen. John Melcher (D-Mont.). It provides for:

- Raising the threshold level for new construction from the present $2,000 to $10,000—a change that would affect relatively few workers but cut down on the paperwork involved in the smallest contracts.
- Keeping the threshold at $2,000 for rehabilitation or maintenance of existing public buildings or public works, including repairs, painting and decorating.
- Tightening existing law so that a government agency couldn't evade the Davis-Bacon Act by artificially splitting up a contract into several parts in order to keep under the $10,000 threshold. The threshold would be kept at $2,000 if a contract were part of a construction project that exceeded $10,000.

This was proposed by Melcher as an amendment—in effect a substitute—to the Exon proposal for a $50,000 threshold.

The Senate voted 68-28 for the Melcher amendment, but the key vote was a closer 57-40. That's the margin by which the Senate rejected a motion to table and thus kill the Melcher amendment.

The final step was a 92-3 vote to drop from the military construction bill the section excluding Davis-Bacon and to insert instead the language of the Melcher amendment.

A byproduct of the Davis-Bacon votes is the clear signal that Congress isn't receptive to right-wing efforts to roll back the federal minimum wage and other labor standard laws. The AFL-CIO had warned at congressional hearings that dismemberment of the Davis-Bacon Act would be "a first step" toward dismantling the entire framework of social legislation.

The Senate Labor Committee report on Davis-Bacon punctured many of the arguments that opponents of the prevailing wage law had raised.

Far from being a detriment to minority employment, the committee found that "minority contractors and their workers are likely to bear a disproportionate portion of the adverse effects" if the law were weakened.

It cited statements by groups such as the NAACP and the Mexican-American Unity Council opposing repeal or weakening of the Davis-Bacon Act.

The committee also refuted the assumption that all employers follow the lead of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the open-shop contractors in opopsing the law.

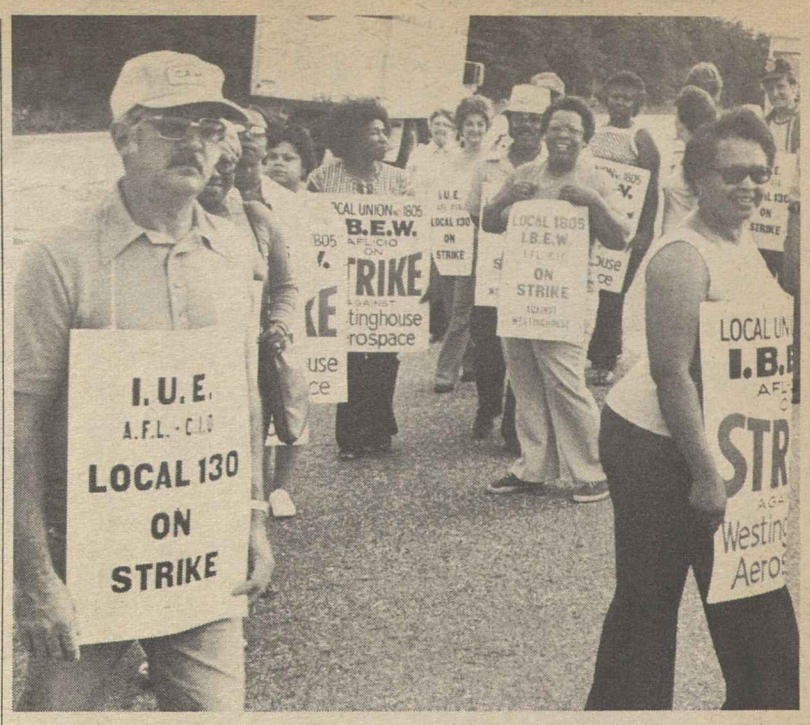
Thus, the National Electrical Contractors Association testified as the "recognizzed spokesman" for an industry "comprised of more than 30,000 electrical contractors who employ more than a third of a million electrical workers."

Its response to the question of whether the Davis-Bacon Act is still needed was "a strong and resounding 'yes.'"

The law is not inflationary because it matches but does not exceed prevailing wage levels in a locality, the association noted. And it is essential to assure quality work and to base competition for government contracts on business efficiency, productivity and skills.

Other contractor groups expressed similar views.

The Senate committee's report concluded that exclusion of construction projects from Davis-Bacon "would have a substantial adverse impact for workers," would reduce skill levels on the job, and would not be likely to bring about any significant dollar savings.



STRIKING MEMBERS of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers picket a Westinghouse Electric Corp. plant in Baltimore.

Striking Unions Reject 2nd Westinghouse Offer

Pittsburgh—Three electrical worker unions pressed their three-week-old strike against Westinghouse Electric Corp., rejecting a new company proposal that fell well short of union positions on pensions and job security.

The strike by some 50,000 Westinghouse workers at about 100 plants and service shops involves the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers. They are the three major unions of a 13-union Coordinated Bargaining Committee conducting negotiations in the electrical industry.

The rejection of the company's latest offer by the three unions was the second turndown. The unions struck July 16 when the company broke off negotiations. The major issue was and continues to be the company's insistence that employees begin making contributions toward their pension benefits, termed a "takeaway" by the unions.

Westinghouse's second offer came on July 30 following six days of intensive bargaining with a CBC subcommittee. Union representatives said the company offer did not respond to the union position to remove the pension "takeaway" or to make a firm commitment to protect members from job loss. Westinghouse has been moving plants to non-union areas and to foreign countries, costing thousands of jobs.

Besides the unacceptable contributory pension proposals and the job security issue, other issues still on the table include improved grievance and arbitration procedures, retraining, job transfers to new facilities, union security and refusing recognition to duly certified IUE locals.

CBC Chief Negotiator Vincent Vingle said "Westinghouse has deliberately adopted a corporate policy of anti-unionism, a policy that has corroded 23 years of cooperation between us." The last national strike against Westinghouse was in 1955-56.

The Westinghouse wage offer closely parallels the recent CBC settlement with General Electric Co. providing approximately $2 per hour over the three-year contract, depending in part on cost-of-living adjustments.

Key Rollcall in Senate On Davis-Bacon Issues

The Senate on July 30 turned back an attack on the Davis-Bacon Act's prevailing wage requirement for federally funded construction.

The key vote was the 57-40 defeat of a labor-opposed motion to table an amendment by Sen. John Melcher (D-Mont.). If Melcher's amendment had been tabled and thus killed, the measure before the Senate would have denied Davis-Bacon to one-fourth of the workers on federal construction contracts by increasing the coverage threshold from the present $2,000 to $50,000.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 44

Baucus (Mont.)	Gravel (Alaska)	Moynihan (N.Y.)
Bayh (Ind.)	Hart (Colo.)	Muskie (Me.)
Biden (Del.)	Heflin (Ala.)	Nelson (Wis.)
Bradley (N.J.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Pell (R.I.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Jackson (Wash.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Pryor (Ark.)
Byrd, R. (W.Va.)	Leahy (Vt.)	Randolph (W.Va.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Levin (Mich.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Church (Idaho)	Long (La.)	Riegle (Mich.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Sarbanes (Md.)
Culver (Iowa)	Matsunaga (Hawaii)	Sasser (Tenn.)
DeConcini (Ariz.)	McGovern (S.D.)	Stewart (Ala.)
Durkin (N.H.)	Melcher (Mont.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	Metzenbaum (Ohio)	Tsongas (Mass.)
Glenn (Ohio)		Williams (N.J.)

Republicans 13

Chafee (R.I.)	Javits (N.Y.)	Pressler (S.D.)
Danforth (Mo.)	Mathias (Md.)	Schweiker (Pa.)
Domenici (N.M.)	Packwood (Ore.)	Stafford (Vt.)
Durenberger (Minn.)	Percy (Ill.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Hatfield (Ore.)		

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 13

Bentsen (Tex.)	Ford (Ky.)	Stennis (Miss.)
Boren (Okla.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Byrd, H. (Va.)	Nunn (Ga.)	Stone (Fla.)
Chiles (Fla.)	Johnston (La.)	Zorinsky (Neb.)
Exon (Neb.)		

Republicans 27

Armstrong (Colo.)	Hatch (Utah)	McClure (Idaho)
Baker (Tenn.)	Hayakawa (Calif.)	Roth (Del.)
Bellmon (Okla.)	Heinz (Pa.)	Schmitt (N.M.)
Boschwitz (Minn.)	Helms (N.C.)	Simpson (Wyo.)
Cochran (Miss.)	Humphrey (N.H.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Cohen (Me.)	Jepsen (Iowa)	Tower (Tex.)
Dole (Kan.)	Kassebaum (Kan.)	Wallop (Wyo.)
Garn (Utah)	Laxalt (Nev.)	Warner (Va.)
Goldwater (Ariz.)	Lugar (Ind.)	Young (N.D.)

Absent: Inouye (D-Hawaii), Morgan (D-N.C.), Stevens (R-Alaska).

Panama Canal Workers to Gain Trade Union, Bargaining Parity

The Senate approved legislation to implement the Panama Canal treaties after adopting a labor-sought amendment assuring employees of the new Panama Canal Commission of union representation and collective bargaining rights equal to those of government workers in the United States.

That addition, proposed by Sen. Charles Mathias (R-Md.) and adopted by a 53-45 vote, brought the Senate bill closer to the version the House passed in June. But differences on other provisions pose problems for the House-Senate conference committee that will try to reconcile the two bills.

A provision in one of the treaties recognizes the right of employees of the Panama Canal Commission to negotiate union contracts and allows the framework of labor-management relations to be set by the United States "after consultation with employee unions."

The unions urged, and both the House and Senate have now agreed, that both U.S. and Panamanian employees of the commission should be accorded the same collective bargaining rights that federal workers in the United States are guaranteed by law.

Both bills also provide more generous early retirement provisions for U.S. employees of the commission and for persons who are transferred to the Dept. of Defense payroll. It also assures a cost-of-living allowance that will compensate workers for increased expenses that will result from the loss of access to military commissaries and post exchange facilities. A Senate improvement also applies the allowance to future employees recruited outside of Panama.

Unions will seek, however, to retain provisions in the House bill but not in the Senate version to assure that the U.S. minimum wage will apply at all workplaces and installations operated by the United States. The House bill also provides stronger wage protection for Panamanian employees of the Defense Dept. and assures teachers at U.S. schools of sabbatical leaves.

The issues that are most likely to divide the conferees involve such matters as the makeup of the Panama Canal Commission. The Senate would set it up as quasi-government operation, similar to the present Panama Canal Company. But the House would establish it as essentially a government agency, subject to congressional oversight through spending authorizations and appropriations. Under both versions, as the treaty provides, the commission will have five U.S. and four Panamanian members.

In an unusual move, the House instructed its conferees to insist on the House-passed provisions on the structure of the commission.

House conferees will come from four committees that had jurisdiction over various portions of the bill—the Merchant Marine, Post Office & Civil Service, Judiciary and Foreign Affairs committees. The Senate bill was handled exclusively by the Armed Services Committee.

The Inflation Plague

INFLATION, which means higher prices throughout the American economy, has seriously affected the welfare of workers and their families over the past 10 years, and particularly severely in the first half of 1979. While inflation is a persistent problem not only in the United States but in other industrial nations, inflation has worsened in 1979 because of price increases in food, energy and housing.

The necessities of life—food, energy, medical care, housing and interest rates—have been key factors in the rapid inflation of the 1970s. These are areas where labor costs have little or no impact on prices. Wage-push does not explain current inflation.

Business profits have risen to historically high levels and to an above-average share of the nation's income. Meanwhile, the after-tax buying power of workers' paychecks has been declining as inflation erodes the value of the dollar. The Administration's wage-price policies have aggravated this disparate treatment of wages and profits. Moreover, recent tax changes help corporations and wealthy individuals and reinforce unfair income distribution in the United States.

Wage increases for the average worker have been eroded over the past few years by inflation and taxes. Real earnings are down from a year earlier and well below the level of five years ago.

High unemployment and low production also contribute to inflation. Unemployment means lost income and lost consumer buying power, lost business sales, high overhead costs, and low levels of investment in new, more efficient and productive plant machinery and equipment.

Full employment and faster economic growth, therefore, are essential parts of an effective anti-inflation program.

THE UNITED STATES EXPERIENCED a long period of relative price stability from the time of the Korean War in the early 1950s until the late 1960s when Vietnam War spending added price pressures to a booming economy. High interest rates and tight-money policies during the Nixon-Ford-Burns years brought serious unemployment and recessions in 1969-70 and 1973-75, but also—contrary to economic theory and contrary to the Nixon-Ford-Burns game plan—brought still higher prices and higher inflation.

The experience of simultaneous high unemployment and high inflation—"stagflation"—seemed impossible according to traditional economists' expectations that nations can bring down inflation if they are willing to accept more unemployment. But since 1970 the United States has been plagued continually by the twin maladies of simultaneous high unemployment and high inflation.

Today, high interest rates are again threatening the nation's economic vitality. The Federal Reserve Board has raised the discount rate to an all-time record and commercial bank prime rates are at near record levels. Home mortgage rates are again well above 11 percent and are pushing the cost of housing beyond the reach of many Americans.

Policies dealing with inflation must take into account the total economy. Such policies cannot ignore the big variations in price change, and the particular price problems related to food, housing, energy and medical care. Profits and interest rate levels affect income distribution. Inflation is not explained just by wages.

—From "Inflation: Tracing the Causes" in the July 1979 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

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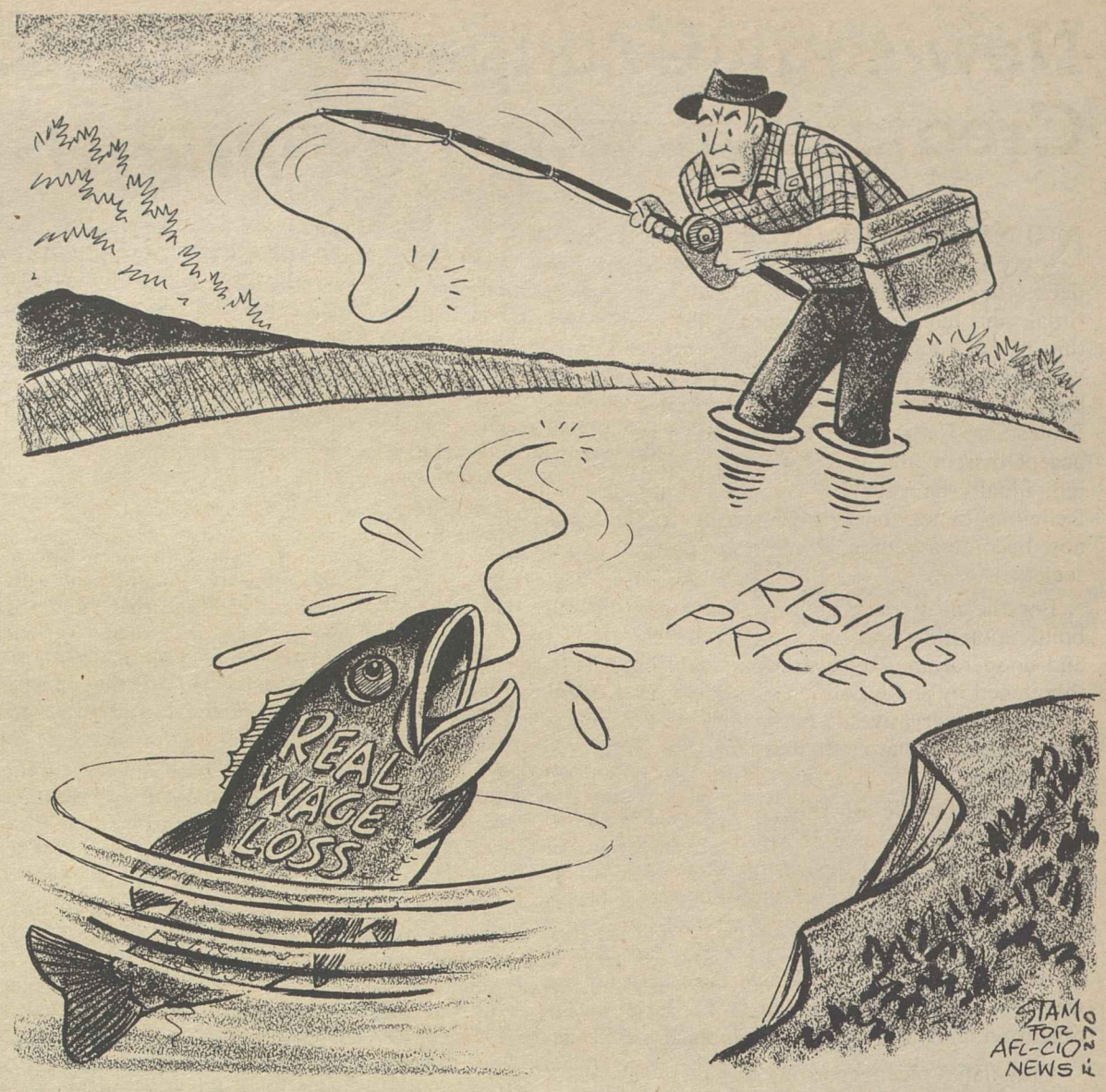
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Coming Up Empty



Community Involvement:

New Corporate Responsibility Could Check Runaway Plants

By Gus Tyler

UP TO NOW, a company had the right to move a plant from one state to another, from one country to another, without any ifs, ands, buts or by-your-leaves. Now there's a move in Congress to change all that: an employer would have to give two years' notice of closing and would have to compensate employees who lost their jobs.

This proposal is an attempt to do by law what unions have not been able to do by collective bargaining: to check the "runaway" plant.

For a union, the closing of a factory here and the opening of the same (or similar) factory elsewhere is a triple threat. First, the employed workers lose their jobs. Second, competition from the new plant, where wages are generally lower, lowers the general wage in the industry. Third, relocation is a management weapon against which the unions have no effective defense.

Some labor organizations have written clauses into their contracts to inhibit or forbid plant removal. But such clauses are generally valid only so long as the contract is in force. Once the agreement expires, the factory may disappear.

In many instances, employers merely have to threaten a shutdown to kill a union organizing campaign or to drive a hard bargain.

In recent years, the ravages of removal have multiplied as companies relocate their plants overseas. So long as the shifts in the worksite were within our national boundaries, unions could pursue the "runaway." By legislation, it was also possible to set minimum standards of wages and other conditions that would include non-union companies.

But relocation in another land leaves the union powerless. In many of the foreign sites, unionism is illegal; where legal, unionism is weak or operates in such an economy of poverty that negotiated wages are only a fraction of those in the United States. The company is also beyond the reach of American law so far as working conditions and wages go.

Up to recently, the "runaway" has been a headache mainly for unions in light manufacture, such as textile, apparel, boots and shoes, electronic assembly, etc., where plants were small and machinery light so they could be dismantled and assembled almost overnight. But, in the last few years, giant plants have been folded up only to be reopened in distant lands.

In the past, the thought was that workers who lost employment in light manufacture would find jobs in heavy manufacture. That consoling notion is less convincing as the capital-intensive plants move overseas.

Although the proposal is novel, it is not quite as revolutionary as it appears. The idea of "corporate responsibility" has been growing in our times. The proposal would establish a corporation's "responsibility" both to its employees and to the community in which it is located.

Other countries, with free enterprise economies and democratic constitutions, have laws governing plant relocation.

If nothing else, the proposal will open up the question of the relationship between a corporation and the community or country in which it was born, where it grew up and where it made its money.

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Rights of Workers Still Not Secure

People frequently ask me, don't I think the labor movement is too strong. My answer is no. I think the labor movement is too weak.

I think that it needs strengthening and that we need particularly to change the policy that makes it possible for some people to make a conscious decision to obey the law or to disobey it with respect to collective bargaining.

It does not mean much to guarantee workers' rights if there are no penalties against the violation of those rights. If workers can be discharged with impunity for engaging in collective bargaining or in union activites, then that right is not very secure. . . .

That was one of the main reasons that we fought hard for labor law reform.

I think that is still unfinished business that we have got to do.

—Labor Sec. Ray Marshall at briefing for labor editors.

Encouraging Bigotry:

New Right's Religious Linkage Creates Ominous Atmosphere

By Bayard Rustin

NO NATION ON EARTH has a greater variety of religions than the United States. Indeed, the great diversity of religious sentiment, ritual, and belief has long been a distinctive feature of our society. As one might expect, this diversity has occasionally led to ugly social conflict, but on the whole religious groups—whether Protestant, Catholic or Jewish—have learned to accept dissent and to recognize the rights of all individuals, be they believers, or non-believers. Religious belief, once a source of friction, has now become a benign, even an enriching force in society.

For the most part, church groups continue to build upon this fine tradition of mutual respect and cooperation. However, this tradition is now threatened by some politicians, almost all of them extreme conservatives, who have set out to politicize religion in an extremely narrow and self-serving way.

As an example of this, a new organization called Christian Voice is worth examining. On the surface at least, this group seems rather innocent. It claims to do nothing more than represent the spiritual interests of America's large and steadily growing community of fundamentalist Christians. But Christian Voice does little in the way of ministry; instead it is a large, well-organized, and lavishly-financed lobbying machine.

Christian Voice, according to Newsweek, seeks "to fuse the single-issue zeal of the nation's religious activists on such issues as abortion and school prayer into broad-gauge support for conservative policies on such general issues as the economy, diplomacy in Africa and SALT II."

In short, it plans to actively enlist the support of God on a wide variety of purely secular issues from gun control and the Panama Canal treaty to right-to-work laws and the federal budget. Whether God has a position on these matters is, I believe, highly questionable. But the leaders of Christian Voice seem more than willing to second-guess their Creator.

So far Christian Voice has been rather candid about its ultra-conservative political philosophy. Its advisory board, a sure indication of its ideological leanings, includes several senators, all of them ambitious and outspoken figures on the New Right. Perhaps even more telling is the group's decision to hire a former staffer from the American Conservative Union (ACU) as its full-time legislative director. ACU, of course, has opposed virtually every piece of liberal pro-civil rights, and pro-labor legislation of the last two decades.

While I find the extreme rightward tilt of Christian Voice very disturbing, I am even more concerned about something else: the attempt to narrowly define "Christian" and "anti-Christian" positions on a multitude of issues, most of which have nothing to do with basic morality or religious values.

By my way of thinking, there is no "correct" Christian position on military spending, Proposition 13, the size of the public sector, or a Carter-Reagan presidential contest. A person could come down on either side of anyone of these questions and still remain a good and loyal Christian. But many of the militants associated with Christian Voice will, of course, argue that "true" Christianity—true as they see it—demands rigid adherence to a political line. In their eyes, God must surely be a registered Republican, a gun-owner, a Reagan supporter, and a firm believer in a balanced budget.

THIS TIGHT LINKAGE of partisan politics and religion has at least two ominous implications. First, politicians who cynically exploit the genuine religious feelings of Americans by labelling positions as truly "Christian" as opposed to "anti-Christian" will be muddling serious political debate. Rather than discussing issues and programs on their real merits, we may soon find ourselves thrust into fruitless and absurd debates about God's supposed position.

Second, by drawing clear battle lines between "true" Christians and the defenders of sin, we risk fracturing our society into two warring camps, each convinced of its own righteousness and the depravity of its opponent. Such a development, I believe, will surely encourage bigotry, narrow-mindedness, and fear—things which we can certainly do without.

Private Sector Concerns:

Government Holds Vital Role In Expanding Energy Systems

IF THE PRIVATE SECTOR fails to expand and develop energy sources to meet the severe energy crisis, federal and local governments should fill the void by expanding their existing energy production and distribution systems, AFL-CIO Associate Legislative Director Ray Denison, said on Labor News Conference.

Denison pointed out that legislation now moving through Congress will give the private sector a "virtually guaranteed price" and "virtually guaranteed market," but cautioned that there is still no assurance from the industry that it will accept and follow through on that responsibility.

If industry doesn't do the job, "the federal or local government should step in and do it, just as we did with TVA" and other massive energy projects, Denison declared. He noted that governments at all levels "are now in the energy business" through their ownership of municipal power companies, and should be able and prepared to expand their present operations.

He said that the federation is "very encouraged by the way the Congress is moving" to shape an effective and durable energy plan. He expressed optimism that the program outlined by President Carter, the thrust of which was endorsed by the AFL-CIO, will form the basic foundation of that legislation. He said that there is already good progress on key segments of the program, such as "the Energy Mobilization Board, which will deal with high priority projects, synthetic fuels and gasohol, gas rationing programs" and other essential elements.

Denison noted that while there must be heavy emphasis on getting the plants and production under way, there also must be strong assurances that such programs as the development and marketing of alternate fuels don't fall under the control of the large oil companies.

"If that happens, they will suffocate them," he warned.

Denison said the AFL-CIO is convinced that the nation's energy needs can be met without weakening clean air and clean water standards.

Labor opposes scrapping environmental standards, he said, both because they are needed and because of a ripple impact on other protections. "We fear that a general waiver of standards in this country would also encompass health standards, safety standards and work standards, as well as environmental standards."

On nuclear power, he said the AFL-CIO considers nuclear energy a necessary ingredient of an energy program. But labor is as concerned as any other segment of society that safeguards are such that workers and people in surrounding communities are fully protected.

While the AFL-CIO believes that "the President made a mistake in decontrolling crude oil, we do support the windfall profits tax on the oil companies or anyone else who is profiting as a result of the energy crisis."

The windfall profits have been taken in the first place from the pockets of America's consumers, Denison noted, and as much as possible should be channelled back.

Questioning Denison on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.



By Press Associates, Inc.

DESPITE MORE THAN 40 YEARS of national experience with the Fair Labor Standards Act, every new effort to raise the minimum wage floor inevitably is greeted with warnings of impending doom.

Employer organizations tell anybody who'll listen that increasing the rate by 5 or 10 or 15 cents an hour will be the last straw—countless small businesses will be forced to shutter their doors.

And there are economists who insist that a boost in the minimum wage will be the fuse on a stick of inflationary dynamite.

Both groups, wringing their collective hands, warn that a higher wage rate will force perhaps hundreds of thousands of layoffs, thus adding to the welfare rolls and increasing everyone's burden.

According to a new study to be published by the Johns Hopkins University Press, there's a degree of truth in those arguments. But, say the study's authors, the negative effects of increasing the minimum wage are far outweighed by the positive benefits for the national economy and America's working poor.

In their book, "More than Subsistence: Minimum Wages for the Working Poor," economists Sar Levitan and Richard S. Belous look at "the other side of the coin." While most research to date has examined only the employment effects, Levitan and Belous concentrate on the impact of the minimum wage on productivity and income.

Levitan and Belous reject the argument that rising minimum wages are a prime factor in higher prices. The rate of inflation would still have been a serious problem, and not significantly lower, if there had been no wage floor established, they say. They argue that by establishing a wage floor, the government protects the interests of low wage earners in an economy where other groups are pressing for wage gains by exercising market power.

TO ARGUE AGAINST a minimum wage increase because it might fuel the fires of inflation and boost prices, they say, is to make the assumption "that the working poor should be imbued with public spirit and be willing to place the common good above their needs."

The benefits of a minimum wage are manifold, declare Levitan and Belous. They found that employers often responded to an increase in the minimum wage with efforts to raise productivity, improve training and change work schedules.

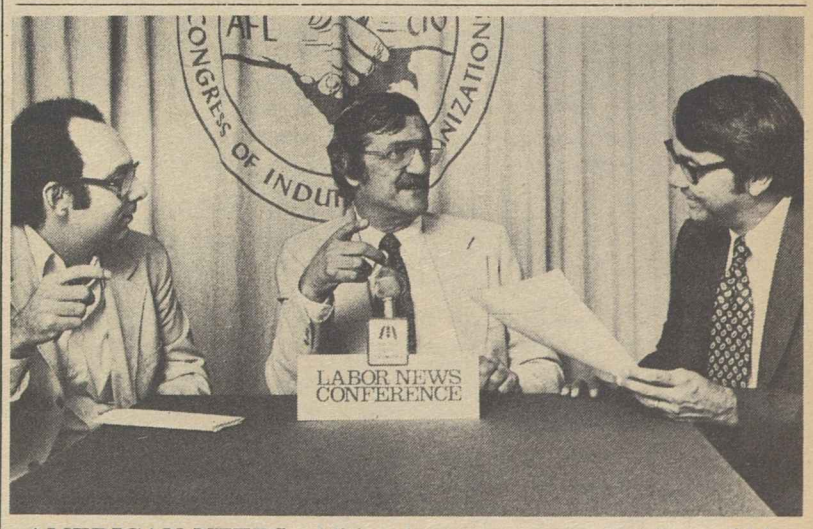
They say the minimum wage is "a statistically significant force" in reducing destitution among American workers, noting:

"While work is often viewed by policymakers as the road out of poverty, millions of people are active workers, but they still cannot support their families at a minimally acceptable level above the formally recognized poverty threshold.

"A large segment of the American workforce cannot work its way out of poverty. . . . Despite the fact that work has not been the salvation for millions of poverty families, the poor have shown an almost amazing propensity—given the circumstances and meager rewards—to work."

In 1976, they note, there were about 7 million destitute Americans who could be potential members of the labor force. Yet, during that year, 6.6 million people with incomes below the poverty level worked, including 4 million people who worked fulltime and about 2.6 million who had part-time employment. Roughly one million family heads worked fulltime all year, yet still remained in poverty. "To date," they say, "the minimum wage has been the most comprehensive program designed to help the working poor."

They also say the role of the wage floor must be considered in a mature welfare state. "Clearly our society must avoid paying individuals on welfare more thay they can earn for working. The economic and social consequences of ignoring this maxim would be disastrous. Yet we cannot have our cake and eat it, too. The maintenance of a vigorous work ethic . . . will become increasingly difficult without a strong wage floor."



AMERICAN NEEDS additional energy sources, but it would be a mistake to rely on the big oil companies to control the development of alternative fuels, AFL-CIO Associate Legislative Director Ray Denison said. Questioning him on Labor News Conference were David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc., left, and Frank Swoboda, right, of the Washington Post.

Rollcall on Anti-Busing Amendment

The House voted 216-209 against a proposed constitutional amendment that would have prohibited busing as a tool for desegregating schools—even when the schools are segregated deliberately.

As the AFL-CIO sees it, the 176 Democrats and 40 Republicans opposed to the amendment were right (R). Wrong votes (W) for the amendment were cast by 95 Democrats and 114 Republicans.

Numerals show House districts; absentees are marked "A."

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) A
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Flippo (D) W
6. Buchanan (R) R
7. Shelby (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) R

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Stump (D) W
4. Rudd (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) R
2. Bethune (R) R
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Anthony (D) R

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Matsui (D) R
4. Fazio (D) R
5. Burton, John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Royer (R) W
12. McCloskey (R) R
13. Mineta (D) R
14. Shumway (R) W
15. Coelho (D) R
16. Panetta (D) R
17. Pashayan (R) W
18. Thomas (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Beilenson (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Dornan (R) W
28. Dixon (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D) R
32. Anderson (D) W
33. Grisham (R) W
34. Lungren (R) W
35. Lloyd (D) W
36. Brown (D) R
37. Lewis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Dannemeyer (R) W
40. Badham (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) A
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Kogovsek (D) R
4. Johnson (R) R
5. Kramer (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) R
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Ratchford (D) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL Evans (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Hutto (D) W
2. Fuqua (D) W
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) W
8. Ireland (D) W
9. Nelson (D) R
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Mica (D) W
12. Stack (D) R
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) R
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Fowler (D) R
6. Gingrich (R) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Evans (D) W
9. Jenkins (D) W
10. Barnard (D) W

HAWAII
1. Heftel (D) R
2. Akaka (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Stewart (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) W
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary (D) W
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) R
11. Annunzio (D) W
12. Crane, Philip (R) W
13. McClory (R) R
14. Erlenborn (R) R
15. Corcoran (R) W
16. Anderson (R) R
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) R
19. Railsback (R) R
20. Findley (R) R
21. Madigan (R) R
22. Crane, Dan (R) W
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Benjamin (D) R
2. Fithian (D) W
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Quayle (R) W
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) W
7. Myers (R) W
8. Deckard (R) W
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) W

IOWA
1. Leach (R) R
2. Tauke (R) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) R
2. Jeffries (R) W
3. Winn (R) W
4. Glickman (D) R
5. Whittaker (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) W
2. Natcher (D) W
3. Mazzoli (D) R
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) R
6. Hopkins (R) W
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Livingston (R) W
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) W
4. Leach (D) A
5. Huckaby (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) W
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) A
2. Snowe (R) R

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Mikulski (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Barnes (D) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) W
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Shannon (D) R
6. Mavroules (D) R
7. Markey (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) Speaker
9. Moakley (D) W
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Donnelly (D) W
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Pursell (R) W
3. Wolpe (D) R
4. Stockman (R) W
5. Sawyer (R) W
6. Carr (D) R
7. Kildee (D) R
8. Traxler (D) W
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Albosta (D) W
11. Davis (R) W
12. Bonior (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) W
15. Ford (D) W
16. Dingell (D) W
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) W
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Erdahl (R) R
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) R
4. Vento (D) R
5. Sabo (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Stangeland (R) W
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Hinson (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Young (D) W
3. Gephardt (D) W
4. Skelton (D) W
5. Bolling (D) A
6. Coleman (R) W
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Volkmer (D) R
10. Burlison (D) W

MONTANA
1. Williams (D) R
2. Marlenee (R) W

NEBRASKA
1. Bereuter (R) R
2. Cavanaugh (D) R
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) W

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) W
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) A
5. Fenwick (R) R
6. Forsythe (R) A
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Hollenbeck (R) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Courter (R) R
14. Guarini (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Carney (R) W
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) W
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Ferraro (D) W
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) W
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) R
18. Green (R) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Weiss (D) R
21. Garcia (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (D) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) R
29. Solomon (R) W
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Michell (R) W
32. Hanley (D) R
33. Lee (R) W
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) R
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Lundine (D) R

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) R
3. Whitley (D) R
4. Andrews (D) R
5. Neal (D) W
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) R
8. Hefner (D) R
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Gudger (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Luken (D) W
3. Hall (D) W
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) W
7. Brown (R) R
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) R
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Pease (D) R
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Applegate (D) W
19. Williams (R) W
20. Oakar (D) W
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) W
23. Mottl (D) W

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) R
2. Synar (D) R
3. Watkins (D) W
4. Steed (D) R
5. Edwards (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) R
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) R
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Myers (D) W
2. Gray (D) R
3. Lederer (D) W
4. Dougherty (R) W
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) W
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Kostmayer (D) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) A
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Ritter (R) W
16. Walker (R) W
17. Ertel (D) R
18. Walgren (D) W
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) W
21. Bailey (D) W
22. Murphy (D) W
23. Clinger (R) R
24. Marks (R) R
25. Atkinson (D) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Campbell (R) W
5. Holland (D) R
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Daschle (D) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Bouquard (D) W
4. Gore (D) R
5. Boner (D) W
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) W
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Hall (D) W
2. Wilson (D) R
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Mattox (D) R
6. Gramm (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Leath (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Wyatt (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Stenholm (D) W
18. Leland (D) R
19. Hance (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Loeffler (R) W
22. Paul (R) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Frost (D) R

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Marriott (R) A

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Trible (R) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) R
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) R
2. Swift (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) R
5. Foley (D) R
6. Dicks (D) R
7. Lowry (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) W
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) W
4. Rahall (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) W
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Petri (R) R
7. Obey (D) R
8. Roth (R) W
9. Sensenbrenner (R) W

WYOMING
AL Cheney (R) W

Basic Necessities Soar:

Inflation Struggle Hits Working Poor

Inflation is producing "extremely adverse effects" on the working poor and touching off "a bitter struggle for survival" as ever higher prices affect basic necessities, the National Advisory Council on Economic Opportunity declared.

In its 11th annual report to the President, the council, set up in 1967 under the Economic Opportunity Act, assessed the current economic situation of high unemployment and rising prices as making the suffering of the poor in America more severe than ever.

The council's 120-page report contains an analysis and recommendations on inflation, unemployment, job training and job and economic development as well as an evaluation of the Community Services Administration and its various subgroups.

In a letter to the President accompanying the report, Chairman Arthur I. Blaustein called for a higher priority at all levels for the plight of the poor who suffer the "real life consequences" of limits on government programs and solutions such as California Proposition 13.

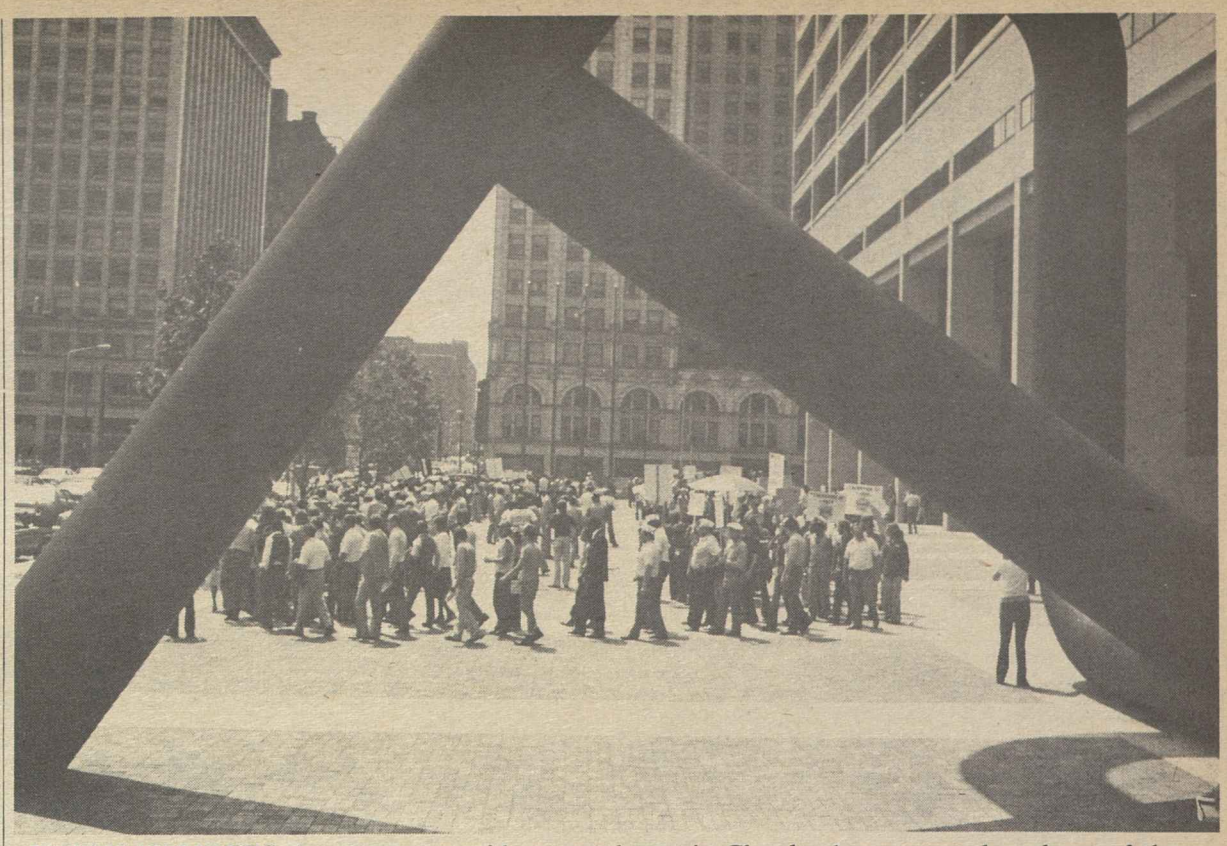
"It is an illusion," the report said, "to think that by simply balancing the budget or gutting social programs or increasing unemployment, inflation will somehow be stopped. The experience of the 1970s has shown that in a mild recession output decreases and unemployment goes up but inflation doesn't go down."

The report urged a sector-by-sector approach in dealing with inflation in the basic necessities—food, energy, medical care and housing—as the key to dealing with the problems of the poor.

The council stressed that unemployment for the poor is a particularly "traumatic and crippling experience" and that the resulting damage and need for increased social services is expensive to every strata of society.

It cited evidence indicating a direct relationship between unemployment and an increase in crime, high infant mortality, the dissolution of families, child abuse and declining physical health.

The council called on the Carter Administration to take necessary action to help the poor weather the impact of recession and inflation with more funds earmarked for community-based organizations involved with community development and action programs.



UNION MEMBERS demonstrate outside a courthouse in Cleveland to protest the release of three security guards accused of killing a striking member of the Upholsterers on a picket line in January 1978. Judge James J. McGettrick had halted the murder trial of the three after declaring that prosecutors failed to present adequate evidence for he jury.

Labor Helps Stem Budget Amendment

(Continued from Page 1)

But "the battle is not over," Meany stressed, and the labor movement can't afford to relax its vigilence. Some state legislatures are still in session and others will be meeting next year.

"We must continue our efforts to defeat the right-wing campaign to straightjacket Congress with the rigidity of a balanced budget mandate," Meany said. Congress must retain its capability "to meet economic crises with legislative solutions."

Congress Modifies Cut In Amtrak Rail Service

(Continued from Page 1)

bination of the energy crisis and ridership data showing that a substantial increase in the use of trains had begun even before the gas lines helped swing congressional sentiment toward a continuation of service. Rail unions joined with consumer and environment groups in a Coalition for Amtrak Revitalization.

In other congressional developments:

● The House passed an Administration-sought bill to give the President standby authority to ration gasoline in the event of a severe fuel shortage. But it loaded the bill with so many restrictions and exemptions that a deadlock with the Senate appeared likely.

A White House statement termed the House bill "a modest beginning" but said it "clearly needs improvement before the President can sign it."

Amendments adopted by the House included opening big loopholes in the month-old cooling and heating requirements for non-residential buildings, and provisions to reserve special fuel supplies for farm tractors and set aside heating oil reserves for cold-climate states.

● **A House-Senate conference committee on the appropriations bill for the Labor Dept. and the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare adopted a restriction the Senate had voted on job safety and health inspections in establishments with 10 or fewer workers that have had low job injury rates.**

The Senate restriction was a compromise adopted in place of a much more damaging amendment that would have excluded more than 70 percent of business establishments.

Under the appropriations bill rider, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration would be allowed to enforce toxic substance regulations, to investigate serious accidents and to respond to employee complaints—even in the smallest shops. But OSHA couldn't impose a penalty on an exempt firm unless an employer failed to correct an "imminent danger" or remedy a "willful violation" of the law within "a reasonable time."

● The House passed a maritime bill authorizing construction and operating subsidies for U.S. vessels in the same amount the Senate had approved. But it adopted several labor-opposed amendments that will have to be resolved in conference.

One House-added amendment limits the size of the crew on vessels receiving operating subsidies, under a formula keyed to Coast Guard minimum manning levels. Another amendment put restrictions on the use of federal funds with the declared intent of preventing any passthrough to research and maritime promotion groups such as the Transportation Institute, a joint union-management operation.

On the plus side, the House defeated attempts to cut operating subsidies and to allow subsidies to foreign-built vesels registered under the American flag.

Unions Urge Federal Pay Hike of 10.3%

The Government Employees and other federal unions called for a 10.3 percent comparability wage increase for all white-collar federal workers and military personnel.

The proposed increase is based on a Bureau of Labor Statistics salary survey of professional, administrative, technical, and clerical workers in the private sector.

Meanwhile, the staff of President Carter's pay agent has recommended a 9.96 percent comparability adjustment for the same employees. The difference between the two figures results from the methodology employed in calculating the increase. The unions would apply their wage increase across the board. The agent's staff would vary the increase according to grade.

Under procedures governing white-collar pay, the agent's staff will submit its proposal to the Secretary of Labor, the director of the Office of Management & Budget, and the chairman of the Office of Personnel Management.

President Carter imposed a 5.5 percent "cap" on federal white-collar workers' pay last year, and has said he will impose the same ceiling this year.

The federal unions, which resigned from the Federal Employees Pay Council en masse last year to protest the 5.5 percent limit, charged in a statement that "if federal workers are placed under mandatory wage controls for the second straight year the President will sound a death knell for the principle of comparability."

Comparability between private and federal workers' pay was the intent of the 1970 Federal Pay Comparability Act. Adjustments are made on Oct. 1 each year.

AFGE President Kenneth T. Blaylock, noting that living costs rose 10.3 percent during the time of the BLS survey (March 1978 to March 1979), said that the recommendation of the pay agent's staff is added evidence of the failure of the Administration's wage and price controls.

"The restraint urged under the program has never materialized," he said. Besides AFGE, the other labor organizations that quit the Pay Council last year were the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., and two unaffiliated unions.

Cleveland Unions Assail Halting of Murder Trial

Cleveland—More than 700 unionists demonstrated at the Cleveland Justice Center plaza to protest the freeing of three security guards charged with murdering a striking union welder.

Common Pleas Judge James J. McGettrick halted the trial of the three on June 13 when he ruled that the prosecution had failed to present enough evidence to let the case go to the jury.

The three security guards, imported from Chicago, had been accused in the fatal shooting of Thomas Moss, Jr., 39, outside Bargar Metal Fabricating Co. Moss was a member of Upholsterers Local 48.

The union members paraded in the large plaza and carried signs calling for an investigation of McGettrick's ruling.

Cleveland AFL-CIO President Mel Witt and Executive Sec. Sebastian Lupica told the unionists that the federation has asked the Cleveland Bar Association and the chief justice of the Ohio Supreme Court to investigate the judge's decision.

The federation also is pressing for passage by the city council of an ordinance that would regulate security guards and ban the use of guns on union picket lines.

Ben Shouse, president of the Upholstery union local, said the method in which the prosecutor's office pursued the case should be examined carefully by the bar and the high court. "We must have all the facts in this case," Shouse declared.

The Moss slaying on a quiet picket line at night had shocked the Cleveland labor community. Mayor Dennis J. Kucinich was one of the first to visit the picket line after the slaying and ordered police to quickly find and arrest those responsible. The three guards were arrested in a suburban motel soon after and charged with the killing.

Cost-Benefit Analysis Opposed on Regulations

The AFL-CIO endorsed the goal of trying to make the government regulatory process more effective but said portions of legislation being considered by a Senate Judiciary subcommittee could make matters worse.

Laurence Gold, the federation's special counsel, said any consideration of the impact of regulation has to begin with the laws a regulatory agency is charged with administering.

Regulations are intended to enforce laws and carry out the directives of Congress, Gold noted. But "too often the regulator is subject to multiple and conflicting statutory commands."

Gold stressed labor's strong insistance that any legislation providing for an analysis of the impact of proposed regulations "forthrightly reject a rigid cost-benefit analysis approach." As an example, he cited federal air safety requirements and asked whether Congress wants such issues as DC-10 safety determined on a cost basis.

In another area covered by bills before the subcommittee, Gold expressed the AFL-CIO's opposition to proposals that administrative law judges be selected from a common pool and serve for fixed terms.

As contrasted with a completely judicial system, Gold said, administrative law judges should be experts in the areas of their jurisdiction.

"The qualifications for an administrative law judge who is going to be employed by the Civil Aeronautics Board and an administrative law judge who is going to be employed by the NLRB, aside from intelligence and good character, have very little to do with each other."

Gold said the AFL-CIO, as an organization that is subject to regulation as well as seeking regulatory action in many areas, applauds steps to encourage regulators "to think through the problems before them" and to explain fully the reason for their actions.

But he urged that regulatory reform not be made an excuse for making the process "so cumbersome that no regulations issue."

AFL-CIO Petitions Court:

New Hearing Asked In Guidelines Case

The AFL-CIO has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to reconsider its denial of appeal of a case challenging the Administration's wage-price guidelines.

It filed a petition with the court asking for a rehearing of the court's 6 to 3 decision July 2 that in effect left standing a U.S. Court of Appeals ruling upholding the Carter Administration's right to deny federal contracts to firms that exceed the wage guideline set by presidential order.

Because the control of inflation is an important national goal, the court should finally determine whether the President's executive order is legitimate or conflicts with congressional legislation and intent in barring mandatory controls, the brief said.

AFL-CIO General Counsel J. Albert Woll and Special Counsel Laurence Gold contended that the President's anti-inflation program imposes official compulsion on collective bargaining and that the President's wage standard places a "disproportionate share of the burden of inflation on working men and women — millions of whom are represented by petitioners and will be governed by the judgment in this case."

Jutices William Brennan, Byron White and Thurgood Marshall voted to hear the AFL-CIO appeal. In refusing to hear the case the majority did not rule on the merits of the argument or state its reasons for turning down the petition.

The AFL-CIO contends that the government's guideline program is unconstitutional because its threat to withhold federal conracts exceeding $5 million to firms found to be in violation of wage-price standards makes the program mandatory instead of voluntary.

A federal district judge in May agreed with that argument and found that the President had usurped powers reserved to Congress but was overturned on June 22 by the appeals court, which ruled that Carter had the authority to impose purchasing sanctions under the 1949 Procurement Act to consider "economy" and "efficiency" in government procurement practices.

The decision to challenge the wage-price guidelines in the courts was taken in February when the AFL-CIO Executive Council approved filing suit on the constitutionality of the program. A primary party to the suit with the AFL-CIO was the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and a number of other unions involved in bargaining new contracts, including the Rubber Workers.

Rubber Union Gains Pact At Armstrong

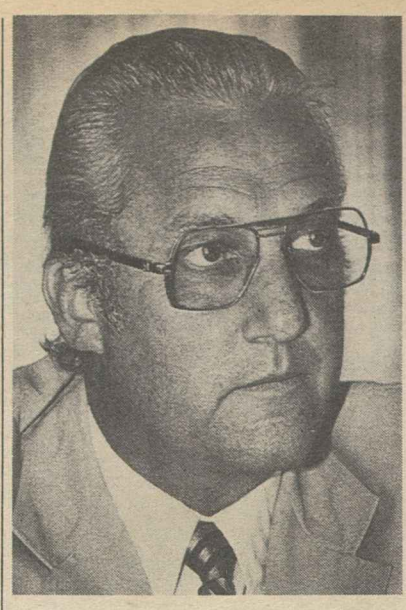
Akron, Ohio—The five Rubber Workers locals representing about 3,300 URW members at Armstrong Rubber Co. have ratified a new three-year agreement that is patterned after the union's master accord reached earlier with major U.S. tire makers.

The new contract, retroactive to July 13 when the old agreement expired, provides a general wage increase for production workers of 32 cents an hour this year and hourly increases of 20 cents each in 1980 and 1981.

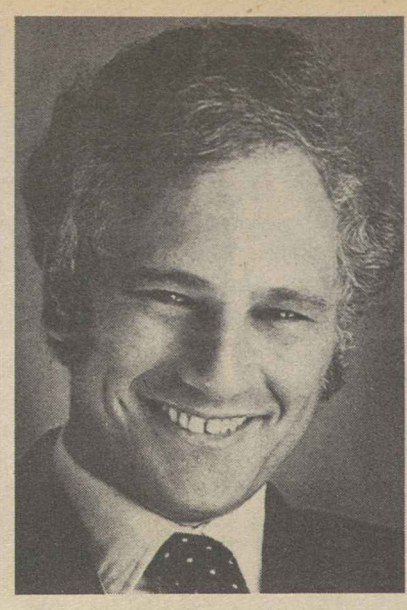
In the second year of the agreement, quarterly cost-of-living adjustments of 1 cent an hour will be made for each .26 rise in the government's Consumer Price Index, up from the current 1-cent raise for every .3 rise in the CPI.

The new contract also contains a neutrality clause that prevents the company from interfering with the URW organizing efforts at other Armstrong facilities. Similar clauses are contained in URW agreements with Firestone, B. F. Goodrich, Uniroyal and General, but not with Goodyear.

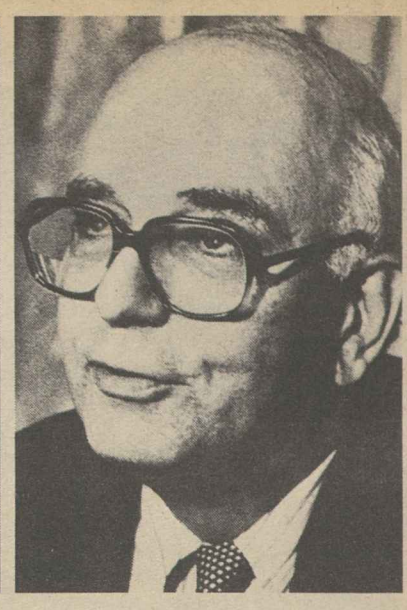
The URW said it expects to have results shortly of ratification votes on new contracts with Uniroyal, Firestone and General, which got under way July 28.



MOON LANDRIEU



NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT



PAUL VOLCKER

Court Directs Negotiations At Shipyard

Pittsburgh—The way should now be cleared for Tenneco's Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. to "come to the bargaining table resolved to negotiate a contract," the Steelworkers said of a new federal court ruling.

The ruling by the 4th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, was that the company violated federal labor law in its refusal to bargain with a 1,200-member unit of marine designers who voted for representation by the Steelworkers.

Steelworkers' President Lloyd McBride said the court, in upholding a previous NLRB ruling, "has once again put the law on the side of the union and adds to the company's long record of labor law violations."

The designers' unit has been on strike at the Virginia shipyard since early 1977. The court ruling declares it to be an unfair labor practice strike, affording the workers the protection of federal law in retaining their jobs.

Specifically, the court said the company committed an unfair labor practice by insisting on removing 500 of the 1,200 workers from the bargaining unit.

A unit of 15,500 production workers at the shipyard has also voted for representation by the Steelworkers and is also without a contract some 18 months after the representation election.

Two Mayors Appointed In Carter Cabinet Shifts

President Carter completed the reshuffle of his Cabinet, nominating Neil E. Goldschmidt to be Secretary of Transportation and Moon Landrieu as Secretary of Housing & Urban Development.

Goldschmidt is mayor of Portland, Ore., and Landrieu served two terms as mayor of New Orleans and served as president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

In another high-level appointment that could have even more impact because it is for a 14-year term, Carter nominated Paul A. Volcker as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board. Volcker, an economic conservative who has been president of the New York Federal Reserve Board, indicated at his Senate confirmation hearing that he favors a tight-money policy to hold down inflation.

Meanwhile, the Senate moved towards swift confirmation of Carter's four earlier Cabinet nominees—Patricia Roberts Harris as Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare; Benjamin R. Civiletti as Attorney General; Charles W. Duncan, Jr., as Secretary of Energy and G. William Miller as Secretary of the Treasury.

Despite criticism by members of Congress of the President's abrupt revamping of his Administration, his new appointees were given friendly receptions at Senate hearings and it appeared that at least the first group would be confirmed before Congress recessed until after Labor Day.

The new appointments for the first time gives mayors representation in the Carter Cabinet, shoring up what had been seen as a political weakness in the Administration.

Goldschmidt, who is 39, replaced Brock Adams, a former House member who left the Cabinet with a sharp blast at the White House staff and its controversial job evaluation forms.

Landrieu, 49, fills the vacancy left when Patricia Harris was shifted to HEW.

Still to be filled are a number of openings at the under secretary and assistant secretary level, including the Labor Dept. post opened by the appointment of Under Sec. of Labor Robert J. Brown to the National Mediation Board. A long-vacant Labor Dept. position was filled with Senate confirmation of William P. Hobgood as assistant secretary for labor-management relations.

While the President said his Cabinet is now complete, the changes are expected to continue for some weeks at the subcabinet level.

Unions Win Atlanta Vote At Winn-Dixie

Unions won two of three representation elections at a Winn-Dixie warehouse in Atlanta despite management's use of all the tactics that have brought a nationwide consumer boycott against the supermarket chain.

Meanwhile, the boycott was given a lift when the 30,000-member Women's Political Caucus voted in convention in Cincinnati to support the boycott and work on behalf of Winn-Dixie workers.

The elections in Atlanta saw the United Food & Commercial Workers win one unit in a meat fabricating section of the warehouse and the unaffiliated Teamsters split in two elections among drivers and beverage employees.

UFCW regional director Roy Williams described company tactics during the representation election as those Winn-Dixie traditionally uses against workers who try to form a union. Included were threats to close the warehouse and "one-on-one intimidation" during the election campaign.

What's Sauce for 13 Strikebreakers Is Sauce for 817 URW Strikers, Too

Bedford, Va.—Union members at the Rubatex Corp. plant here can't spend their $100 bonuses yet. But a federal appellate court ruled they are entitled to the money. The decision was stayed, however, by the company's request for a Supreme Court review.

It all stems from a 1976 strike by Local 240 of the Rubber Workers, when the company sought to maintain some production with supervisors and the handful of bargaining unit workers who crossed the picket line. After the strike was settled, the company thanked those who worked during the strike and gave each of them a bonus.

Nine union members who worked during the strike each got a full $100 bonus and four who worked part of the time received $25 checks. There was no bonus, of course, for the 817 union members who stayed out until the strike was settled.

A unanimous NLRB panel found this to be an unfair labor practice and ordered the company as a remedy to pay $100 bonuses to all of its workers.

The 4th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals agreed that the company had committed an unfair labor practice by granting special benefits to workers who did not take part in the strike. And two members of the three-judge panel agreed that the NLRB was within its rights in ordering the payment of full bonus, with interest, to the union members who participated in the strike.

The one dissenting judge found the penalty against the company "punitive" and said an order directing Rubatex not to reward strikebreakers in any future labor dispute would have been adequate.

The court majority noted, however, that while the sum involved was "substantial," it amounted only to the equivalent of several days pay and "does not seem unduly burdensome."

The appellate court decision was handed down shortly before negotiations were to begin on a new contract.

AFL-CIO to Open Convention Nov. 15

The 13th Constitutional Convention of the AFL-CIO will take place in Washington, D.C., beginning Thursday, Nov. 15, 1979.

The meetings of the convention will be in the Sheraton Park Hotel.

Wages Increase 8.2% In Major 1979 Pacts

(Continued from Page 1)

53,000 employees, or 39 percent of those under the first-half settlements.

The average duration of contracts negotiated in the first six months was 32 months, down only slightly from the 32.7 months the last time the parties negotiated.

In manufacturing, negotiated wage increases averaged 9.6 percent in the first year and 8 percent per year over the term of the contract. Non-manufacturing provided average gains of 7.7 percent in the first year and 6.5 percent per year over term. In construction the first year figure was 9.2 percent and 8.2 percent over term.

During the first half of 1979 wage increases were received by 6.1 million workers in major collective bargaining units averaging 5.7 percent. This represented a combination of deferred wage increases, COLA adjustments and new settlements.

8/4/79

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Council Presses Program For Solving Energy Crisis

Wholesale Prices Up 1.1 Percent

Wholesale prices climbed sharply in July, foreshadowing continued double-digit inflation as the price markups get passed on to consumers.

Surging energy costs paced a sharp 1.1 percent rise in the producer price index for finished goods — more than double the five-tenths of 1 percent increase for June.

While food prices were unchanged, other finished consumer goods—items that will go directly to the retail stores—jumped 1.9 percent, the largest monthly rise in this category since October 1974.

Energy prices fed the wholesale price inflation both directly and through the ripple effect of pushing up other costs of production.

Wholesale gasoline prices soared another 3.9 percent in July, on top of increases of 3.7 percent and 4.2 percent for the previous two months.

Home heating oil price increases were even more severe—a 9 percent wholesale rise in July after increases of 8.4 percent and 5.4 percent in the previous months.

Overall, the cost of all non-food items in the Bureau of Labor Statistics wholesale index rose 1.4 percent.

While the food index was unchanged, there were signs of a future upturn. Prices of food products needing further handling or processing rose substantially.



RESOLUTION on ratification of the SALT II Treaty is discussed by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas, Lane Kirkland, as Vice Presidents Murray H. Finley, left, and Lloyd McBride follow the text.

Ratification Supported:

SALT II Endorsed, Tied to Stipulations

Chicago—The AFL-CIO will support the SALT II treaty if the Senate resolution on ratification contains provisions for development of the MX missile and a move toward genuine reduction of warheads in early discussions on SALT III.

These stipulations—which require no changes in the treaty or response from the Soviet Union and are in line with the Carter Administration's own testimony—are essential to the goal of significant reductions in strategic arms, the Executive Council said.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told reporters that SALT II is a continuing process, and the nation must move toward heading the arms race curve downward. There is "no alternative to trying" in the next round for a real test of genuine arms control, he said.

The council had a long and "very good discussion" on the issue, he added, arriving at a "broad area of consensus" after hearing a variety of viewpoints. Two members of the council, Vice Presidents William W. Winpisinger and Murray H. Finley asked to be recorded in opposition to the statement, Kirkland said.

The council statement noted that the SALT negotiations, begun 10 years ago, have failed to curb the nuclear arms race or stabilize the "strategic balance of power." There have been unilateral U.S. decisions to cancel or delay new weapons systems "while the Soviet Union has engaged in the most massive military buildup in peacetime history," the statement observed.

If U.S. inaction continues while the Soviets build to the high limits allowed in the treaty, the U.S. "would be in a position of gross inequality from which this nation could offer the Soviets no effective inducements to accept real arms reductions," the statement continued.

Therefore, it urged that the Senate, in its ratification resolution, stipulate that parity requires

(Continued on Page 6)

Asks Crackdown On Oil Monopoly

By Saul Miller

Chicago—The urgency of the energy crisis calls for strong measures to assure energy independence and bring the oil monopoly under control, the AFL-CIO declared.

The federation's Executive Council spelled out a series of actions to solve both the long-term and short-term aspects of the crisis involving conservation, a crash program to develop alternate sources of energy, the creation of government agencies to mobilize and fund the programs and to enact a meaningful windfall profits tax.

Expressing support for the thrust of President Carter's program, the council stressed, however, its opposition to the President's decision to decontrol oil prices and called for a reversal of the order.

As to the oil companies' monopoly, the council warned that if it "fails to adequately serve the public interest, consideration should be given to nationalization of the industry."

The energy statement, coupled with a warning of massive joblessness as the nation enters a period of recession and support for the SALT II treaty if the ratification resolution contains provisions for development of the MX missile and an early deadline for warhead reduction, highlighted the council's three-day summer meeting here.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland chaired the sessions, filling in for President George Meany who is recuperating from an ailment affecting his right leg. Kirkland said it was a good meeting with a "good council seriously concerned with the issues" facing the country and the world.

The council approved a series of statements dealing with health legislation, social security, housing, plant closing legislation, airline merger protections, credit deregulation, export of technology, the Westinghouse strike and the death of former Vice President Jacob S. Potofsky.

In addition to its carefully thought-out and fully debated position on SALT II, the council commented and took positions on developments in Chile, Nicaragua, South Africa, the Middle East, Northern Ireland, Indochinese refugees, defense spending and Soviet persecution of workers forming trade unions.

The sessions heard reports on the price watch program, the Louisiana AFL-CIO's plans for a campaign to repeal the state's "right-to-work" law, and the activities and progress of the Coalition of Trade Union Women.

(Continued on Page 3)

Stevens Suit Exposes Spying, Blacklisting

Milledgeville, Ga.—An aerospace company with a shared interest in preventing unions from getting a foothold in this central Georgia community admitted in a court deposition it sent its own "investigators" to help the local police spy on J. P. Stevens workers and union organizers.

The Grumman Aerospace Co. has kept unions out of its main plant on Long Island in New York. And it didn't want any unions in the vicinity of its Georgia plant. So it worked with other employers and with the mayor and police chief of Milledgeville in identifying and blacklisting union supporters.

That's just the latest "admission" in a civil damage suit filed by the Clothing & Textile Workers that has unraveled and spotlighted a classic anti-union conspiracy.

Documents filed with a federal court in nearby Macon read almost like a carbon copy of labor spying episodes that the LaFollette Committee spotlighted at Senate hearings 40 years ago.

So blatant were the admissions that the general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board has moved to reopen an unfair labor practices case in which an NLRB administrative law judge had dismissed charges that J. P. Stevens discriminated against two union supporters at the Milledgeville plant.

Since the unfair labor practice case was heard, NLRB General Counsel John Irving said, "newly-discovered evidence" resulting from

(Continued on Page 8)

Action Urged to Counter Recession Threat to Jobs

Chicago—America is facing the threat of massive joblessness on top of the acute problems of inflation and the energy crisis, the AFL-CIO warned, and it's time for the Administration and Congress to start planning and acting to meet the third recession in a decade.

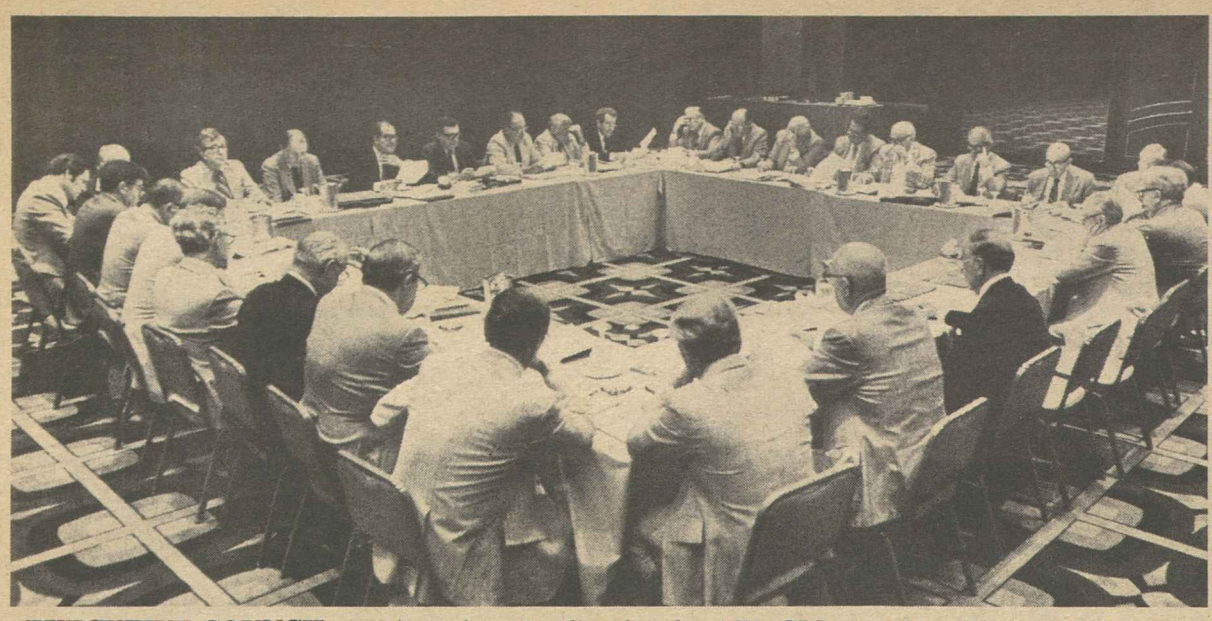
A replay of the deep 1973-75 recession "must be avoided," the Executive Council declared, and "nothing will be gained by inaction and delay."

The council stressed that "recession will not cure the problems of inflation and energy," that the keys to solving these problems are healthy economic growth and full employment.

It pointed out that the current recession is "starting from the highest level of unemployment experienced in any postwar recovery period." The unemployment rate at 5.7 percent is well above the 4.6 percent rate just before the 1973-75 recession when joblessness rose to 9 percent.

Tracing the rise of inflation and the drop in real average spendable weekly earnings of workers, the council noted that profits continue to increase, paced by oil company earnings, and the Administration guidelines on prices are loophole-ridden in stark contrast to the wage guidelines.

(Continued on Page 8)



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL members shaped policy for the AFL-CIO on a broad range of domestic and international issues during a three-day meeting in Chicago. The council called for a forceful program to achieve energy independence and curb the power of the oil monopoly.

Bills Backed to Lessen Impact of Plant Closings

Chicago—Legislation to protect workers and their communities from the economic impact of plant closings and relocation will have the AFL-CIO's full support.

An Executive Council statement welcomed the introduction of plant relocation bills in both the House and Senate, and summoned affiliates and AFL-CIO central bodies to "help lead the fight" for passage.

Senators Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), Donald W. Riegle, Jr. (D-Mich.), Rep. William D. Ford (D-Mich.) and a large group of co-sponsors have introduced similar bills providing:

- Advance notification of corporate plans for closing or relocating plants.
- Issuance of economic impact statements on the effect of the move, and investigation of the circumstances by the federal government.
- Assistance to plants seeking to avoid closings through federal procurement contracts, loans, loan guarantees and technical assistance.
- Worker protection provisions including transfer rights, relocation expenses, severance pay, pension protection, health care coverage and job training.

The bills differ in some specifics, but the substance and thrust are the same, the council noted. It urged that the legislation also deal with the adverse impact of closings on communities where the plants are located and the effect on the community tax base.

The AFL-CIO said that at hearings to be held after Congress returns from its recess, the federation intends "to spell out in detail the devastating effect of unilateral corporate decisions to relocate or close existing plants."

Both workers and their communities must be protected from "the disastrous results of closings and relocations," the council insisted.

Stepped-Up Housing Aid Asked to Counter Slump

Chicago—A step-up in federal housing assistance would hold back inflation and provide a needed "economic stimulus to counteract recession," the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

Housing shortages have caused severe inflation in both home prices and rents, the council noted, and high interest rates have contributed to both the shortages and the inflation rate.

A council statement put the need for new and rehabilitated housing at about 3 million units a year and expressed concern that the present expectation is for a continued decline in housing starts.

"The shortage is generating inflation in housing that will not be turned back until the supply of housing increases, particularly for those in need of assisted housing," the council said.

It called for expanded federal assistance, both for low-rent public housing and for rent subsidies in privately-built housing.

An increase in federally-assisted housing "can serve both to overcome the short housing supply that feeds inflation and provide an economic stimulus to counteract recession."

In a related area, the Executive Council expressed concern that the profit-taking trend of converting rental properties to condominiums has forced displacement of elderly renters and other limited-income households.

The council endorsed proposed condominium legislation that would include consumer protection provisions, including warranty obligations of the developer and national disclosure standards for buyers.

The legislation would require that tenants be given a minimum 120-day notice to vacate and a 60-day exclusive option to purchase when their unit is converted into a condominium.

Absolute Pardon Sought for Joe Hill

Chicago—A full and absolute pardon should be granted to Joe Hill, the labor organizer and songwriter who was executed by a Utah firing squad in 1915, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said as it joined in a petition to the governor of Utah.

The council noted that a number of historians and historical groups have called for a reassessment and rectification of the injustices against Hill. Similar posthumous pardons have been granted to Sacco and Vanzetti and Eugene V. Debs, who also suffered from anti-labor passions, the council pointed out.

Westinghouse Provocation Hit in Strike

Chicago — The strike against Westinghouse Electric Corp. by some 50,000 workers was provoked by management as part of an anti-union campaign, the AFL-CIO Executive Council charged.

"Westinghouse clearly has joined the ranks of major U.S. corporations bent on union-busting adventures," the council said. It cited published reports that the company is "dedicated to keeping unions out of new facilities" and union charges that management has been practicing bad-faith bargaining, including deliberate misrepresentations in negotiations.

The council said the company's hard-line stand on several key issues prompted the strike, now in its fourth week. The statement assailed Westinghouse for:

- Insistence on a take-away proposal for making the workers' pension plan contributory.
- Refusal to provide protections against plant closings and transfer of work to unorganized facilities in the United States and foreign countries.
- Adamant opposition to national bargaining rights for additional units and attempts to emasculate existing national bargaining units.
- Stubborn adherence to unnecessarily complex and costly grievance-arbitration machinery that would delay, or even deny, justice for union members.

The confrontation with Westinghouse, the council observed, is also a struggle to protect coordinated union bargaining, which has been successful at General Electric Co. and Westinghouse in the past.

Thirteen unions make up the coalition of the Coordinated Bargaining Committee at GE and Westinghouse. The three principal unions involved in the strike are the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers.

The council called on all AFL-CIO affiliates to support the striking union members in their effort to win a just settlement.

'Breach of Faith' Charged:

Labor Girds to Fight Disability Aid Cuts

Chicago—The AFL-CIO called for defeat of legislation that would cut back social security disability benefits and penalize particularly young workers with families.

An Executive Council statement charged that a bill approved by the House Ways & Means Committee would be a breach of faith with America's workers who have "paid their share" into social security and have "an earned right" to the law's protections.

The bill is expected to reach the House floor in September, after Congress returns from its recess, and the AFL-CIO will work as part of the Save Our Security coalition to defeat it, the council said. The coalition was formed early this year by more than 100 organizations concerned at Administration proposals to achieve budget economies by reducing or eliminating various social security benefits.

The disability insurance cut was the only Administration proposal cleared by the Ways & Means Committee. While the bill includes a few desirable features that would make it easier for a disabled beneficiary to try to return to work, its principal feature is strongly opposed by the AFL-CIO. The bill would change the formula for computing benefits so that workers who become disabled in the future would receive less compensation than present law allows.

Now, when a worker is disabled, his basic benefit is calculated as if he were 65 and retiring under regular social security. The formula allows the dropping of the five years of lowest earnings in calculating average income on which the benefit is based.

The committee-approved bill would eliminate the dropout of low-earnings years entirely for workers disabled before the age of 27 and reduce the dropout years for workers up to 47, thus lowering the primary benefit amount.

As a further restriction, the benefit ceiling would be set at 80 percent of a worker's lifetime average monthly earnings or 150 percent of his individual primary insurance benefit, whichever is lower. The family benefit limit would mean that a disabled worker with a dependent spouse and four children would receive no more in benefits than if he had only one dependent.

If the House bill were enacted, the average family disability payment for a person who made $12,000 a year before disability would drop from $9,070 under present law to an estimated $7,730.

The Executive Council statement stressed the hardship that eliminating the dropout years would mean for young workers with families.

"Since the early years of employment are often characterized by very low earnings, especially among minorities and women, the proposals would lower benefits—in some cases drastically—of those who need them most."

Further, the council said, a strong case can be made for improving rather than lowering disability benefits.

"The disabled need more cash income than they earned merely to maintain living standards . . .," the statement pointed out.

"For example, disabled workers usually lose valuable fringe benefits provided by their employers, particularly costly health care for themselves and their families. In addition, the disabled can no longer do for themselves many of the things they were formerly able to do and must hire others to perform these tasks."

As for the need to hold down social security costs, the Executive Council noted that disability benefit awards have declined, significantly lower future costs are now being projected, and the program is on a sound financial basis.

Moves Opposed to Lift Bank Interest Ceilings

Chicago—Abolishing interest ceilings for banks and savings institutions would feed inflation and hurt more consumers than would be helped, the AFL-CIO said.

The Executive Council acknowledged that persons with small savings accounts get a lower interest rate than those with large sums to invest in money certificates.

But if higher rates were to prevail, the council said, a few dollars extra in savings account interest would be more than wiped out by higher interest on loans and mortgages. Further, the ripple effect of higher interest charges on commercial loans would drive up prices generally, the council statement said.

It also opposed elimination of "Regulation Q" which allows savings and loan institutions to pay a slightly higher interest rate in order to attract deposits that are a major source of financing for home mortgages.

Such a move would curtail an already depleted housing market, the council said.

In a related area, the council opposed giving federal savings and loan associations more leeway to invest deposits.

The effect, the AFL-CIO suggested, would be to channel billions of dollars into non-housing investment and further push up interest rates.

The council reiterated the AFL-CIO's opposition to recession-breeding "tight money" policies to cool inflation and urged a more careful tuning of the economy through selective credit allocations which are allowed under the 10-year-old Credit Control Act.

The statement also supported pending legislation that would permit all types of banking institutions to offer interest-bearing checking accounts, as long as these accounts stay subject to interest rate ceilings.

Steelworkers Get 25-Cent COL Hike

Pittsburgh—A quarterly cost-of-living raise of 25 cents an hour and a general wage increase of 10 cents an hour went into effect Aug. 1 for some 400,000 Steelworkers employed in the basic steel industry.

A similar 25-cents-an-hour COL adjustment will go into effect Aug. 15 for another 30,000 USWA members in the can manufacturing industry, USWA President Lloyd McBride announced.

The USWA's 1977 agreements with the basic steel and container industries provide for a 1-cent-per-hour adjustment for every three-tenths of a point rise in the government's Consumer Price Index.

Council Spurs Attack on Energy Crisis

Keys Program to Nation's Needs, Asks Crackdown on Oil Industry

(Continued from Page 1)

Kirkland noted that many of the statements "go to the heart" of the problems of inflation, recession and the energy crisis and stressed that the labor movement is interested in solutions to these and other issues. Relationships with the Administration and Congress hinge on how these issues are handled, not on personalities, he stressed.

On the immediate issue of a windfall oil profits tax, the council statement stressed the need to use the tax funds for programs to develop new sources of energy, provide added mass transit facilities and "help lessen the impact of energy costs on those Americans whose incomes are insufficient to withstand higher heating oil and vehicle fuel prices."

The AFL-CIO called for a windfall tax rate of 85 percent rather than the 60 percent rate set in the House-passed measure and urged the Senate to defeat "any effort to weaken the tax either by exemption, phase-out, or by permitting a portion of the tax to be plowed back to the oil companies."

Stressing the stranglehold of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on price and supply decisions, the council called for creation of a government agency to determine the amount of oil to be imported, negotiate its price and allocate it to "best meet the needs and interests of all segments of society."

The statement renewed the federation's call for strong conservation measures including gasoline rationing and a wide range of energy efficiency standards and controls. It noted that conservation by itself cannot do the job. It said the task requires the investigation and potential use of all alternate energy forms including renewable sources such as solar, wind, gasohol, tidal and geothermal; nonrenewable sources such as coal and nuclear; and new areas such as waste matter, oil shale, tar sands and other synthetic fuels and solar power installations.

It said that "no energy source should be developed without complete research into methods of reducing adverse environmental effects."

On nuclear power, the council said "we believe that development of nuclear power must be accompanied by expanded research into technology to further reduce safety hazards, so that nuclear power will enjoy the public support it must have to become a significant energy source."

The statement called for expanding the proposed Energy Security Fund, designed to help finance the development of synthetic fuels, into an Energy Independence Authority to move into all aspects of meeting the energy crisis. It called for creation of an Energy Mobilization Board to expedite construction, warning that the board's power must not be permitted "to negate worker safety, civil rights, labor standards, anti-trust, environmental or health laws."

It reaffirmed labor's opposition to sale of Alaskan oil to foreign nations or swaps of the oil involving a third country, urged immediate construction of the northern tier pipeline to carry Alaskan oil to Midwest refineries, and greater shipment of oil in U.S. flag-tankers to minimize losses due to accidents.

During three news conferences, Kirkland made these points:

There is no alternative to pressing ahead with real arms reduction in terms of warheads in SALT III talks while assuring the U.S. protection by development of the MX missile, a position in accord with the Administration's testimony before Senate committees.

The financial condition of the Chrysler Corp. poses serious issues in terms of jobs, competition in the auto industry and community impact, and the federation would support steps by the government to keep the company afloat.

Gasoline rationing is supported as necessary by the AFL-CIO, but the preference would be for allocation of supplies rather than by rationing for individuals.

The wage-price guideline problem rests on a program of austerity across the board, except for the poor. There should not be austerity for workers and "bonuses, bribes and largess" to other sectors of society.

We are witnessing the growth of tolerance in private life in the country in ironic contrast to political intolerance via the growth of single issue movements.

The trade union movement is making progress despite the fashionable gloom-and-doom stories about the future of labor and the perversion of the federal labor law into an obstacle to organization. There have been changes in work patterns, a decline in employment in classic areas of trade union strength and a depletion of jobs because of imports, but the trade union movement has been successful in moving into new areas and there is substantial movement forward.

The next meeting of the Executive Council was set for Nov. 14, 1979, in Washington, the day before the opening of the AFL-CIO convention.



REPORTERS COVERING the three-day AFL-CIO Executive Council meeting at Chicago question Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland during one of the daily news conferences. Kirkland presided at the council sessions.

Rescue Efforts Backed For Indochina Refugees

Chicago—President Carter's decision to double the number of Indochinese refugees admitted to the United States each month was commended by the AFL-CIO Executive Council as it voiced its support for the decision to have the U.S. Seventh Fleet rescue "boat people" in distress.

U.S. failure to act would condemn tens of thousands of refugees to death at sea "and indelibly stain the national conscience," the council said.

The council statement singled out for special criticism, however, the action of the recent United Nations conference on Indochinese refugees for welcoming the Vietnamese decision to establish "processing centers" inside its borders for those expressing a desire to emigrate. The council emphasized that it is deeply opposed to expulsion of people from their own country "and is equally opposed to the establishment of centers in Vietnam which are likely to be little more than concentration camps."

It pointed out that the UN conference was only partially successful in securing increased commitments to permanently resettle refugees, funding for UN programs and additional transit camps. The nations now resettling most refugees—the United States, France, Canada and Australia were responsible for the bulk of new pledges. "Other nations are not doing enough," the council observed.

Carter pledged the United States to double the number of refugees admitted each month from 7,000 to 14,000.

The steady flow of refugees from Indochina is "testing the willingness of the free world to rescue and resettle these desperate people," the council said. It pointed out especially the "clear and brutal policy" of Vietnam in expelling the country's ethnic Chinese population, "hauntingly reminiscent of Nazi persecution of European Jews."

Labor Opposes Scheme To Shift Defense Funds

Chicago—The AFL-CIO reaffirmed its strong opposition to proposals to shift $15 billion from the defense budget to domestic social programs as based on illiberal views that each sector can only advance at the expense of the other.

The so-called transfer amendment, the Executive Council said, is essentially erroneous for it measures the amount of money to be spent on social welfare on the ratio of social to defense spending, not on the relationship of social spending to social needs. The level of defense spending should depend on the assessment of the military threat to the nation's interests not on a comparison with social spending, it said.

The council stressed that "the defense budget was not designed to be and should never become a jobs-creation program. Nor should the production of lethal weapons be raised or lowered as a means of fighting inflation. The only moral justification for defense spending is the military threat to our interests."

In assuming that the only source for revenue for social programs is the defense budget, the proponents of the transfer amendment "fall into an essentially illiberal view which ultimately may work against their proclaimed ends," the statement declared. "They set the stage for those conservatives who would cite our defense needs as an excuse to cut social programs."

The council noted that the last AFL-CIO convention had adopted a position that efforts to cut back military spending "by fixed dollar or percentage amounts without reference to the adequacy of military forces to meet the real threats to the peace should be rejected."

Clothing Union Pioneer Jacob S. Potofsky Dies

New York—Jacob S. Potofsky, president of the Clothing Workers for 26 years and a former vice president of the AFL-CIO who devoted most of his life to the American labor movement, died Aug. 5 here. He was 84.

As a 15-year-old pants-pocket maker, Potofsky participated in the historic 1910 Hart Schaffner & Marx strike in Chicago that led to the formation of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America in 1914.

And as a founder of the ACWA and an intimate associate of the union's first president, Sidney Hillman, Potofsky went on to serve the Amalgamated in a number of leadership positions. The union merged with the Textile Workers in 1976 to form the ACTWU.

Meeting in Chicago this week, the AFL-CIO Executive Council adopted a special resolution in recognition of Potofsky's "lifetime of dedicated service to the trade union movement," including 18 years on the council.

Potofsky was elected to the council at the 1955 AFL-CIO merger convention. The resolution noted that he "served with distinction until 1973, bringing to our deliberations a mature wisdom and an unfailing and exemplary commitment to the trade union cause."

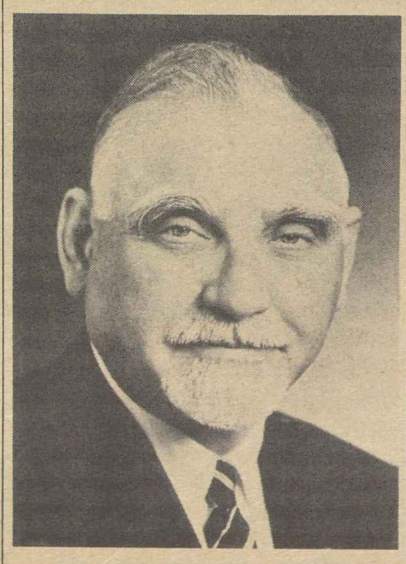
Potofsky emigrated from the Russian Ukraine with his family when he was 11. At age 13 he went to work for $3 a week in the Hart Schaffner & Marx plant in Chicago. In 1912 he became treasurer of Pantsmakers Local 144 and was designated office manager of Locals 39 and 144 the following year.

After the ACWA was founded, he became secretary-treasurer of the union's Chicago Joint Board. In 1916, he went to New York as ACWA's assistant secretary-treasurer, serving until 1934 when he was named assistant president. In 1940, Potofsky was elected secretary-treasurer and went on to succeed Hillman as president in 1946.

Potofsky continued to head ACWA until his retirement in 1972, when he was designated president emeritus. He remained active as chairman of the union-owned Amalgamated Bank of New York until early this year.

In the early 1930s, Potofsky led the ACWA's campaign to organize the cotton garment industry where workers were earning as little as $3 a week. The successful drive brought an additional 100,000 members into the ACWA.

Potofsky was also a leader in the formation of the CIO and served on its executive board until the AFL-CIO merger.



JACOB S. POTOFSKY

Release Sought For Unionists Jailed in Russia

Chicago — Three leaders of a Soviet workers' group seeking trade union freedom have been arrested in Moscow, and the AFL-CIO Executive Council asked President Carter to seek their release.

As the council was meeting, word came of the arrest of Vladimir Borisov, Nicolai Nikitin and Albina Yakoreva in the apartment of their attorney on trumped-up charges of "hooliganism" and resisting authority. Borisov was one of six Soviet dissidents invited by AFL-CIO President George Meany to the federation's 1977 convention, and Mrs. Yakoreva is in an advanced stage of pregnancy.

The three are members of the executive committee of the Free Interprofessional Association of Workers. The AFL-CIO said their arrest confirms that the official Soviet trade unions exist merely "to control and discipline the workers in the interest of the state."

The Energy Agenda

WE BELIEVE THAT all potential energy sources should be developed. Goals should be established for alternate forms of energy to replace specific amounts of oil and natural gas. At the same time, however, no energy source should be developed without comparison research into methods of reducing adverse environmental effects.

We urge that a very substantial commitment be made towards advancing solar, gasohol and geothermal technology. Greater development of solar energy and gasohol, for example, would enable many Americans to substitute these sources for oil or natural gas.

The nation cannot afford to ignore coal and nuclear energy, despite environmental dangers. Greater use of scrubbers and technology to extract more energy from coal effluent, including cogeneration, would offset air pollution through greater production of energy.

The nation must never relax stringent health and safety regulations governing nuclear power, and immediate, careful attention must be devoted to solving the problem of nuclear waste disposal. We believe that development of nuclear power must be accompanied by expanded research into technology to further reduce safety hazards, so that nuclear power will enjoy the public support it must have to become a significant energy source. We advocate development of technology which turns nuclear waste into reusable fuel.

TO FINANCE the high cost of technology to develop synthetic fuels, the President has proposed a multi-billion-dollar Energy Security Fund, which we support. Since private capital has failed or refused to risk making loans to develop this technology, the federal government must provide loan guarantees, direct loans, price guarantees and be empowered to launch projects of its own, patterned after the TVA concept. The federal government must also bear the responsibility and expense for expanded research into any potential environmental hazards which may result from development of synthetic fuels.

Therefore, the Energy Security Fund should be expanded into an Energy Independence Authority, with the federal government also making loan guarantees and loans for research and development of new conservation technology and production of oil and gas from public lands.

This authority should also have the power to cancel and take over leases of public lands to private corporations where a company has capped productive wells. America must make more efficient use of the energy it has, and the government should encourage research into improving energy productivity.

—From AFL-CIO Executive Council statement, Aug. 6, 1979, Chicago.

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Turn It On!



Crumbling the Cement:

Educational Voucher Proposal Could Wipe Out School System

By Gus Tyler

THE AMERICAN SYSTEM of universal, free public school education, now about 150 years old in this country, is in deep danger. It can be wiped out through educational "vouchers" by which parents may send their kids to any school they please and pay for the cost with vouchers provided by the government.

The voucher idea has easy appeal with its offer of open options. Children may choose schools that are black or white; near or far away; peopled predominantly by Italians, Poles, Jews, or Haitians; run tight or loose in the strict tradition of Catholic and Lutheran parochial schools or in the casual anti-tradition of Summerhill or the many "village schools."

To many conservatives in the country, the voucher idea is the embodiment of free enterprise philosophy: get the government out of all business, including education. To some radicals, the same idea is an instrument to disestablish the educational "establishment."

Both proponents and opponents are agreed that vouchers are a direct challenge to our system of public education, since parents can select private schools for their children and can do so at public expense. Those who are for it proclaim vouchers as a step toward liberty; those who are against it fear that vouchers will mean anarchy in our schools that will dangerously fragment our society.

When public schools were established way back in the 1830s, one of the prime purposes was to create a common ground where children of different classes, religions, and ethnic communities could meet. The school was to be a sort of social cement.

Since that time, this vital role of the public school has become more important than it was at the time of Horace Mann. In recent years, other "cements" have crumbled—like church, community, political parties and even the family. The school is the great "socializer" of the young—so much so that in many cases the load is breaking the back of the educational system as it is called upon to play the many roles once given to father and mother, priest and minister, district leader and social worker, even doctor and hospital.

The voucher would crumble the educational cement. The prime power in the new schools that will spring into being to grab as much voucher money as possible will be the educational huckster. You may count on him to appeal to every prejudice to enroll kids in his kind of school. You may be certain that he will know how to operate through churches, ethnic societies, racial groups, and all kinds of sects—political or religious—who feel safe only when they are with their own.

The huckster—like the fundraiser in most enterprises—will become the real boss, although his expertise is in the world of money and not of the mind. In exchange for patronage, he will offer grades and degrees. Our elementary schools will become diploma mills.

The costs must be high. The fundraiser expects to be paid and paid well and, in the final analysis, he will set his own salary. The schools will be run—for the most part—for profit: and what goes for profit is money. To cull customers, the school will have to advertise: and that costs.

In this competitive setup, some salesmen will fill and overfill their classrooms while others will see their buildings go begging. All that empty overhead means more expenses and all those overstuffed classrooms will mean less education.

The government will have to pick up the bill for these popular playgrounds for the promotion of prejudice. And as the children pledge allegiance and mumble something about "one nation indivisible," they may well wonder just what that means.

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Full Measure of Quality!



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Job Programs Stressed:

Prompt Action Pressed to Ease Impact of Developing Recession

The following is from a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on the national economy, Chicago, Aug. 6, 1979.

THE ECONOMY HAS BEGUN another downturn, the third recession in a decade.

During the second quarter of this year, the nation's real gross national product declined by 3.3 percent. Consumer spending fell even more sharply—by 4.5 percent—as inflation continued to outpace income gains and erode purchasing power. Now, in addition to facing the problems of inflation and energy, America is again threatened by massive joblessness.

A replay of the deep 1973-75 recession must be avoided. Now is the time for the Administration and the Congress to start planning and acting on job-creating programs, quick-start public works, energy conservation and development, and a genuine, effective, fair, anti-inflation program.

Nothing will be gained by inaction and delay. Recession will not cure the problems of inflation and energy. Healthy economic growth and full employment are the keys, not the barriers, to energy independence and to success in the battle against inflation.

This recession is starting from the highest level of unemployment experienced in any post-war recovery period. Unemployment is still at 5.7 percent of the labor force, about six million workers. This unemployment level is well above the 4.6 percent rate just before the deep recession of 1973-75 when unemployment rose to 9 percent.

While many economists are "hoping" for a so-called minor recession, the government estimates unemployment could climb to 8 percent or more, or 2.5 million more workers unemployed. For these workers and their families, there's no such thing as a "mild" recession.

Inflation has worsened in the first half of 1979. Consumer prices have risen by 11.1 percent during the past year, and the rate of increase during the first half of 1979 was 13.6 percent, the highest six-month rate since the Korean War, and almost double the rate of the previous six-month period. The Administration's anti-inflation program has totally failed to hold down prices.

But the Administration's program has been effective in holding down workers' wages. In June the real average spendable weekly earnings of non-supervisory workers was 3.5 percent below the level of 12 months earlier. Wage increases have not accelerated, even though the rate of price change has nearly doubled from 6.9 percent to 11.1 percent.

Price increases have been particularly rapid in food, shelter, health care and energy, the basic necessities of life which make up about 60 percent of the total "market basket" for the typical worker's family. These items have been rising faster than the rest of the CPI market basket, and thus painfully undercutting the living standard of workers and their families, as well as retirees and the poor. The new OPEC price increases and deregulation of domestic oil prices will further aggravate the impact of inflation on low- and moderate-income workers and their families.

THERE ARE NO effective controls on prices and profits. The price-raising and profiteering actions of corporate America are contributing to inflation and the economic imbalance that are the prelude to deep and prolonged recession.

The recession-inflation-energy crisis requires immediate action. The economy's downward course must be reversed and the recession must not be allowed to feed upon itself. The AFL-CIO Executive Council, therefore, calls on the Administration and the Congress to move promptly on the following programs:

1. Expanding job-creating employment and training programs for adult workers and youth to meet present needs and the additional job needs of workers laid off because of the recession. New and/or expanded training programs will be needed to provide workers with the complete skills necessary for development of alternate energy sources and installation of conservation equipment.

2. Improving unemployment compensation and expanding it to protect more workers and support basic consumer buying power.

3. Enacting a standby public works program that can be ready to meet worsening unemployment.

4. Controlling and allocating credit toward productive public and private investment, including housing and family farms.

5. Regulating exports of food and other raw materials to prevent shortages and rising prices. A National Grain Board is urgently needed to deal specifically with heavy grain purchases by the Soviet Union.

6. Adopting an expanded program of targeted and standby countercyclical aid and other federal assistance for state and local governments to help meet continuing problems and blunt the effects of recession on urban areas.

7. Adequately funding federal housing programs to increase the supply of new and rehabilitated housing, including low rent public housing and Section 8 leased housing programs.

Some Problems Remain:

Gains Noted in Meeting Aims Of Pension Protection Law

MAJOR STRIDES toward the basic goals of the 1974 federal pension law have been made despite some problems with implementation and administration, said Lawrence Smedley, associate director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security.

Smedley said that both the stability of private pension funds and the certainty that workers will get the retirement benefits they have earned are enhanced under the standards and regulations that have flowed from ERISA—the Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

He cited creation of the Pension Benefits Guarantee Corp. and the Termination Insurance program as long-needed protections that have finally been realized under ERISA.

It is "good legislation," Smedley declared on Labor News Conference. He expressed optimism that its operations will tighten up and smooth out in the years ahead.

One of the biggest problems yet to be ironed out, Smedley noted, is dual jurisdiction, in which several separate federal departments and agencies have prime responsibility for various features of ERISA. He said the best solution would be that "all of this be coordinated under a single department," preferably the Labor Dept., or an independent single agency. He said the existing structure is unnecessarily complex, noting that "all of these provisions interact with each other, but one department or agency cannot make a decision without relating to another department or agency."

Smedley predicted that a recent Supreme Court decision that employers do not have to bargain with unions on changes and improvements for current retirees won't make a major change in what has grown to be a common practice. "A lot of unions do it, as you see happening in a number of major corporations," he noted, including the current negotiations in the auto industry, where the UAW has made improved pension protection for retirees a major goal.

Questioning Smedley on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Robert Barr of U.S. News & World Report and Kathleen Gill of the Bureau of National Affairs. Labor News Conference is aired weekly on the Mutual radio network.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

MILLIONS OF AMERICANS appear to be paying the price of inflation in the most valuable currency of all: good health.

The cost of medical care is rising at an annual rate of about 9 percent, and the overall inflation rate is in the 13 percent range. The result, according to a new survey on family health, is that millions of American families are making dollars-and-cents decisions that are a threat to their physical well-being.

- Some 19 percent of American families, according to the survey, are cutting back on the quality of their daily diets.
- Sixteen percent report holding off on having dental work done.
- Thirteen percent are putting off going for an annual physical examination.
- Eleven percent are not getting new eyeglasses they need.

The findings were reported by the research firm of Yankelovich, Skelly & White, Inc., in the third of a series of reports on the American family sponsored by General Mills. The results of the newest report, on "Family Health in an Era of Stress," were derived from a survey of 1,254 families including 2,181 interviews with various household members.

The findings add up not only to hard evidence of the effect of today's inflation on the health care of Americans, but underscore the need for long-range and substantive efforts to make that care affordable in the years ahead.

The survey found that as many as three out of four family members feel that medical checkups today cost too much for the average family to afford.

While 48 percent of all families studied reported that inflation has caused them to cut back on one or more health practices, the problem becomes even more severe for select groups. Some 56 percent of low-income families have cut back, while the figure rises to 60 percent for minorities and 72 percent for single parents.

THE SURVEY FOUND that many of the money-saving cutbacks were occurring in the area of preventive practices—in effect, people were avoiding expenses now at the risk of incurring even heavier financial burdens later.

In general, significant majorities viewed the government as having an important role to play in the effort to keep America healthy.

The survey found 58 percent of the family members surveyed "favor a national health bill because it will help all Americans." A minority 42 percent said they "oppose a national health bill because it will just be another giveaway program that will cost the taxpayer money."

The concept was favored by 62 percent of 18-to-34-year-olds and 65 percent of persons 65 years and over; 75 percent of minorities and 54 percent of whites; and 68 percent of those in a "low" socioeconomic status and 58 percent in a "medium" status. Of all categories surveyed—age, race and socioeconomic status—the only category in which a majority of those polled said they were against a national health plan were those in the "high" socioeconomic ranking. In that group 47 percent favored the plan while 53 percent were opposed.

The surveyors also found support for government rules and warnings on product safety, although many persons said such cautions often can be confusing. Still, 72 percent said "it is better to be safe than sorry"—the government should warn them even if the danger has not been absolutely proven. And 65 percent wanted the government to do even more to protect them from questionable products.

Clearly, the survey found, millions of Americans are being hard-pressed to maintain proper health care in this period of inflation. Clearly, it found, the majority of Americans want to see their government play a role in making health care affordable and in assuring that unsafe products are identified as such. And just as clearly, it would appear, the government should heed that mandate.



COMPLEX PROBLEMS have slowed full implementation of the federal pension law adopted five years ago, but major strides have been made toward the basic goals of the legislation, AFL-CIO Associate Director of Social Security Lawrence Smedley, center, said. Questioning him on Labor News Conference were Kathleen Gill of the Bureau of National Affairs and Robert Barr of U.S. News & World Report.

Council Backs Ratification of Arms Treaty

(Continued from Page 1)

"the modernization and development of U.S. strategic forces—including, and most particularly the MX missile based in such a mode as to survive a first strike by Soviet missiles."

The Senate resolution should stipulate also that SALT III negotiations will constitute a genuine, early and searching test of continuing reductions in strategic arms with limits not only on launchers but on warheads "to a level of parity" at least 30 percent below the existing level of the higher parity in the air, sea and land-based strategic nuclear forces.

The council declared that the U.S. must move from a mutual assured destruction deterrence theory to mutual non-assured destruction, that is, "to create conditions which make it impossible for either side to destroy the other as a viable society through a nuclear attack, or believe that it can."

Kirkland, in response to questions, said that the council position was not in conflict with the position of the Administration and was completely in line with the testimony of Defense Sec. Harold Brown. He added that it does not take the position advocated by Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) or former Sec. of State Henry Kissinger, both of whom have called for increased defense spending for a wide variety of programs and for a specified number of years.

He stressed that SALT is a continuing process, not an end in itself in the process of reducing the threat of a nuclear holocaust.



WOMEN WORKERS need union protection, and organizing remains a key goal of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, CLUW President Joyce Miller told the AFL-CIO Executive Council as she thanked the council for its support of the organization. At right is Federation Vice President Lloyd McBride.

Basic Safeguards Asked In Revising Export Law

Chicago—Effective safeguards must be included in legislation renewing the Export Administration Act to meet America's concerns on inflation, national security and energy independence, the Executive Council stressed.

While export expansion is vital to the nation's economy and its workers, the council said, it warned that "certain export activities can aggravate domestic inflation, especially when goods are in short supply."

Legislation now before Congress will replace the 1969 export law, which expires at the end of September. The Senate-passed measure addresses most of the AFL-CIO concerns in three critical areas, particularly on the transfer of security-sensitive technology to the Soviet Union and the swap or sale of Alaskan oil. The House will take up the legislation when it returns from its summer break in September.

The council statement said the sale of critical technology by "profit-hungry U.S. corporations" has aided the Soviet military build-up. It cited recent Soviet acquisitions of advanced computers, precision ball bearings, surveillance devices, and seismic equipment and pointed out that all of these have direct military applications.

The current export law limits the swap or sale of Alaskan oil, the council observed. "Without continuation of such limitations, Alaskan oil might be sold abroad or swapped in a manner that is detrimental to America's interests at the very time when our nation must develop a program of energy independence."

The House version of the legislation reported by the Foreign Relations Committee already has protections on Alaskan oil. The council said it supports amendments along lines adopted by the Senate to deal effectively with the export of critical technology. It also endorsed amendments to emphasize the development of U.S. technology for domestic purposes and restrict exports that contribute to inflation, such as recent exportation of scrap steel, hides and logs.

Comprehensive Care Pressed:

Catastrophic Plans Sap Health Funds

Chicago—The trade union movement remains committed to a comprehensive national health care program, and an AFL-CIO Executive Council resolution rejected "catastrophic insurance" bills that have been introduced in Congress as worse than useless.

The catastrophic bills would require families to pay deductibles of $2,500 to $3,500 before insurance benefits would be triggered. For moderate-income households, such a requirement "would in itself be catastrophic," the council said.

Because the chief beneficiaries of such a program would be upper-income persons who could afford the deductibles, the Executive Council branded catastrophic insurance "a program that robs the poor and gives to the rich."

As to the argument that catastrophic insurance would be the cheapest approach in terms of direct federal spending, the AFL-CIO retorted that "it is cheap only because so few people would benefit."

In terms of allocation of health dollars, catastrophic insurance would go for high-cost, high-technology acute care, which has been a big factor in medical cost inflation. The council said the same amount of money would be much better used for preventive services and early diagnosis and treatment.

The AFL-CIO affirmed its support for the Administration's hospital cost containment bill, which includes a "pass-through" of negotiated wage increases for low-paid hospital workers. The bill has been endorsed by the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee.

But the council statement expressed concern with the "unsatisfactory" versions that have been approved by the House Ways & Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee.

In a related area, the Executive Council strongly objected to proposals intended to make workers more "cost conscious" by requiring them to pay a share of their company's health insurance plan or, alternatively, require payment of deductibles before health insurance coverage begins. Employers wouldn't qualify for a tax deduction on health insurance provided for their workers unless this were done.

The AFL-CIO termed the reasoning "absurd" and stressed that the physician and not the patient decides what treatment is needed and what it will cost. The federation will vigorously oppose any such proposals, whether in separate bills or as proposed amendments to hospital cost containment legislation.

The council statement gave the AFL-CIO's endorsement to an Administration-proposed child health assessment program to improve health care for poor children under Medicaid.

But while supporting these various stopgap measures, the council emphasized that "over the long run," health care costs can be effectively controlled only by "a comprehensive and universal national health insurance program that provides for budgeting of health expenditures and negotiation of hospital charges and doctor fees."

That's what the Health Care for All Americans bill sponsored by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.) would do. And that's why the AFL-CIO continues to strongly support the bill, the council declared.

Guides Set for Widening Of Social Security Rolls

Chicago—Any proposal to extend social security coverage to groups of public workers not now covered must meet strict tests to assure that those affected aren't hurt by the change, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

At least four major studies of universal social security coverage are under way, and the council acknowledged the "very complex issues" involved.

It said the AFL-CIO will oppose any mandatory extension of social security coverage to all public employees unless all of these conditions are met:

- Pensions now available to government workers and their beneficiaries are not reduced.
- No additional cost is imposed on public employees "without a commensurate adjustment in benefits."
- The identity of present government workers' retirement plans is preserved.
- Employees will continue to have an opportunity to improve their retirement systems.

In a related area, the council reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's position that once a state or local agency has elected social security coverage, the protection "should not be wiped out by the unilateral action of their employers." The council endorsed legislation "to require public employers, whose employees are covered by social security, to maintain that coverage."

Carter Asked To Help Gain Ulster Peace

Chicago—Efforts should be made by President Carter to help achieve peace in Northern Ireland "and thus bring an end to the violence and terrorism," the AFL-CIO Executive Council urged.

It pointed out that both Protestants and Catholics are afflicted by the continuing violence and that human rights violations in Ulster have been well documented by numerous groups.

The U.S. government can no longer neglect the cause of peace in Northern Ireland merely because relatively small number of people are involved and the struggle is embarrassing to England—an old ally, the council said.

Citing U.S. efforts in working to solve disputes in other countries, the council said the United States can no longer "avoid its obligation to press the British government for a solution in Northern Ireland or avoid its obligation to offer mediatory assistance . . . to promptly achieve that end."

The statement also urged U.S. efforts to "encourage the British to plan conscientiously and act decisively now for what is inevitable to most outside observers—a future in which the island of Ireland will be governed only by the Irish."

Sirabella Appointed To Hotel Union Post

New Haven, Conn.—Vincent J. Sirabella, president of the Greater New Haven Central Labor Council since 1960, has been appointed administrative assistant to Hotel & Restaurant Employees President Edward T. Hanley.

Studies Sought on Jobsite Radiation

Chicago—Federal agencies with authority over on-the-job nuclear hazards should take immediate steps to establish effective standards to limit worker exposure to ionizing radiation, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

It cited particularly the need for a comprehensive health-effects study by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare on which the occupational radiation standards should be based.

Noting that organized labor has had "mixed experience" with government agencies operating in the area, the council urged that before any decision is reached for OSHA "to reassume its statutory authority" to regulate workplace radiation, a study be made to assure that workers are afforded the best possible protection.

Nicaragua Urged to Aid Revitalization of Labor

Chicago—The AFL-CIO called on the new junta government of Nicaragua to encourage the revitalization of the democratic labor movement and permit direct relations with the U.S. labor movement without government interference.

The Executive Council joined the Unified Confederation of Unions of Nicaragua (CUS) in hailing the downfall of the Somoza dictatorship, but warned there are indications that the new government is "becoming more and more a junta ruled by one man" and is forcing all trade union elements to merge.

AFL-CIO efforts to send immediate assistance to CUS have been stymied, the council reported, by the fact that CUS headquarters was completely destroyed by the Somoza National Guard. It added that assistance will be facilitated with the arrival of American Institute for Free Labor Development staff members in the country.

Noting that political circumstances are "unclear" and there are substantial reports indicating a closeness between some junta members and the Castro dictatorship in Cuba, the council said it would insist on direct relations with the democratic labor movement of Nicaragua "without governmental or other interference."

The Executive Council statement urged the Nicaraguan government to recognize International Labor Organization standards, especially including the freedom of association convention.

South Africa Scored on New Labor Curbs

Chicago—The new South African laws dealing with black workers and black unions are "a step backward" that could result in "still more arbitrary denials" of the rights of blacks and their unions, the AFL-CIO declared.

The South African government has distorted the findings of a special commission on labor legislation and deserves the condemnation of all democratic governments and free trade unions for its actions, the Executive Council said.

Last May the Wiehahn Commission on Labor Legislation made certain recommendations for reforming South African labor laws to eliminate local discriminations against black trade unions and black workers and to remove barriers to freedom of association among workers of different races, The law passed in July was condemned by the council as a distortion and step backward.

Congress Clears Bill:

Visa Curbs Imposed For Phony Unionists

Congress gave final approval to legislation urged by the AFL-CIO that is intended to curb official propaganda tours of the United States by puppet "labor leaders" from totalitarian countries and by officials of the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization.

The new visa restriction modifies the so-called McGovern Amendment that Congress enacted two years ago as a gesture toward international freedom of movement. Previously, foreign Communists and members of other proscribed groups needed a special waiver from the State Dept. and the Justice Dept. to be admitted to the United States.

Under the McGovern Amendment, they are routinely admitted unless the two departments certify that a person seeking to visit the United States would be a threat to national security.

The AFL-CIO made clear in congressional testimony that it did not seek to prevent visits to the United States by Communist officials as such or by union leaders from nations with free trade union movements who happened to be Communists.

But the federation strongly protested routine admission for propaganda tours of officials of self-styled unions who are actually agents of a dictatorship assigned to help control workers, not represent their interests.

Congress agreed, and the State Dept. authorization bill that cleared the House and Senate Aug. 2, just before the congressional recess, exempts labor front puppets and PLO officials from the McGovern Amendment.

To be admitted, such persons will need special waivers from the State Dept. and the Justice Dept.

The Senate had adopted clear language to that effect, while the House earlier had approved a more general provision allowing denial of admission to persons from signatory countries not in "substantial compliance" with the human rights provisions of the Helsinki accord.

A House-Senate conference committee easily resolved the issue by including both the stronger Senate version and the more general House language in the final bill.

Much of the work of Congress remains for the return of the House and Senate on Sept. 5, including final action on several appropriations bills and the shaping of a more detailed second budget resolution that will impose a rigid spending ceiling for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 1979. And starting probably in October, the Senate will be devoting much of its time to the debate over ratification of SALT II, the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty with the Soviet Union.

These are some of the last-minute actions Congress took before the recess:

- Final approval was given to an emergency bill that raised the ceiling on food stamp funds for the current fiscal year, averting severe hardship to millions of low-income recipients—more than 20 percent of them elderly.

The bill includes a statement that a household that includes a striker has to meet the same income, asset and work registration requirements that other household must meet to qualify for food stamps. As the floor managers for the bill made clear, that has always been the case and it doesn't change present law.

Still awaiting House action is a separate bill that would eliminate the requirement for advance authorization for food stamp funding, so that the adequacy of the program won't depend on whether Congress correctly guessed a year in advance how many people would be out of work or otherwise in need of help.

- The Senate voted 83-17 approval of an Administration-supported bill to step up economic development assistance to the nation's poorest areas. It would authorize $3.6 billion over four years for public works and economic development assistance in communities with low per capita income, high unemployment, low job growth or a proportionately large poverty population. "Pockets of poverty" in otherwise healthy cities would also qualify for assistance.

- The House, acknowledging the impact of inflation, voted to raise from $2.9 billion to $3.1 billion the amount of matching federal funds that states can receive for social services for children, the elderly and the handicapped. Within that ceiling, $200 million will continue to be earmarked for child day care services. If Congress does not act this year, the ceiling will drop to $2.5 billion under existing law.

By a narrow 204-199 vote, however, the House deleted a provision of the bill that would have made child welfare funds available up to the authorized limit without going through the uncertainties of the annual appropriation process.



SHEET METAL WORKERS have a key role to fill in the approaching solar energy age, President Edward J. Carlough told the union's business agents during a four-day conference in Boston.

U.S. Pressed To Safeguard Mideast Pact

Chicago—Any Arab nation that actively works to undermine the Israeli-Egypian treaty and obstruct the road to peace in the Middle East should be denied American weapons, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

The council welcomed the peace treaty and expressed the hope for normal neighborly relations between the two nations that would help discourage the resurgence of disruptive Soviet influence.

The statement urged the United States to continue to make its good offices available to Israel and Egypt and to live up to the specific commitments made by the United States in the treaty process. It urged the Administration to resist any pressures and threats that would weaken treaty provisions concerning the safety of Israel.

The council expressed the hope also that there will be cooperation in the trade union field so that the people of both countries "will be able to benefit from innovative social programs of the kind which Histadrut, the Israeli labor federation, has pioneered.

Energy, Job Gains Seen In Move to Solar Heating

Boston—The need for more rapid progress in the development and installation of solar energy heating units was emphasized repeatedly by speakers at the annual four-day Sheet Metal Workers business agents conference here.

"Solar in the 1980s is to the sheet metal worker what air conditioning was in the 1930s" was the message on a banner over the speakers' table at the meeting.

President Edward J. Carlough pointed out to the 500 union officials present that both solar energy installations and energy conservation work on existing buildings are job-creating functions. He quoted an early study by the Mitre Corp., a Boston-based engineering firm, that a 20-percent use of solar as an energy supply source would "double the number of sheet metal workers' jobs in this country."

At the same time, he pointed out that widespread solar installations will help free the country from heavy dependence on foreign petroleum sources, years before the synthetic fuels program announced by President Carter starts to produce major results.

Carlough expressed disappointment that the Carter program for distribution of the $83 billion revenues from the proposed windfall profits tax on oil products provides only about 2 percent for solar. That would give solar only about $3.5 billion in 10 years, and it would provide no more than $1 billion for conservation in a 10-year period, he pointed out.

Carlough made clear to the delegates that in supporting solar, he also "most certainly sees a need for the continuing development of nuclear energy." If the nuclear plants in New England were to close, Carlough said, the area would find itself in a "depression rivaling the 1930s."

Sec.-Treas. David Turner voiced criticism of Carter Administration economic policies, and, pointing to the high inflation rate, said "we deserve wage increases exceeding the guidelines."

Turner warned the union officials to be active in politics to forestall a victory by right-wing groups. "These people are seeking to go into several smaller states to spend money to 'buy the election' of their favorite candidates," he said.

President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. and President Joseph D. Keenan of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. each pointed to the heavy attacks on labor being mounted by conservative groups.

The conference also heard talks by Al Barkan, AFL-CIO COPE director, and Dan O'Sullivan, head of the Union Labor Life Insurance Co. Other speakers included Bill Fillippini, head of the National Training Fund, a joint employer-union apprentice training and journeyman updating program, and Jack Falvella, administrator of SASMI, the union-employer stabilization fund.

State-County Expands Program for Retirees

The State, County & Municipal Employees are stepping up efforts to organize the more than 2 million retired public employees across the country into chapters to strengthen their role in political and consumer interests.

In launching the campaign, the AFSCME's new Retiree Dept. cited the need to expand services for retired state and local employees. The department is headed by Jerry Clark, former director of political education for AFSCME.

The department will help state and local groups establish new chapters while expanding services to the existing chapters in a number of states.

Clark said retired trade unionists from the public sector who have fought to win improvements during their working lives are now striving to achieve improvements in their retirement years.

He said the department is well on its way to reaching an initial membership goal of nearly 75,000 by 1980.

In addition to assistance in setting up new chapters, the department will work with AFSCME's national and regional organizations in the development of political action training programs, grass roots lobbying and service centers.

Clark said monthly membership dues for retirees are 85 cents, with 10 cents going to the national department and 75 cents retained by local and state chapters.

Among various services the department will provide are a newsletter and film library on materials of interest to retirees.

Foreign Airlines Fought On Bid for U.S. Routes

Chicago—The AFL-CIO called on the Carter Administration to reject requests by foreign airlines to operate domestic routes in the United States, warning that such cabotage rights would adversely affect U.S. carriers and their workers.

The federation's Executive Council also urged Congress to oppose suggested changes in the 1958 Federal Aviation Act which the Administration is considering to allow foreign lines to unfairly compete with U.S. carriers on domestic routes.

The council further insisted that the Aviation Act be strictly enforced to prohibit foreign airlines from carrying local boarding passengers, cargo and mail on interior U.S. routes.

The council warned that granting cabotage rights to foreign airlines would:

- Jeopardize the job security of U.S. airline workers.
- Threaten the stability and security of the international air transportation system.
- Further erode the U.S. balance of payments position.
- Introduce wasteful and unnecessary flight operations in major domestic air transport markets.

Airline Merger Policy Scored

Chicago—An Executive Council resolution expressed the AFL-CIO's concern at a new Civil Aeronautic Board policy that would lessen worker protection when airlines merge.

The council challenged the CAB's interpretation of the Airline Deregulation Act passed last year, and said the agency clearly misread the intent of Congress.

As the AFL-CIO sees it, the law was intended to provide additional employee benefits to workers economically injured by deregulation, and not to take away long-standing protection.

An employee protection formula adopted by the CAB in 1961 has protected workers in 20 airline mergers since then, the council noted, and should not be abandoned.

The council resolution also asked Congress to amend the law to strengthen employee protections, citing various improvements that had been recommended by AFL-CIO airline unions at House hearings.

Little Real Change:

Unemployment Rate Edges Back to 5.7%

By John R. Oravec

The nation's unemployment rate edged up to 5.7 percent in July after dipping to a five-year low of 5.6 percent the month before. Because of seasonal adjustment problems during the summer months, the Bureau of Labor Statistics termed the jobs picture virtually unchanged from June.

While jobless rates for adult men increased to 4.1 percent from 3.9 percent and for full-time workers to 5.3 percent from 5.1 percent, the rate for women declined to 5.5 percent from 5.8 percent.

For white workers, the rate was unchanged at 4.9 percent. For black workers the rate dropped to 10.8 percent from 11.3 percent. Teenage unemployment held steady at 15.3 percent.

BLS reported that total employment as measured by its monthly survey of households rose by 450,000 to 97.2 million. But the bureau's survey of employers showed that nonfarm payroll employment was about the same as in June at 88.8 million.

BLS classified 5.8 million workers as unemployed during the month, an increase of about 74,000 from June. The number of workers who lost their last job rose by 175,000 in July, while the number seeking their first job declined by more than 90,000. The median duration of unemployment rose from 5.6 to 6.1 weeks.

And while the jobless rates for full-time workers increased two-tenths of a point, the rate for part-time workers declined to 8.2 percent from 8.6 percent, BLS reported.

The entire 450,000 increase in employment for July benefited adult women—both black and white, BLS said.

The civilian labor force expanded by 530,000 over the month to 103.1 million, and this represents a 2.4 million increase from July 1978. Women accounted for most of the over-the-year increase in the labor force.

The July jobless rate for white-collar workers, 3.2 percent, represented a decline from 3.4 percent in June, but the rate for blue-collar workers rose to 6.8 percent from 6.5 percent.

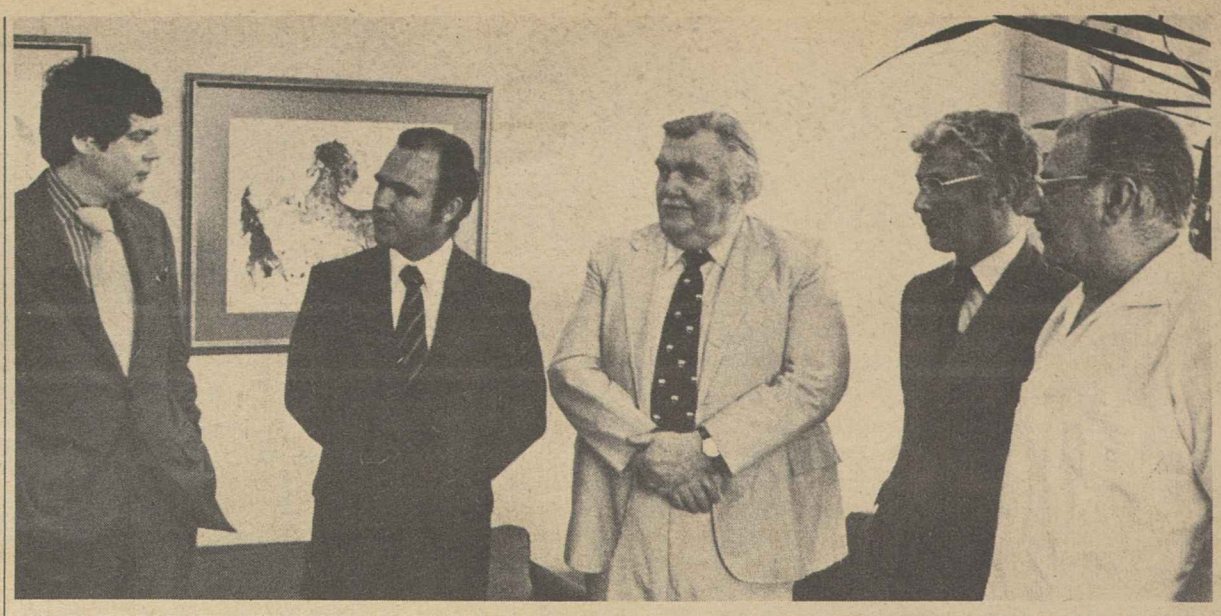
By industry groupings, the jobless rate edged down in construction to 9.5 percent from 9.6 percent, but climbed in manufacturing to 5.8 percent from June's 5.3 percent. Joblessness increased nearly a full percentage point in transportation and utilities to 3.9 percent, but dropped six-tenths of a point in wholesale and retail trade to 6.2 percent.

The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory workers on nonfarm payrolls was 35.7 hours, unchanged from both June and May, BLS reported.

In manufacturing, the workweek was up to 40.2 hours from 40.1 in June, but still well below the 1979 high of 40.8 in March.

Average hourly earnings for production workers in private industry rose seven-tenths of 1 percent in July. BLS said that its hourly earnings index was 7.6 percent above the figure for July 1978.

But for the 12-month period ended in June, BLS noted that when adjusted for inflation, the index showed workers' purchasing power in constant dollars was down 3 percent.



CONTINUING EFFORTS to win release from prison of Cuban revolutionary Huber Matos, Sr., were reviewed at a meeting of AFL-CIO representatives and Huber Matos, Jr., second from left. Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro had Matos jailed 20 years ago, after he resigned from the Castro government when he saw it turning Communist. Joining the discussions with the younger Matos were, from left, Tom Kahn, assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany; Executive Director William C. Doherty of the American Institute for Free Labor Development; Jesse Friedman, assistant director of AIFLD, and Andrew McLellan, the federation's Inter-American representative.

Action Urged To Counter Recession

(Continued from Page 1)

The action of the Federal Reserve Board in raising interest rates has further aggravated the situation and stepped up the need for action to keep the recession from feeding on itself. The council called for:

- Expanding job-creating employment training programs for youth and adult workers.
- Improving unemployment compensation and expanding it to cover more workers.
- Enacting a stand-by public works program.
- Controlling and allocating credit toward productive public and private investment.
- Regulating exports of food and other raw materials to prevent shortages and rising prices.
- Adopting an expanded program of targeted and standby counter-cyclical aid for state and local government.
- Adequately funding federal housing programs.

The council reaffirmed that "a comprehensive, mandatory legislatively-based anti-inflation controls program would be more effective and fair than the current Administration program."

Cost of Basic Necessities Shot Up in 2nd Quarter

Prices of basic necessities—energy, housing, food and medical care—shot up more than three times faster in the second quarter of 1979 than all other items gauged by the government's Consumer Price Index, the National Center for Economic Alternatives reported.

The goods and services covered by the center's Basic Necessity Inflation Index advanced at an annual rate of 18.6 percent in the three months ended in June. During that period, all other goods in the CPI rose at an adjusted annual rate of 5.3 percent.

In releasing the center's quarterly study, Codirectors Gar Alperovitz and Jeff Faux said, "this is the highest rate of inflation we have seen in more than four years of monitoring necessity sector prices."

Pointing out that the inflation spread between necessities and the rest of the economy was a full 13.3 percent, Alperovitz and Faux said, "consumers are still being hit hardest where it hurts the most—in items they cannot do without."

Surging energy prices led the severe hike in the necessities index, the officials of the Washington-based research group noted.

And that was before the latest price hikes by foreign oil producing nations and President Carter's decision to decontrol crude oil prices took significant effect, they added.

Focusing on the four key necessities in the second quarter, they found:

- Energy prices jumped at an annual rate of 64.2 percent, after rising 25 percent in the first three months of 1979.
- Housing costs advanced at a 15.9 percent annual rate, preceded by a 14.3 percent increase in the first quarter.
- Food prices were up at an annual rate of 7.5 percent after surging 17.7 percent in the January-March period.
- Medical care costs rose at an adjusted annual rate of 7.7 percent, easing a bit from the 9.4 percent rate in the first quarter.

Overall, the prices of necessities rose 14 percent faster in the second quarter than in the preceding three months and 72 percent faster than in all of 1978.

Alperovitz and Faux expressed concern that the Federal Reserve Board's action to jack up interest rates will spur inflation in the housing sector.

"Raising interest rates at a time when housing demand is swamping supply is counterproductive," they stressed. "It will lead to a further decline in new housing construction, a further tightening of the housing market and continued escalation in monthly mortgage costs."

While welcoming the decline in the rate of inflation in the food and health care sectors in the second quarter, Alperovitz and Faux warned that it may be only a temporary swing.

Blacklisting Conspiracy Exposed in Stevens Suit

(Continued from Page 1)

the lawsuit shows that the Stevens management condoned and encouraged flagrantly illegal actions.

The court depositions were in effect confessions by parties originally named as co-defendants with the Stevens company and its officials.

These were some of the admissions made:

- Mayor Robert Rice and Police Chief Charles Osborne ordered police detectives to record the license numbers of cars parked near union meetings and use police channels to obtain the names and addresses of the car owners.
- The blacklist of union supporters was made available to other area employers as well as to Stevens. Officials of three other local companies admitted having received lists.
- As part of its effort to preserve what the National Association of Manufacturers has called a "union-free environment," Grumman paid a local minister a "consultant's fee" to screen employment applications by blacks.
- The management of the Holiday Inn where union organizers stayed and where several union meetings were held provided free rooms to police officers next to the room used by the union organizers.

The depositions admitting surveillance were made in settlements reached with the union and included payment of damages and agreement to testify if necessary in ACTWU's suit against Stevens.

The mayor said he considered it part of his job to take "a leadership role" when there was a threat of unionization. The Milledgeville city attorney was quoted in a newspaper interview as relating the illegal anti-union activity to the "fierce" competition by southern communities to attract northern industries.

The use of such tactics to keep unions out is hardly unique to Milledgeville. An earlier case, also involving J. P. Stevens, resulted in the company's payment to the union of $50,000 in settlement of a suit arising out of the bugging of an organizer's motel room in Wallace, S.C., in 1972.

Price Watch Credited With Restraining Rises

Chicago—Consumer price data compiled by union volunteers monitoring inflation in the nationwide AFL-CIO Price Watch program indicate that while prices continued to rise from April to mid-July, the Price Watch program itself helped hold down the prices of 27 selected items sold by stores of five food chains that have been monitoring the monitors.

That fact emerged in a 24-page detailed analysis of reports on price changes in 82 communities of 26 states and the District of Columbia which was made public during the AFL-CIO Executive Council meeting here.

The restraining effect of the Price Watch program on prices set by 57 stores of five food chains that circulated the AFL-CIO checklist among their store managers was in sharp contrast with price increases on the same items in 20 random-sample stores that were not singled out in advance.

The prices of all 27 items on the list rose more than once in all of the random-sample stores. In 17 Safeway stores, however, prices increased significantly only on eight of the items while 19—or 70 percent—stayed level or rose only once.

The Price Watch program, which covers changes in the costs of clothing, shelter, utilities, food and medical care, as well as food, is conducted by union volunteers under the direction of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services.

The program was launched in March to measure the effectiveness of the price side of the Administration's "voluntary" wage and price guidelines. Results are reported to the President's Council on Wage & Price Stability and to the public.

New Labor Code In Chile Denounced

Chicago—The AFL-CIO Executive Council condemned the new Chilean labor code and said it will decide on an appropriate course of action pending further developments in the South American country.

Last month the Chilean government decreed a series of labor laws that the AFL-CIO condemned as "a continuation of the union-busting tactics" of past years in the Allende and Pinochet regimes.

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Meany Blasts Plan to Cut Recession Aid for Jobless

Meat Firm Contracts Set Pattern

The Food & Commercial Workers won major gains in wages and benefits in new three-year agreements covering 25,000 employees of four major meat-packing firms.

The first to settle with the UFCW's packinghouse division was John Morrell & Co. The Morrell pact, which set the pattern for the other contracts, covers some 8,000 workers at nine locations in the Midwest and Southwest.

New contracts also were negotiated covering about 7,000 employees of Wilson Foods Corp., 7,000 at George Hormel Co., and 2,500 at Hy Grade Foods Corp. UFCW members at Morrell and Wilson overwhelmingly approved the agreements. The ratification vote had not been tallied at Hormel and Hy Grade as the AFL-CIO News went to press.

The union also is negotiating with six other large meat packers, Swift & Co., Armour & Co., Cudahy Co., Dubuque Packing Co., Rath Packing Co., and Oscar Mayer & Co., which together employ about 20,000 workers.

Traditionally, collective bargaining in the industry takes place with individual firms either on a single or a multiplant basis. A settlement with one of the large packers generally sets the pattern for other contracts, with minor modifications for such differences as plant location and company practices.

In the 1976 bargaining round, the Wilson agreement became the pattern setter. Besides the 10 largest companies, there are many small firms in the industry, which employs a total of about 137,000 workers. Eighty percent of them are represented by the UFCW.

The four contracts that have been concluded will provide workers a 15-cent hourly wage increase on Sept. 1, a 20-cent boost a year later, and a 25-cent increase in the third year of the agreements.

In addition, workers will receive semiannual cost-of-living adjustments at the rate of 1 cent an hour for each rise of three-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index.

Other contract highlights:

● Pension improvements, including a provision allowing UFCW members to retire at full pension after 30 years of service regardless of age. Also, monthly pension benefits were increased from $13 per year of service to $14 starting on

(Continued on Page 3)



JAZZ WITH A UNION BEAT has been entertaining patients and employees at Cleveland hospitals under a program put together by Musicians Local 4 and subsidized by the union's Music Performance Trust Fund and the City of Cleveland. The Chico Hamilton jazz group is shown playing in the cafeteria of St. Vincent Charity Hospital as the program is videotaped for showing to bedridden patients over closed-circuit television.

Changes In Rules Held Disastrous

AFL-CIO President George Meany called on the Labor Dept. to withdraw its "unconscionable" proposal to cut back the extended unemployment compensation program just as the nation is slipping deeper into recession.

The proposed change in regulations is intended to hold down budget costs if unemployment climbs to predicted levels. Its effect would be to postpone the "triggering-on" of a nationwide extended benefits program and hasten the phasing out of both state and national programs.

Meany said the AFL-CIO is "adamantly opposed" to the changes, which would mean both "increased hardship among the unemployed" and a worsening of the economy "through a loss of purchasing power."

Congress two years ago cut back the extended unemployment insurance program substantially, and the regulatory changes the Labor Dept. wants to make would leave America's workers with far less protection than was provided in the last recession.

Only three states and Puerto Rico now have unemployment high enough to qualify for the extended benefits program, which provides up to 13 weeks of federal-state extended benefits for workers who have used up their regular state entitlement and are still unemployed. State benefits are normally paid for a maximum of 26 weeks.

Under the law, extended benefits are triggered-on nationally if the insured unemployment rate is 4.5 percent or higher for a 13-week

(Continued on Page 7)

Right-Wing Attack Blunted:

Wage Law Repeals Killed in Most States

By David Perlman

An attempt to scuttle prevailing wage protection for workers on government-funded construction projects made more headway in the states than in Congress this year—but not much more.

The coalition of open-shop contractors and right-wing legislators that mounted such a massive attack on the federal Davis-Bacon Act had its counterpart in most of the 41 states that have comparable prevailing wage laws. Some of these "little Davis-Bacon Acts" cover city and county construction as well as state projects.

The anti-labor campaign was stopped in Congress and in most of the legislatures.

The majority of repeal bills introduced in the states were defeated in committee and never reached the floor. Others were beaten in one or both houses, or were killed by vetoes.

But Florida's statewide prevailing wage law was repealed, and the Alabama legislature passed a repeal bill but postponed the effective date to mid-1980 to allow the next legislature to reconsider the issue. In several other states, coverage was cut back by raising the "threshold level" at which the prevailing wage law takes effect.

There have been attacks on state prevailing wage laws in past years, but never on the present scale. Predominantly southern "right-to-work" states were special targets of the essentially anti-union drive.

The successes the repeal forces had came generally through steamroller tactics that pushed through legislation before a counter-drive could be fully mobilized. By contrast, in Texas a massive turnout of more than 9,000 union members at the state capitol—the largest such demonstration in the state's history

(Continued on Page 8)

Unions Score FAA Laxity On Air Safety

San Francisco—Federal Aviation Administration safety standards and maintenance procedures have so deteriorated over the past few years that the lives of both flight crews and passengers are endangered, representatives of two AFL-CIO unions told a congressional panel here.

R. King McCulloch, an international representative for the Machinists, told a House Transportation subcommittee investigating airline safety that IAM members are deeply concerned about FAA surveillance of airline maintenance.

"Our members on the job each

(Continued on Page 6)

Lathers Okay Shift To Carpenters Union

Members of the Wood, Wire & Metal Lathers have approved affiliation with the Carpenters, and leaders of both groups expressed optimism that the arrangement will expand job opportunities and lessen jurisdictional conflicts.

The 5,253 to 1,850 vote for affiliation came nearly 80 years after the union's formation and its charter by the American Federation of Labor.

Under the affiliation agreement, the organization will retain an identity as a subdivision of the Carpenters, and it was meeting in Atlanta at a mid-August convention in that capacity.

Lathers President Charles L. Brodeur will serve as assistant to Carpenters President William Sidell, and the three international representatives will also move to the Carpenters staff.

By special arrangement, Metallic Lathers Local 46 of New York will become part of the Iron Workers, with which it shares jurisdiction in several areas. Michael J. Brennan, who has been international secretary-treasurer of the Lathers, will move to the Iron Workers staff.

The Lathers had about 11,000 members as an independent union, and except for the New York group will be a part of the 750,000-member Carpenters.

In the new status, members of each group would have priority for work in their primary skills but could also work in other specialties,

(Continued on Page 3)

Kirkland Presses Call For Control of Oil Trade

Miami Beach—Oil imports and grain exports "should be taken out of private hands and conducted on a government-to-government basis," AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland urged.

Kirkland told delegates to the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers convention that the stability of this country's economy should not be determined by "private, multinational firms."

Key negotiations on imports and exports should be handled "by public officials whose job is to protect the public interest, not to inflate corporate profits," he declared.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has proposed creation of a government agency to determine the amount of foreign oil the United States should import, to negotiate the price with OPEC countries and to allocate distribution in the national interest.

That's "the first order of business," Kirkland suggested.

The AFL-CIO will support President Carter's efforts to achieve energy independence "every inch of the way," he said, and will press for even "more action and stronger measures" than the President has yet sought.

Stringent measures to conserve

(Continued on Page 2)



BREAKTHROUGH AGREEMENT with a major California tomato grower is announced by Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez at the UFW's convention in Salinas. The convention mapped plans to expand and strengthen the boycott of struck lettuce growers.

Farm Workers' Delegates Map Plans to Expand Lettuce Strike

Salinas, Calif.—The United Farm Workers Union convention unanimously approved plans for a major expansion of the union's seven-month long strike against six major California lettuce growers and wildly cheered an announcement of a precedent-setting contract negotiated with a major California tomato grower.

UFW President Cesar Chavez told the 248 delegates to the 4th constitutional convention that the union is facing its "greatest test" in the current strike against California growers and charged that "there has been nothing but bickering and stalling on the part of the growers for the last seven months."

The agreement with the Meyer Tomato Co. of King City in Monterey County will provide 325 non-striking UFW workers with a 43-percent wage increase over its three-year term and two other provisions never before won in a farm labor contract—a cost of living clause and company-paid union representatives.

The settlement, the first since UFW contracts expired in mid-January, will raise the wage of transplanters, for example, from $3.70 an hour to $5.00 retroactive to Aug. 9 and to $5.55 in 1980 and $5.95 in 1981, UFW spokesman Marc Grossman said.

In announcing plans for expansion of the strike against major growers, Chavez explained that expansion of the strike and boycott efforts were delayed until now because of depressed lettuce prices much of this year and not because of any weakness on the part of the union.

He also said that the union will bring legal action against the growers for civil rights violations against picketing Farm Workers and would press charges against growers for using cartons with the UFW label while harvesting crops with non-union crews.

The UFW delegates approved resolutions to:

- Commit all of the union's resources to the strike and boycott efforts.
- Oppose any move to scrap the 160-acre limitation of the 1902 reclamation act.
- Censure California's Lt. Gov. Mike Curb for proposing a "guest work" program to bring in Mexican nationals to work on farms on a seasonal basis, asserting that the plan amounted to "fancy words for the infamous bracero program" that was killed by Congress in 1964.

The one-day, 12-hour convention was held just one day after 20,000 Farm Workers and supporters rallied in Salinas to take part in the biggest demonstration of support for the union in its 13-year history. At the rally, Chavez said:

"We will ask the American labor movement, church groups and other supporters to assist in an all-out effort to bring the strike to a successful conclusion. We must do what we did to the Delano grape growers during the 1960s."

John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California AFL-CIO, pledged the state federation's full support to the strike and declared: "Where Cesar Chavez stands, we stand. Where Cesar Chavez goes, we go."

He said the state labor federation will solicit funds each month from union members to be donated to the UFW strike effort.

California Gov. Jerry Brown, who joined the last leg of the march into Salinas, said he was participating in the demonstration because "people in the industrial sector are paid a lot more than farm workers. Why should farm workers have to work for less?" he asked.

At the convention, actress Jane Fonda told the UFW delegates that she would help mobilize support for the union's boycott.

"I have been told that the growers believe that times have changed, but I know we have an even stronger fighting spirit. We can not only do what we did in the 1960s, but we can do it better, stronger, and we will win," she said.

Your Cause is Ours, Meany Tells UFW

Salinas, Calif.—In a telegram to Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez, AFL-CIO President George Meany said the labor movement is with the UFW "every step of the way."

Meany noted that the AFL-CIO Executive Council has designated Vice President Paul Hall, who has worked closely with the UFW in the past, to chair a special committee to help build broad labor support for the UFW lettuce strikers.

"Your cause is our cause," Meany said. "Your problems are our problems, and when your inevitable victory is achieved, we want to celebrate it with you."

Nicholas Zonarich Dies, Headed IUD Organizing

Nicholas Zonarich, organizational director of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. until his retirement two years ago, died at his home in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 13 of cancer. He was 70 years old.

Largely self-educated, Zonarich left school after the sixth grade to work in the coal mines of Pennsylvania, his native state. He left the mines in 1927 and, after two years working on a farm, went to work for the Aluminum Co. of America as a laborer and press operator at the company's New Kensington, Pa., plant.

He was active in the organization of workers into a federal labor union there in 1932. In 1937, he was elected president of the newly formed International Union of Aluminum Workers of America, affiliated with the old CIO. He served in this capacity until 1944 when the union merged with the Steelworkers.

Becoming an international representative for the Steelworkers, Zonarich participated in many organizing campaigns, and was credited with bringing some 100 locals into the union. He became organizational director of the IUD in 1960.

In a message to his wife, Anna, AFL-CIO President George Meany said Zonarich would be remembered for devoting his lifetime "to the service of his fellow worker."

Jacob Clayman, president and secretary-treasurer of the IUD, said Zonarich would be mourned by the entire trade-union movement, which knew him as "wholly dedicated to trade unionism and a highly effective spokesman and activist on behalf of American workers."

Besides his wife, Zonarich leaves three daughters, five grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Funeral services and burial were scheduled Aug. 18 in Tarentum, Pa. A memorial service will be held Sept. 7 at the Carpenters' auditorium, 101 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, at 10 a.m.

OCAW Convention:

Union Cites 'Penalty' From Oil Decontrol

Hollywood, Fla.—American consumers will be "penalized" at the rate of $86 billion over the next seven years without controls on domestic crude oil prices, the biennial convention of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers declared in a resolution.

Moreover, the resolution points out, even with President Carter's proposed windfall profits tax, oil companies will gain nearly $21 billion in the next seven years.

The 800 delegates and 150 staff members attending the union's 15th constitutional convention were scheduled to hear an array of speakers, including AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Labor Sec. Ray Marshall.

On the fifth day of the convention, the delegates were to elect four new administrative officers. OCAW President Al Grospiron and Sec.-Treas. Anthony Sabatine did not seek re-election.

Competing for the presidency were Vice Presidents Robert Goss and Anthony Mazzocchi, both of Denver, where the union is headquartered. Robert V. Palmer of Beaumont, Tex., an international representative, was the only announced candidate for secretary treasurer. Six candidates were seeking the two vice presidential positions being vacated by Gross and Mazzocchi.

The resolution on oil price decontrol and the proposed windfall profit tax was adopted unanimously. It charges that President Carter's decision to decontrol crude oil prices was based neither on sound economic reasoning nor on recognition of the plight of consumers.

"At a time when the prices of heating oil and gasoline are soaring at unprecedented rates and the profits of oil companies are already skyrocketing, the controls on oil prices should be maintained," the convention declared.

"The Administration's theory that decontrol will encourage additional oil production is purely speculative, and its contention that decontrol will encourage conservation is predicated on the most callous rationing-by-price plan that places the heaviest burden on low-and-middle-income families as well as consumers on fixed incomes."

The resolution pointed out that Carter's proposal for a 50 percent windfall profits tax does not actually amount to 50 percent, nor is it a tax on profits.

"It is an excise tax based on the price paid by consumers, and it applies only to certain classes of oil," the resolution observed. "It would be considered a deductible business expense for determining income tax liability. Thus the effective tax rate would be reduced from 50 percent to 27 percent for companies with taxable incomes of more than $100,000."

Another resolution urges a comprehensive energy policy "that is consistent with the public need for adequate supplies of energy at a reasonable cost." It calls for full disclosure of information and data concerning all phases of the oil industry.

OSHA Adds New Funding For Grants

The Labor Dept. will increase its funding of education and training programs designed to identify and overcome occupational safety and health hazards.

Assistant Sec. Eula Bingham, who heads the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, said an estimated $13.3 million will be available for grants to unions, employer groups, educational agencies and others carrying on workplace-oriented programs. This fiscal year, the first of the agency's New Directions program, union programs received $2.3 million of the $6.4 million in grants.

Most of the additional funds will go to carry on and expand existing programs, she said, but $2.3 million in new grants will be awarded after evaluation of applications by panels of experts.

Funds include money allocated by the National Cancer Institute for programs focusing on the risk of cancer in the workplace.

Kirkland Presses Call For Control of Oil Trade

(Continued from Page 1)

fuel are necessary to free this country from vulnerability "to foreign control and blackmail," Kirkland urged.

For the past six years, the United States has met price-gouging by OPEC nations with "abject surrender," he said. As the price of oil multiplied time and again, the United States doubled its purchases of foreign oil. The OPEC countries "got everything they asked for, but like all blackmailers they have come back again and again, and continue to squeeze their victims tighter and tighter."

Kirkland reiterated the AFL-CIO's support for mandatory energy-efficient standards for new construction and new appliances, for upgrading existing buildings and improving automobile fleet standards of fuel consumption.

This also means fair gasoline rationing, he said, with assurance that everyone will have access to enough gasoline to meet essential needs.

"In the long run," Kirkland said, "if we do the job of developing other energy sources in all the areas where we can, there should be ample supplies of gasoline to meet all our transportation needs. But until that happens, we have to find ways to share what we have as equitably and painlessly as possible."

In developing energy sources, "America can't afford to ignore its coal and nuclear energy resources—and it can't ignore the need to make them safe, clean and non-polluting, both in their operation and in disposal of their waste products." American technology can do that job, Kirkland affirmed.

The oil companies could and should have used part of their huge profits for research and development that could make the United States more energy independent, Kirkland said. But their effort has been among the poorest of any industry.

Maintenance Lag Cited:

Rail Signalmen Hit Erosion of Safety

Chicago—The deterioration of roadbeds and equipment on the nation's railroads and the erosion of safety practices were central themes of the 41st convention of the Railroad Signalmen here.

The keynote speaker, Rep. James J. Florio (D-N.J.) who is chairman of the House Subcommittee on Transportation & Commerce, told delegates that "the statistical record on railroad accidents in recent years clearly shows that federal regulation, including safety and inspection programs, has not succeeded in insuring a safer working atmosphere or in protecting the public from potentially catastrophic accidents."

Florio said that the recent rise in railroad accidents and resulting injuries and property claims is directly related to the condition of the track, roadbeds, and equipment. Deferred maintenance is a major factor in track-caused accidents, he said, yet because of their financial dilemma, railroads have not put the necessary capital into a comprehensive maintenance and replacement program.

"The entire fault does not lie with the current economic regulatory structure," Florio observed. "There are very profitable railroads which have very poor safety records. The federal safety enforcement program has been uncoordinated, understaffed and unimaginative. We need aggressive oversight and enforcement by the Dept. of Transportation and others who are involved. We need vigorous enforcement actions against offenders. Railroad safety must come before investments in new or acquired enterprises."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland noted that "long before there was any such thing as an energy crisis, the AFL-CIO argued that America's railroads urgently needed attention. They needed refinancing, restructuring and rebuilding from the roadbed up to give America the balanced and efficient transportation system she needed.

"I suppose we should be grateful that Congress only permitted about half of the reductions in the Amtrak system that the Administration proposed," Kirkland said. "But in the face of the nation's needs today there can be no justification for any cuts at all. Reorganization, yes. Redistribution, yes. But if there is one thing America needs, it is a stronger, greatly improved and greatly expanded railroad system for both freight and passengers. No other kind of transportation can even begin to do the job that has to be done."

Signalmen's President R. T. Bates said the union would never agree that safety in the industry should be reduced by deregulation.

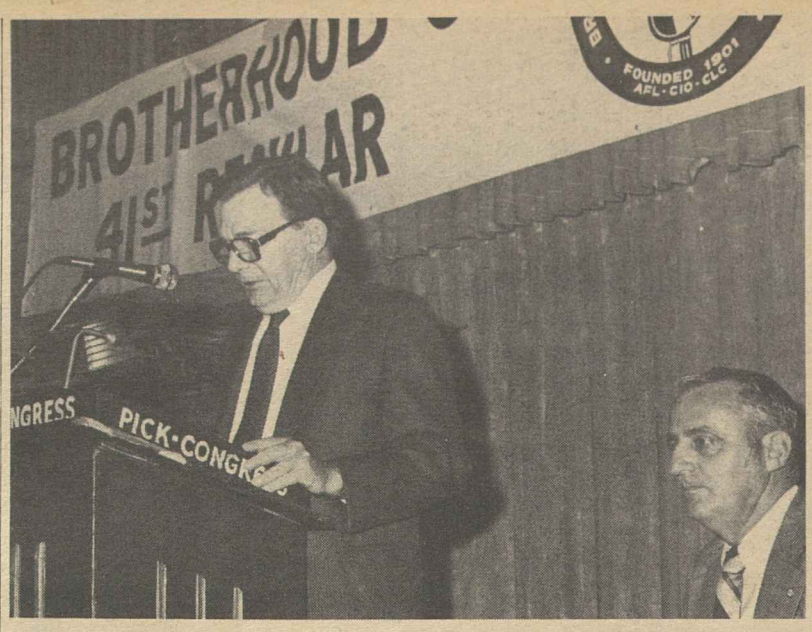
"The Federal Railroad Administration should be taking steps to increase rather than decrease requirements for testing and inspecting signal devices," Bates declared.

He cited a recent case in which a signal maintainer was charged with the responsibility of maintaining 100 automatic crossing warning devices scattered over 114 miles of track—"an almost impossible job."

Yet, he said, "there are no rules, standards or instructions for proper testing and maintenance, I have no doubt that if rules, standards and inspection regulations were promulgated the traveling public would be assured a much higher level of safety."

Turning to possible abandonment of the Milwaukee Road, Bates said "abandoning a part of the most fuel efficient form of transportation we have doesn't make sense. The energy crisis is real, and to abandon any rail service at this critical time is not in the best interest of the country."

Major actions at the convention included revision of the union's constitution and election of officers. Bates and Sec.-Treas. W. D. Best were re-elected to new terms.



AMERICA'S RAILROADS urgently need attention, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland declared at the Railroad Signalmen's 41st convention. Kirkland, shown here with the union's president, R. T. Bates, called for a greatly improved and expanded system for both freight and passengers.

High Court Asked to Ban Local Solicitation Curb

The AFL-CIO asked the Supreme Court to nullify a local ordinance that was used to prohibit door-to-door canvassing by a non-profit environmental organization—and could be used to harass union organizers.

As the AFL-CIO brief viewed the case, the curbs on solicitation imposed by the Village of Schaumburg, Ill., trampled on First Amendment constitutional guarantees of free speech.

That was also the position taken by a federal district court and the 7th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, and the AFL-CIO asked the Supreme Court to uphold the lower courts on the issue.

The organization involved, Citizens for a Better Environment, combines educational and fund-raising functions in a door-to-door canvass. As described in the district court decisions, "representatives distribute informative pamphlets on environmental subjects . . . answer questions posed by residents, accept pollution complaints on a form provided for follow-up investigation . . . accept signatures to a statement of citizens' support . . . and accept contributions."

Funds collected are used primarily for staff salaries and administrative expenses because of the nature of the organization, but the village ordinance denies a solicitation permit to any organization that does not provide evidence that at least 75 percent of the money contributed is passed through to a charitable purpose.

Under an alternative permit system for commercial "peddlers and solicitors," the village police chief has to certify the "good character and reputation" of any solicitor.

The AFL-CIO contended that both requirements, when used to restrict dissemination of information or opinion or the solicitation of support, infringe on constitutional rights.

Under the village ordinance, the AFL-CIO noted, "any organization which combines the spreading of its message with solicitation of membership or contributions" will "inevitably" violate the law.

The federation said it does not challenge a section of the ordinance that enables residents to post notices barring any solicitations, nor would it question a carefully drawn standard to prevent fraud. But the charity test imposed by the Illinois village "is a totally inadequate method for distinguishing between fraudulent and non-fraudulent organizations," it said.

Packinghouse Pattern Won With 4 Firms

(Continued from Page 1)

Jan. 1, 1980, and to $15 effective Jan. 1, 1981.

- Creation of a new position within each company to check worker safety. The safety representative's position will be filled by an officer or steward of a union local and paid for by the company.

- In the area of health and welfare benefits, the $25 deductible for dental costs was eliminated. UFCW members will now have a full-service dental plan with 80 percent of the cost borne by the company. Other health-care provisions greatly improved optical insurance benefits and cover outpatient treatment at a doctor's office.

- The vacation schedule was improved so that workers will receive three weeks off after seven years of service instead of eight years.

In addition, substantial health and welfare improvements for future retirees were negotiated, and the worker grievance procedure was streamlined.

New provisions on subcontracting also were written into the agreements to prevent a company from closing a plant and then purchasing the products of another company that reopens the same plant.

Lathers Union Becomes Unit Of Carpenters

(Continued from Page 1)

if qualified, when additional workers were needed.

The lathing craft involves installation of framework and supports of metal, wire or gypsum board to hold plaster, stucco or concrete materials on walls and ceilings.

In a statement sent to members explaining their endorsement of the affiliation agreement, officers of the Lathers expressed pride in their craft and the union's long history, but added:

"We have to face reality. Our basic trade, which was founded on the use of lath and plaster, has all but disappeared. We have adapted to substitute methods of construction, but this has given rise to jurisdictional disputes and a loss of work opportunities."

Carpenters President Sidell said consolidation of crafts will help the building trades become more competitive with open shop operations.

Union Liability for Wildcat Strikes Key Issue in Supreme Court Case

A union can't be held liable for a wildcat strike that it neither initiated nor condoned, the AFL-CIO asserted in a brief to the Supreme Court.

The case involves an employer's suit against the unaffiliated United Mine Workers, but the AFL-CIO is supporting the UMW's legal position because of the potential impact of the Supreme Court decision on other unions.

The Carbon Fuel Co. won the first round when a federal district court assessed damages against the Mine Workers and UMW District 17, as well as against three UMW locals, for a series of unauthorized work stoppages at the company's West Virginia coal mines over a four-year period.

While the evidence was clear that the international union and the district did not approve the stoppages and sought with some success to get the miners back to work, the company claimed that the union didn't use all possible means, including disciplinary action against the workers and the locals, to enforce its position.

The 4th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the verdict against the UMW and the district. It upheld the finding against the locals for stoppages that were over issues subject to the contract grievance procedure—after noting that all of the members of the local took part in the walkouts, including the officers.

In seeking Supreme Court review, the company relied heavily in its legal arguments on a contrary conclusion about the liability of a parent union that the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals reached in an earlier case involving the Teamsters.

The AFL-CIO brief stressed that employers have the legal right to discipline or discharge workers for actions in violation of a contract, but cannot require the union to be the instrument for disciplining its members.

Further, the AFL-CIO reminded the court, the same Taft-Hartley Act that in 1947 imposed on unions liability for breach of contract also substantially curbed the power of unions to discipline their members.

While the company cannot sue its individual employees for dollar damages as the result of an illegal strike, the AFL-CIO contended that doesn't mean that the employer therefore has the right to demand compensation from a union that did not sanction or wink at a wildcat strike.

A brief by the Mine Workers also emphasized the point that any obligation imposed on a union to try to end an unauthorized strike, other than the requirement that the union not consent or encourage such a strike, must be spelled out in terms of the contract.

In fact, "union liability for wildcat strikes has been a specific subject of bargaining" in the coal industry, the UMW noted, and before enactment of the Taft-Hartley Act "the agreements contained express and broad no-strike obligation." But in subsequent collective bargaining, that language was changed by the parties with the clear intent of removing the danger that the union might be sued for breach of contract.

Courts Halt UTU Strike Against Union Pacific

Salt Lake City—Members of the United Transportation Union returned to their jobs on the Union Pacific Railroad after the carrier obtained temporary restraining orders against the union.

The union, meanwhile, was studying legal approaches to resolve the months-old dispute over the company's hiring practices which led to the walkout.

The strike began in California as UTU members charged the railroad failed to observe negotiated work rules in its hiring of conductors. Instead of promoting switchmen and brakemen from within, the railroad recruited conductors off the street, the union said.

The strike quickly spread to the Pacific Northwest and then eastward to Omaha, where the railroad's headquarters are situated. On Aug. 13, a day after the strike began, railroad attorneys obtained 10-day injunctions against the union from U.S. district courts here, in Omaha, and in Portland.

Some 6,000 UTU conductors, brakemen, yardmen, and firemen were intially involved in the strike, but thousands of other UP workers subsequently joined in support.

The union said the dispute had been simmering for some time and that the workers were authorized by the UTU's national office months ago to strike.

Union Pacific is one of the nation's largest railroads, with 9,800 miles of track stretching from Omaha and Kansas City, Mo., to southern California and the Pacific Northwest.

Rescuing the Refugees

IN RECENT MONTHS the steady flow of refugees from Indochina has swelled into a massive exodus testing the willingness of the free world to rescue and resettle these desperate people.

The crisis originated in the oppressive policies of the Vietnamese government and was exacerbated by its clear and brutal policy of expelling the country's ethnic Chinese population and by its invasion of Cambodia. The expulsion of Chinese-Vietnamese is hauntingly reminiscent of Nazi persecution of European Jews.

Adding to the overall problem were the decisions made by non-Communist Southeast Asian countries to deny the refugees the right of temporary asylum.

Thailand, pressed to its limits and feeling threatened by Vietnamese troops along its border with Cambodia, forcibly repatriated more than 45,000 Cambodian refugees. Malaysia, in a carefully calculated move to stir world opinion, towed arriving refugee boats out to sea. In May and June alone, it is estimated that at least 1,000 "boat people" drowned each day in the South China Sea.

In response to the crisis, an international conference was held in Geneva in July under United Nations auspices in an attempt to generate concrete international solutions to the problem. The conference was only partially successful in securing increased commitments to permanently resettle refugees, and increased funding for the programs of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as developing plans to establish additional transit camps throughout the region.

The results were not wholly positive. The United States, France, Canada, and Australia—the nations already resettling the most refugees—were responsible for the bulk of the new pledges. Other nations are not doing enough.

THE CONFERENCE WELCOMED, with little discussion, the Vietnamese decision to establish "processing centers" inside its borders for those people expressing a desire to emigrate. The AFL-CIO Executive Council fully supports the right guaranteed under the UN Declaration of Human Rights for all people to emigrate freely but is deeply opposed to the expulsion of people from their own country and is equally opposed to the establishment of centers in Vietnam, which are likely to be little more than concentration camps.

The AFL-CIO commends and supports President Carter's decision to double the number of refugees—from 7,000 to 14,000—admitted into the United States each month during the next year. We do so in the understanding that a U.S. failure to act would condemn tens of thousands of refugees to death at sea, and indelibly stain the national conscience.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council also supports the President's decision to have ships from the U.S. Seventh Fleet rescue "boat people" in distress.

The AFL-CIO strongly urges that the Administration act upon the resolution passed by the recent convention of the International Longshoremen's Association calling for the "United States government, in concert with like-minded nations and under the auspices of the United Nations, to organize an immediate and massive rescue effort" to save the "boat people." The strongest possible measures should be taken to ensure that merchant vessels of all flags fulfill their obligation under international law to rescue refugees in distress.

—Statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Aug. 7, Chicago, Ill.

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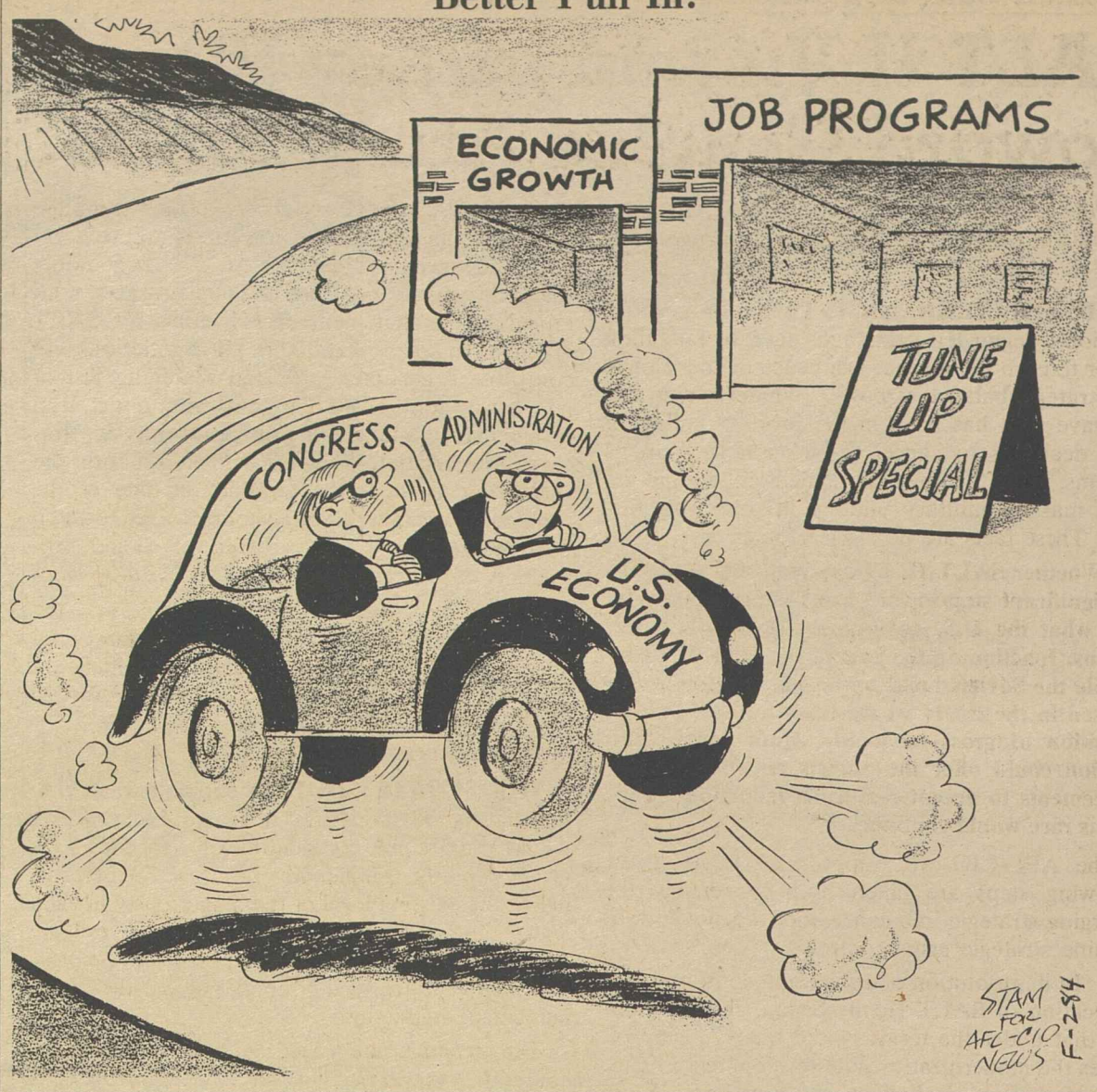
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'Better Pull In!'



Conservatives Lead Opponents:

Phony Arguments Used to Fight Congressional Seats for D.C.

By Gus Tyler

IF YOU LIVE IN the capital of Albania (Tirana) or in the capital of Zambia (Lusaka) you will be represented in the legislatures of your country. There are another 113 countries where this is true. But in two countries, the United States and Brazil, the people living in the capitals—Washington, D.C., and Brasilia—have no voice in the nation's lawmaking bodies.

To remedy this anomalous situation, there is a proposed amendment to the Constitution that would treat the District of Columbia as if it were a state. Right now, it does choose electors in Presidential contests. The amendment would give D.C. seats in both the House and Senate.

The arguments against granting such rights to the citizens in the District are as many as they are moth-eaten. For instance:

The population of D.C. is too small to warrant such representation. The point may once have been true. But at present, the District with its population of 674,000 is the home for more people than Alaska with its 403,000, Delaware with 583,000, Nevada with 660,000, North Dakota with 652,000, Vermont with 487,000, and Wyoming with 424,000.

A second argument is that the District is loaded with federal employees and that the Administration, by its hiring practices, could stack the population and the politics of the District. In reality, however, federal employees in recent years are locating in the areas of Maryland and Virginia adjacent to the District. The capital houses 110,000 federal employees while the neighboring two states house 140,000 and 143,000, respectively.

During the years that Eisenhower, Nixon, and Ford were in the White House, the voters of the District remained consistently Democratic. The President's appointive power did not determine the political complexion of the District.

An ancient argument against giving voters the franchise in a nation's capital is derived from an earlier century when the urban rabble rather regularly took to the barricades to attempt a coup d'etat. The counter-strategy was to "neuter" the citizenry and to design the streets so that it would be possible to fire grapeshot down the major highways from the Capitol itself.

But those were the days before literacy, radio and TV, national campaigns, and before governments could muster howitzers, machine guns, tanks, planes and poison gases. Most of the demonstrations in the capital in recent years have been "imports" from other parts of the country: the residents have been more "neutral" than the "outsiders."

The citizens of the District have resurrected the old cry about taxation without representation. At present, the District pays more in taxes to Uncle Sam than eleven separate states.

So why don't the citizens of the District have seats in Congress? For the same reason that, prior to the Civil War, the admission of every state to the Union became a point of controversy for fear that an added state would tip the balance politically one way or another. The District, with its heavily black, urban and Democratic constituency, would add weight to liberal representation. So those who would be displaced by such an outcome oppose the amendment.

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American Labor Is Alive and Well

It's become somewhat fashionable to write about the trade union movement in terms of gloom and doom. I don't think it's justified.

The American trade union movement has maintained and expanded its membership and its capacity to play an effective role in American society during an extraordinary period.

The federal law that was once designed to encourage the right of workers to be represented by unions of their own choosing has been perverted into an obstacle to organization.

There are other issues. The growth of employment has been in largely part-time work, in non-traditional areas, in the managerial and semi-managerial areas.

There have been geographical shifts to areas that appeal to companies on the basis of cheap and unorganized labor. There has been an absolute decline, since World War II, of employment in areas of our economy that historically have been the base of the American trade union movement.

Despite that, we've grown. We have been successful.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at news conference, Aug. 8, 1979, in Chicago.

Council Sets Stipulations:

SALT II Viewed as Key Step Toward Genuine Arms Control

The following is a statement by the AFL-CIO Executive Council on SALT II, Chicago, Ill., Aug. 7, 1979.

THE STRATEGIC ARMS Limitation negotiations, begun ten years ago, have so far failed either to curb the nuclear arms race or to stabilize the strategic balance of power. Whatever restraint we have seen has been in the form of unilateral U.S. decisions to cancel or delay new weapons systems, while the Soviet Union has engaged in the most massive military buildup in peacetime history. These facts are no longer contested.

Whether SALT II, by contrast, will serve as a significant step toward arms control depends on what the U.S. government does within its terms. Inaction on the part of the United States while the Soviets build up to the high limits allowed in the treaty would lead the U.S. into a position of gross inequality, from which this nation could offer the Soviets no effective inducements to accept real arms reductions. The arms race would continue.

The AFL-CIO will support SALT II if the following steps are taken both to remedy the emerging strategic imbalance and to move toward genuine strategic arms control:

1. In its resolution of advice and consent to the ratification of SALT II, the Senate should stipulate that under the terms of the treaty, parity requires the modernization and development of U.S. strategic forces—including, and most particularly, the MX missile based in such a mode as to survive a first strike by Soviet missiles.

Without the MX, the U.S. will be restricted to three warheads on its Minutemen ICBMs, compared with ten, six, and four on the Soviet's SS-18, SS-19, and SS-17. The only way to protect U.S. ICBMs from a Soviet first strike would then be to rely on the most dangerous of all strategies: the launch-on-warning of hair-trigger missiles that virtually fire themselves. If instead the U.S. is to maintain multiple presidential options in a crisis, this country must proceed to develop the MX in a survivable basing mode so as to remove the temptation of a first strike.

2. The way to reduce strategic arms expenditures is not to stand pat on inferior or vulnerable systems but to proceed forthwith to real dramatic mutual arms reductions.

The Senate, therefore, should further stipulate in its instrument of advice and consent more stringent and specific directives to U.S. negotiators than the vague and general language now contained in the Statement of Principles for SALT III, so as to assure that SALT III negotiations will constitute a genuine, early and searching test of whether or not the SALT process will, in fact, lead to significant and continuing reductions in strategic arms. A time limit for a final response and evaluation, such as the termination date of the protocol (December 1981) should be set forth so as to assure urgency and to avoid the endless protraction of negotiations while the build-up continues beyond the point of no return.

The stipulation should also call for limits not only on launchers but on warheads—which are the real instruments of destruction and which SALT II permits to increase dramatically in numbers and accuracy.

THE SENATE SHOULD stipulate that U.S. negotiators in SALT III insist on limits which would require the dismantling of warheads to a level of parity significantly (at least 30 percent) below the existing level of the higher party in each leg of the triad (air, sea and land-based strategic nuclear forces). Once these limits are set, the basis will then exist for further annual across-the-board percentage reductions.

The general, unchecked growth of warheads, combined with the acquisition of counterforce capability, exposes the inadequacy of Mutual Assured Destruction (MAD) as a deterrence theory.

To compel an American President, in the wake of a Soviet first strike, to choose between negotiating terms of surrender or launching an annihilative retaliatory attack on Soviet civilians is both morally unacceptable and lacking in the chief prerequisite of deterrence: credibility.

The U.S. must move from MAD to Mutual Assured Non-destruction (MAN). That is, these negotiations must seek to create conditions which make it impossible for either side to destroy the other as a viable society through a nuclear attack, or to believe that it can.

Only then can we begin to look forward with optimism to the ultimate goal of total nuclear disarmament.

Possible Election Issue:

State, Local Needs Take Steam Out of Balanced Budget Drive

THE NOW-STALLED DRIVE for a constitutionally-mandated balanced federal budget could erupt as a major issue in the 1980 presidential campaign, Michael Gildea, assistant to the AFL-CIO director of legislation, warned in a network radio interview.

Noting that 30 states had adopted some form of call for a constitutional convention to write such an amendment when "the steam went out of the drive," Gildea said a key factor in the slowdown is the growing realization among state officials that revenue-sharing, education grants and a wide range of federally-assisted state programs "would be among the first and foremost candidates for significant cuts." He said such cuts could add up to as much as $83 billion and severely cripple the ability of state and local governments to maintain a proper level of vital public services.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Gildea said the grim prospect that the rapid inflation rate will continue to run in the months ahead while unemployment grows as the recession deepens, demands that the federal government "have the flexibility to deal with economic crisis." He said that with a recession already in progress, hamstringing the government's ability to shape effective remedies runs the risk of letting the recession sink into a depression.

That prospect, coupled with the need for investments in energy, economic stimulus legislation, jobs programs and a possible tax cut, "undercuts those who are calling for a balanced budget," Gildea observed.

"To deny the federal government the ability to deficit-spend to meet economic crises handcuffs the significant economic powers that the federal government has had as part of the Constitution," Gildea declared. He said that while "a balanced budget is a laudable goal," it just isn't realistic to pursue that course in the kind of ailing economy that has prevailed for many years and is likely to continue.

Gildea noted that over 400 economists, including Nobel laureates and former chairmen of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, have come out strongly in opposition to a mandated balanced budget.

"It's too rigid, it's too inflexible, and it could cause our economic problems to become even worse," he observed.

The AFL-CIO has been working very closely with a group called Citizens for the Constitution, headed by Lt. Gov. Thomas O'Neill, of Massachusetts, to develop a state-by-state strategy to defeat the constitutional convention movement, Gildea said.

"I believe we have to continue to watch this issue, particularly as we head into a presidential election year, because it could become tied to issues that are raised in a presidential campaign," he said.

Reporters questioning Gildea on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Michael Posner of Reuters news agency. The program is aired weekly by Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

WHAT KIND OF TREATMENT can black Americans expect when they go out in search of an apartment to rent or a house to buy? Unfair, judging from the findings of a newly-released government survey.

During the summer of 1977, some 300 whites and 300 blacks in 40 metropolitan areas across the country set out to determine if realtors were complying with the ten-year-old Fair Housing Act. The law, approved by Congress and signed by President Lyndon Johnson in 1967, had outlawed housing discrimination based on race, religion, ethnic background or sex.

Did discrimination still exist ten years after the law's enactment? That's what the 600 investigators, working for the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing under a contract with the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, set out to determine.

The investigators shopped for housing opportunities advertised in metropolitan newspapers. Their experiences, later compared by race, simulated experiences of actual house-hunters and was used to form the data base for the new HUD report, "Measuring Racial Discrimination in American Housing Markets."

The survey found that, compared to their white counterparts, blacks generally can expect less favorable treatment in terms of housing being made available to them. For instance, blacks can expect to encounter rental agents who say that no apartments are available—an answer that's reversed, however, when a white person asks the identical question.

The survey's index of housing availability discrimination in the rental market was 27 percent—that percentage of rental agents, the survey found, discriminate. Among sales agents, the survey found, 15 percent discriminate.

AN EXPERIMENTAL EXTENSION of the national survey was undertaken in the Dallas, Tex., area to assess housing discrimination against Hispanics. This survey, limited to the rental market, showed Chicanos, particularly those who are dark-skinned, encountered significant discriminatory behavior by rental agents.

On the key index of housing availability, the incidence of discrimination was found to be 42.5 percent for dark-skinned Chicanos and 16.0 percent for light-skinned Chicanos. (HUD notes all auditors had "noticeable accents" which clearly identified them as Hispanics.)

The housing market survey and its Dallas offshoot may represent just the tip of the iceberg of housing discrimination. The nationwide survey touches on the experience of blacks only and the Texas experiment only begins to define discrimination against Hispanics. The experiences of other minorities and women have not been examined.

HUD also points out that the surveys look only into the initial phase of the housing search process. They stopped short of auditors putting down security deposits or attempting to obtain financing.

Also, says HUD, not yet calculated is evidence the study may yield with respect to racial "steering"—the practice of a realtor automatically "steering" a black customer toward a black neighborhood, for example.

Equal access to housing is a fundamental civil right, in part because housing is not a detached part of one's existence; it is tied up with many other aspects of life, not the least of which is employment. For many, housing discrimination translates into unemployment, as employers move from the cities to the suburbs and leave behind those who are not allowed to follow for lack of a new place to live.

HUD's housing market practices surveys hold up a mirror with which the nation can see itself. Hopefully, the survey results will spur action to curb unfair housing practices, so that in another decade, the mirror will reflect a new image free of the blemishes of discrimination.



A MANDATORY BALANCED BUDGET advocated by groups such as the National Taxpayers Union is too inflexible and could worsen the nation's economic problems as it heads into a recession, Michael Gildea of the AFL-CIO Legislative Dept. told reporters on Labor News Conference. Questioning him on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Michael Posner of Reuters news agency and Ann McFeatters of Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The AFL-CIO produced program is broadcast weekly by Mutual radio.



A SCENE FROM the pilot program for the new television series, "Joe's World," shows Joe (Ramon Bieri) proudly presenting a union card to his son Steve (Christopher Knight) as Joe's wife (K. Callan) beams approval. The situation comedy series about a union house painter in Detroit is scheduled to be aired on NBC-TV this fall.

TV Series to Feature Authentic Union Painter

The life of a union painter and his family will come to prime-time television this fall, and you can count on its authenticity.

Not only has the Painters & Allied Trades union previewed the pilot episode of "Joe's World," but it has promised to cooperate in the production of future shows to insure their realism.

IBPAT Sec.-Treas. Robert Petersdorf called the pilot "excellent and accurate" after viewing the half-hour film at the union's Washington headquarters.

"Joe's World," produced by Norman Lear's Hollywood-based TAT/Tandem productions, is a situation comedy revolving about a third-generation union house painter in Detroit played by Ramon Bieri. The series is scheduled for airing on NBC-TV in October.

Aware of public misconceptions of unions, the producer has gone out of its way to insure the show's accuracy. At a recent all-day meeting with IBPAT officials, TAT/Tandem Public Relations Director Frances McConnell sought out details of union membership, including wage rates, benefits, union organization, apprenticeship, and other matters generally unknown or misunderstood outside the union.

IBPAT leaders suggested several story treatments and policy-oriented situations that could be incorporated into the 14-episode series, and guaranteed further input as production progresses.

One of the areas stressed by the union was occupational health and safety, an issue that is expected to be focused on in one of the shows. Other issues and situations discussed included union organizing, strikes, charity repaint work, union elections, the unemployment problem among construction trade unions and the interrelationship of these issues with current national problems such as the gasoline shortage, inflation, and wage and benefits needs.

In the opening show, Joe's son, played by Christopher Knight, wrestles with the decision whether to follow in his father's footsteps. The episode, which shows Joe presenting son Steve with a union card, is wholly believable and quite humorous, Petersdorf observed.

Union officials and the show's producers both agreed that the series must maintain its humor and that serious problems can be covered without being heavyhanded.

ACTWU Training Pact To Help Upgrade 300

The Clothing & Textile Workers will train 300 underemployed workers for better jobs under a half-million-dollar Labor Dept. contract.

The program will help upgrade clothing and textile workers presently employed in the areas of New York City and northern New Jersey; New Bedford-Fall River, Mass.; Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, and some midwestern areas yet to be selected.

Funded under the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act, the training program will concentrate on minority workers, women, veterans, and persons with language difficulties, and focus on such occupations as dyer, weaver, loom fixer, rotary print machine mechanic, and knitter.

At New Mexico Conference:

Hispanic Coalition Focuses On Job Gap, Political Action

Albuquerque, N.M.—A "crisis conference" under the joint sponsorship of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement and the University of New Mexico drew up a program to obtain more and better jobs for Hispanic-Americans suffering high unemployment and low purchasing power.

Jack Otero, who served as co-chairman of the National Conference on Jobs for Hispanic-Americans, said the meeting of leaders from various sectors of the Hispanic community was long overdue.

"Hispanic-Americans have been hit especially hard by high unemployment and by the dismal impact of inflation on incomes whose buying power was already far too low," said Otero, who is also executive vice chairman of LCLAA and a vice president of the Railway & Airline Clerks.

Hank Lacayo, LCLAA vice chairman and co-chairman of the conference with Otero, declared that Hispanic-Americans "just aren't going to take it any more." The conference pointed the way to seeking democratic solutions to the economic problems of Hispanic-Americans, he said, cautioning, however, that the solutions would be found "only when Hispanic-Americans become far more politically active and politically effective than they have been in the past."

Delegates unanimously approved a "Declaration of Albuquerque," which emphasized "the unity of Hispanic-American organizations and their coalition with organized labor and other progressive forces" to achieve jobs with decent wages and working conditions for all Hispanic-Americans.

The declaration will serve as the basis for a full program in coming months, incorporating many of the recommendations made at three workshops at the Albuquerque meeting.

Organized labor played a major role in the conference. LCLAA, which is supported by the AFL-CIO, took the initiative in holding the meeting at the University of New Mexico. Thirty-three international unions affiliated with the federation as well as the unaffiliated UAW sent delegates, along with 60 Hispanic and other organizations.

Jacob Clayman, president of the Industrial Union Dept., said the conference marked "a marvelous turning point" in the Hispanic community.

"At long last, the opportunity for unity among Hispanics is now within your grasp," he said. "A unified Hispanic-American people, working in cooperation with the labor movement, offers real and practical opportunities to direct attention to worsening unemployment conditions and to correcting these evils.

"American labor stands with you in this fight for economic justice and human dignity."

Among other speakers at the four-day meeting, UAW President Douglas Fraser outlined labor's role in the program of job creation in the national economy.

Also addressing the 150 delegates were Esteben Torres, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Educational, Social & Cultural Organization; New Mexico Lt. Gov. Robert Mondragon; Rep. Robert Garcia (D-N.Y.); William Medina, assistant secretary of the Housing & Urban Development Dept., and Assistant Labor Sec. Ernest Green.

Participants in a workshop on housing and urban development included Henry Schechter, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Urban Affairs. Among those taking part in the workshop on illegal immigrants was Sec.-Treas. Gilbert Padilla of the Farm Workers. At the workshop on the 1978 Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act were Don Slaiman, deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, and Leslie Nulty, research economist for the Machinists.

Steelworkers' Leader David McDonald Dies

Palm Springs, Calif.—David J. McDonald, a major figure in the trade union movement for 30 years, died at his retirement home here at the age of 76.

McDonald worked closely with the late Philip Murray to help build the Steelworkers from a CIO organizing committee to one of America's most important unions. He served more than 12 years as USWA president, until 1965, when I. W. Abel defeated his bid for a fourth term in a closely contested election.

International officers of the Steelworkers joined in a statement emphasizing McDonald's "achievements and accomplishments" in collective bargaining, including the 13-week extended vacation plan in the steel industry and supplemental unemployment benefits for hundreds of thousands of workers.

As the head of a major CIO affiliate, McDonald helped shape the merger of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. He served on the AFL-CIO Executive Council during the federation's first decade.

In a telegram to Mrs. McDonald, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland praised his contributions to the trade union movement "during the early years when the merged federation was being built."

Dave McDonald "contributed much to those discussions and decisions," they said.

McDonald was born in Pittsburgh, the son and grandson of trade unionists and worked in the steel mills for six years, attending college at night.

In 1923, he became secretary to Phillip Murray, who was then vice president of the Mine Workers. Thirteen years later, when Murray headed the Steel Workers Organizing Committee of the new CIO, McDonald was named secretary-treasurer. He was elected to that post after the Steelworkers became an international union and became president after Murray's death.

A funeral mass was followed by burial at Desert Memorial Park.

Union Witnesses Cite FAA Laxity On Enforcement of Airline Safety

(Continued from Page 1)

and every day see violations of their carrier's maintenance manual procedures, and are asked by supervisors to circumvent these procedures so that schedules can be met," MuCulloch told the panel chaired by Rep. John Burton (D-Calif.).

He said IAM mechanics are "totally frustrated in their attempts to report on these matters," for if they call the FAA the carrier in turn calls them in and questions them about their part in the violation.

Earlier, Flight Attendants President Patricia R. Miller told the subcommittee that the FAA condones the bending of government regulations by the airlines, allowing exemptions, deviations, and waivers of its rules.

"If the airlines are not willing to accept the maintenance of minimum standards on their own, at least the government agency charged with protecting the public safety should," Miller said.

One of the most serious issues, she said, is laxity in enforcement of FAA requirements that airlines and aircraft manufacturers demonstrate that they can evacuate aircraft passengers within 90 seconds of a simulated crash.

The airlines and the FAA are making a mockery of that goal, Miller said, by using specially trained flight personnel who often are rehearsed days in advance of the evacuation. Frequently, she said, the "passengers" used in the tests do not include elderly people or children who might be present in a real evacuation.

Miller cited one instance in which United Airlines allegedly failed twice to evacuate a DC-8 in the required time, and managed to pass the FAA test only after substituting an all-male flight crew in its third effort.

The FAA has also allowed the airlines to go below minimum safety standards by allowing them to fly over vast amounts of water without life rafts on board, Miller noted. Six airlines have received government permission to operate as much as 100 miles beyond the 50-mile safety limit set by the FAA, she said.

"Some of these routes are over the shark-infested Gulf of Mexico and the icy Arctic Ocean, yet the FAA says it intends to change the rules to allow even greater danger to the traveling public," she said. "They can see no reason why the aircraft shouldn't be allowed to fly even 400 miles from land without life rafts.

"After all, life rafts are heavy and take up space. If you take them off the plane, you can add maybe four to six more seats, and that means more money to the airlines."

The Flight Attendants is an affiliate of the Air Line Pilots, and represents some 22,000 flight attendents employed by 18 U.S. air carriers.

McCulloch's assertions about maintenance irregularities came in the wake of revelations earlier this month that improper maintenance may have been the prime cause of the May 25 crash of a DC-10 that lost an engine during takeoff in Chicago, killing 273 people.

Chairman of the IAM's permanent FAA committee, McCulloch told the House panel that union members often are reprimanded or intimidated by the carrier for complaining about maintenance violations. He said the FAA should conduct its investigations without divulging the name of the complaining party.

McCulloch also presented the subcommittee with statistics showing that the FAA inspector force has been decreasing in recent years while the number of aircraft in service has risen. At the same time, the number of aircraft mechanics employed by the airlines has fallen off.

In 1968, the number of commercial airplanes in the United States was 2,226. Today, there are 2,413, McCulloch said. The number of mechanics in that 10-year period has dropped from 52,000 to 45,000, he added. Meanwhile, the FAA has only 257 inspectors to police commercial airliner maintenance as well as regulate 135,000 general aviation planes, he said.

Disastrous Rules Change:

Meany Blasts Plan To Cut Jobless Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

period. Benefits are phased out when the average for the previous 13 weeks falls below that level.

The insured rate covers only joblessness among workers covered by unemployment insurance, which excludes a substantial number of job-seekers. The Labor Dept. estimates that the overall unemployment rate, as tallied each month by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, would have to go above 7 percent to equal a 4.5 percent insured jobless rate.

Before the national rate is reached, and normally after the national program is triggered off, extended benefits would be provided in states with exceptionally high unemployment. The state trigger is 4 percent insured unemployment, provided that it is also 20 percent above the corresponding period in each of the previous two years. An alternate trigger, under an option available in most states, is 5 percent insured unemployment with no references to the preceding two years.

Without changing the law, the proposed Labor Dept. regulations would redefine insured unemployment so as to make it harder to reach the trigger nationally and make it easier to stop paying benefits. The department proposes simply not to count persons receiving extended benefits as insured unemployed.

A Labor Dept. study estimates that if such a regulation had been in effect over the last two national trigger periods, unemployed workers would have received $1.2 billion less in compensation.

Meany's letter, addressed to Assistant Sec. of Labor Ernest G. Green, charged that the proposed change in regulations reflects "federal budgetary considerations taking priority over concerns for the economic well-being of the long-term unemployed."

The AFL-CIO is "astonished," Meany said, that the Labor Dept. "proposes such a devastating regulatory change concurrent with the onset of a recession of projected major proportions."

Two principal advisory groups, Meany noted, have opposed changing the regulations at this time.

These are the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation, which was appointed by Congress and the President, and the Federal Advisory Council on Unemployment Insurance.

Both groups include public, employer and union members.

The timing of the proposed regulations could not be worse, Meany said.

The July unemployment rate of 5.7 percent is the highest ever at the start of an economic downturn, he said. Further, Meany noted, an Administration economic forecast anticipates an 8.2 percent jobless rate by the end of 1980, even without counting discouraged job-seekers and part-time workers not able to find full-time jobs.

"This is no time for the Dept. of Labor to propose regulations that would foster increased hardship among the unemployed and further destabilize the economy through a loss of purchasing power," Meany stressed.

"It would be unconscionable," he said, "as the nation plunges into recession to destroy the limited purchasing power the extended benefit program confers on the long-term unemployed."

Meany asked that the regulations "be withdrawn from further consideration at this time" so that the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation can continue its study, and that the time allowed for comments by interested groups be extended since many concerned organizations have only recently learned of the proposal.

If the regulatory change is implemented, Meany warned, "it would increase the deprivation and misery of millions of the jobless and their families, and help to plunge the economy into even deeper recession."

Clerks Warn of Strike On Rock Island Line

The Railway & Airline Clerks warned that a strike would be called against the Rock Island Railroad unless negotiations succeed in resolving the issue of wage retroactivity under a pending agreement.

BRAC President Fred J. Kroll said a strike by the union's 1,800 members employed by the carrier seems "inevitable" unless President Carter intervenes by appointing an emergency board to investigate the dispute.

A strike could occur any time after 12:01 a.m. on Aug. 18, the end of a 30-day "cooling-off" period set under the Railway Labor Act following management's rejection of a proffer of arbitration by the National Mediation Board. The two sides planned to meet Aug. 16 in one last attempt to reach agreement before they became free to seek self-help.

The Rock Island, a major carrier operating between Chicago and Texas and throughout the Midwest and Southwest, withdrew from bargaining on a national contract last year after accepting health and welfare provisions. The union and the company have been trying since last January to reach an agreement that follows the pattern of wages and working conditions contained in the national agreement reached by BRAC and most other major railroads.

"Rock Island's management has shown no interest in reaching this kind of fair settlement," Kroll said. "Should it become necessary for BRAC members to withhold their services from the Rock Island, we hope that the public and the shippers who use the railroad will recognize that our union, in serving legitimate interests of our members on the Rock Island, had no alternative but to call this strike."

The union is asking for retroactive pay covering the period from Jan. 1, 1978, to date. Several unions that reached agreement with the Rock Island early in 1978 received retroactive pay.



PLAQUE HONORING New Mexico's Gov. Bruce King, left, is presented by State AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Neal Gonzalez. King, a speaker at the state federation's convention, vetoed a "right-to-work" bill that the New Mexico legislature had adopted earlier this year.

Texas Delegates Map 1980 Election Drive

Austin, Tex.—The Texas AFL-CIO convention adopted an "Eyes on the '80s" political action program aimed at winning seats in the state house and senate in 1980 to assure fair redistricting in 1981.

Texas is expected to gain two congressional seats in redistricting after the 1980 census. The convention's legislative committee urged that the additional seats go to urban cities where union members are more numerous, rather than to rural areas.

The "Eyes on the '80s" program was launched at the convention by the showing of a 13-minute film showing a march on the state capitol by 9,000 members of the Building & Construction Trades to protest introduction of legislation aimed at repealing the state prevailing wage law. After the march, the repealer was defeated. The film conveyed the message that united labor action can help achieve labor's goals and block adverse legislation.

After the showing of the film, a COPE collection among delegates raised $71,000 in cash and pledges.

State AFL-CIO President Harry Hubbard was re-elected for a fourth two-year term and Joe Gunn was elected secretary-treasurer without opposition.

Addressing the 900 delegates, Labor Secretary Ray Marshall described the efforts to stop "once and for all" attempts to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act, the federal prevailing wage law. Marshall went on to discuss the central role of unions in the nation. "You cannot have a free and democratic society without a free and democratic labor movement," he declared.

Hubbard announced that the Texas AFL-CIO and other state federations in the Southwest are joining together to set up a scholarship in memory of Marshall's son, Chris, who died of cancer recently at the age of 16. Marshall and his family lived in Austin for many years before he became Secretary of Labor.

Another major speaker, Rep. Jim Wright of Texas, the House majority leader, told delegates that energy conservation and increased domestic oil production are essential to solving the enery crisis.

"Our economy can no longer be subject to blackmail by foreign countries," Wright declared." "The only way we are going to break the hold that OPEC has on us is to reduce demand and increase our domestic supply."

Container Deposit Bill Vetoed in Massachusetts

Boston—A labor-opposed compulsory container deposit bill was vetoed recently by Massachusetts Gov. Edward King, who said it would cost the state jobs and "create an administrative nightmare."

The bill would have required a deposit on all beverage containers, both bottles and cans. It would have exempted communities within five miles of New Hampshire or Rhode Island, an area that include about 15 percent of the state's population.

King urged instead an anti-litter program, coupled with increased facilities to recycle cans and bottles.

New Mexico Labor Funds RTW Battle

Carlsbad, N.M.—Delegates to the 21st biennial convention of the New Mexico State AFL-CIO approved a 10-cent per capita increase earmarked for political activities.

The increase raises monthly per capita to 45 cents, and gives the state federation an active fund for political education.

Sec.-Treas. Neal Gonzalez said that the additional funds will be needed to turn back conservative forces which are expected to make another attempt to pass a so-called "right-to-work" bill in the 1980 state legislature. An open shop bill cleared both houses earlier this year but was vetoed by Gov. Bruce King.

King, who addressed the convention, was honored with a plaque expressing the State AFL-CIO's appreciation for his "courage and staunch support" of the working people of New Mexico in vetoing the RTW measure.

Delegates re-elected C. M. Norris to his third term as president. Gonzalez was re-elected to his seventh term as secretary-treasurer, and Frutoco Chavez was elected first vice president.

Speakers included Lt. Gov. Roberto Mondragon; Alfredo Montoya, director of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement; Frank C. Lay, regional director of the AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education, and Russell Grider of Clovis, representing the American Agriculture Movement.

During the three-day meeting, the 170 delegates adopted resolutions supporting the Farm Workers' lettuce boycott, the boycott against Coors beer, and opposing discrimination against female workers.

Pittsburgh Press Unit Spurns Union-Buster

Pittsburgh—Employees of the Pittsburgh Press advertising department, in a highly-charged election, spurned the appeals of an anti-union "specialist" and chose Local 7 of the Typographical Union as their bargaining agent.

The vote, held Aug. 9 under the auspices of the National Labor Relations Board, was 101 to 88 with 6 challenges. The new union members include salesmen, telephone solicitors, dispatchers, typists and artists.

The Press's attorneys and consultant, Tom Geist, who heads the Industrial Relations Associates of Northern California, ran an intensive campaign using mandatory meetings, one-on-one pressure from supervisors, employee profiles and vague promises to deal with work-related grievances. The focus of their attack on unionism was the ITU's dues rate and the threatened loss of their pension plan.

The Pittsburgh Typographical Union countered with information exposing Geist as a long-distance union-buster whose record showed contempt for the spirit of the law and for solving workers' problems. The local, which represents 270 printers at the Press, pressed home the need for bargaining power to end the sub-standard pay and favoritism that characterized the ad department. A key factor was winning the support of the 100-person "phone room," which is largely young, overwhelmingly female, and half part-time.

In the final days of the campaign, local pride and enthusiasm more than matched the heavily-bankrolled company propaganda. As Geist led employees to their last captive audience speech at the Pittsburgh Hilton, they were greeted by a four-piece Dixieland band and a medley of Steeler and Pirate fight songs with a union message.

Local cooperation was given by the ten other unions at the Pittsburgh Press, which assisted in home contracts and publicity. The AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services was also deeply involved, and Field Rep. Charlotte Roe of Region 3 helped coordinate the drive.

Grant Set to Train 800 Ironworkers

An additional 800 economically disadvantaged men and women will be recruited as ironworker trainees under a union-management program to help workers too old for regular apprenticeship programs achieve journeyman status.

Assistant Labor Sec. Ernest G. Green announced the $2 million contract renewal with the National Ironworkers & Employers Training Program. It will add 800 new trainees to the 1,400 already participating.

Since the first contract was signed in mid-1970, 1,860 trainees have won their union journeyman cards. Of these, approximately 70 percent were black, 15 percent Hispanic and 10 percent American Indian.

Right-Wing Attack Blunted:

Wage Law Repeals Killed in Most States

(Continued from Page 1)

—helped bring about defeat of a repeal bill.

These were among the battlegrounds:

Alabama—In previous years, repeal bills never got out of the committee that has jurisdiction over labor legislation. But this year, the skids were greased.

A repeal bill was introduced on the first day of the legislature and referred to the conservative State Administration Committee, which approved it the next day. It was rushed through the House the following day and was on the Senate floor the next week.

A mini-filibuster by a senator opposed to the bill achieved the concession that the effective date of repeal would not be until the closing day of the 1980 session of the legislature.

Arizona—Last November's election, which gave the Republicans control of both houses of the Arizona legislature, led to passage of a bill repealing the prevailing wage law that had been on the statute books since the 1930s. The law was saved by a veto from Democratic Gov. Bruce Babbitt.

Colorado — Two union-opposed bills affecting prevailing wage coverage were passed by the Republican-controlled Colorado legislature. Gov. Richard Lamm, a Democrat, vetoed the one considered more damaging. It would have barred the state Labor Dept. from finally resolving disputes over prevailing wage rates and would have had the effect of requiring a new wage survey for almost every project.

The bill that became law eliminated prevailing wage requirements or any minimum wage for highway construction. But since most highway construction involves federal funds and therefore comes under the Davis-Bacon Act, the actual impact is expected to be minimal.

Connecticut—Previously, the prevailing wage law covered contracts over $5,000. The threshold level was raised to $10,000 for repairs and to $50,000 for new construction.

Florida—The legislature wiped out prevailing wage protection that had been in effect for more than 30 years, with the action coming just three days after the bill was referred to committee, and Gov. Robert Graham (D) allowed the repeal bill to become law without his signature.

A second anti-union bill was vetoed, however. It would have voided all city or county prevailing wage ordinances and barred such laws in the future. Several jurisdictions, including Jacksonville, have prevailing wage requirements, and in Dade County, which includes Miami, a prevailing wage bill fell only one vote short of passage by the county governing body.

The governor vetoed the bill as an infringement on home rule, but the issue is not dead. The legislature is scheduled to come back in session later this year, and an attempt to override the veto is expected.

New Hampshire—A repealer of the state's prevailing wage law passed the Senate, but the House sidetracked the bill and sent it to a study committee.

New Mexico—While a repeal bill was killed, the threshold for coverage was raised from $2,000 to $20,000.

Utah—The Republican legislature passed a repeal bill early this year, but Democratic Gov. Scott Matheson vetoed it as "a misguided effort to cut costs" by reducing "working people's earnings."

Wyoming—The threshold level for coverage was raised from $5,000 to $25,000.

Two Nurses' Groups Join Arm of Teachers

The Nurses & Health Professionals division of the Teachers picked up two unaffiliated units representing more than 750 nurses in separate elections in Milwaukee and Great Barrington, Mass.

In Milwaukee, the AFT was chosen by a 5-to-1 margin to represent 650 registered nurses working for Milwaukee County institutions. In Great Barrington, a vote of 66 to 0 brought 104 registered and licensed practical nurses at Fairview Hospital into the AFT.



BACHELOR OF ARTS degrees are presented to summer graduates of the George Meany Center for Labor Studies by David A. Frisby, right, dean of Antioch University's Maryland branch. The new graduates are Charles M. Nobles, left of the Food & Commercial Workers and Andrew A. Cuvo of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Safety 'Whistle Blowers' Win Record Back Pay

A record back-pay award has been collected by two members of the Carpenters who were illegally fired after they charged their employer with violating federal job safety standards.

The court-ordered settlement of nearly $35,000 to Robert Elliot of Herndon, Va., and Patrick Coady of Brandywine, Md., is the highest award under the discrimination clause of the 1970 Occupational Safety & Health Act.

Elliott and Coady were employed by P & Z Co. on a pile-driving operation at the subway construction site in the Washington, D.C., area when they were discharged in November 1975.

The company contended that Elliot, a pile-driver foreman, and Coady, a journeyman pile-driver operator, were fired because they were involved in an accident at the construction site. Elliot and Coady claimed they were fired because they filed complaints with OSHA about P & Z's safety violations.

Legal action was initiated by the Carpenters and the union's Washington district council. The Labor Dept. took over the case when it was brought to the attention of OSHA that the firing occurred after Elliot and Coady filed the complaints.

A section of the 1970 safety law provides that a worker cannot be discharged or discriminated against in any way for filing a safety violation complaint against his employer.

A federal magistrate ruled in favor of Elliot and Coady in March 1978, but appeals by the P & Z firm delayed the actual awarding of the back-pay checks until late July.

Two Awarded Degrees For Labor Studies

Two local union officials were awarded bachelor of arts degrees in labor studies after completing courses at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies.

Since the degree program was started five years ago in cooperation with Antioch University, the center has graduated 14 students at its campus in Silver Spring, Md.

The two new graduates are Andrew A. Cuvo of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Charles M. Nobles of the Food & Commercial Workers. Cuvo is business manager and financial secretary of IBEW Local 367 in Easton, Pa., and Nobles is president of UFCW Local 73 in Tulsa, Okla.

More than 90 trade unionists are currently enrolled in the center's degree system. While they are required to attend one-week of classes each six months at the center, most of their course work is done at home or on the road while on union assignment.

Officiating in the degree presentation were David A. Frisby, dean of Antioch University's Maryland branch, and AFL-CIO Education Director Walter G. Davis.

Neil Sherburne Named To U.S. Advisory Panel

St. Paul, Minn.—Neil Sherburne, retired secretary-treasurer of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, has been appointed by President Carter to the U.S. Advisory Commission on International Communication, Cultural & Education Affairs.

Unions Held Receptive To New Technologies

Union opposition to new technology is not the major obstacle inhibiting increased productivity, a University of Michigan study found.

Instead, employer representatives — particularly at the middle management level—may constitute the real barrier to the introduction and effective use of technological innovations, the study concluded.

The study, funded by the National Science Foundation, is based on a review of published literature on the subject and nearly 100 interviews of practitioners involved in the collective bargaining process where technological change was an issue. The research was conducted by the Institute of Labor & Industrial Relations, a cooperative agency of the University of Michigan and Wayne State University.

The most common response that American trade unions have to the introduction of new technology is willing acceptance, the study showed.

While opposition ranks second on a short-term basis, "that response is very often a temporary one and is usually followed by either a move to adjustment or willing acceptance," it said.

"Once the employer can convince the union's leaders that their members either will not be adversely affected or that those who are will receive some offsetting benefit, union opposition evaporates," the study pointed out.

Both in the literature and in the course of the interviews, employer representatives — especially middle-level managers —were cited as major barriers to technological change.

"The existing literature, confirmed by the interviews conducted, makes it clear that currently labor unions are not the major stumbling block inhibiting increased productivity—the ultimate objective in introducing more efficient production methods," the study concluded.

"We believe, however, that further study of management's role in affecting the rate and direction of technological innovation would be warranted."

Milwaukee's Golda Meier Library Dedicated to 'One of Our Own'

Milwaukee—The Golda Meier Library was dedicated here, and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland led the tribute to "a daughter of the American trade union movement" who helped build Israel's labor federation and went on to lead that nation as its prime minister.

The teachers college she attended is now part of the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, and the university renamed its library as a memorial to its distinguished graduate.

The trade union movement considered Golda Meier "one of our own," Kirkland said. Her father was a member of the Carpenters and the Railway Carmen. Golda Meier and other Jewish pioneers who went to Palestine in the 1920s "built a national labor movement first, as the keystone of a democratic system before they built a nation."

Kirkland spoke of the close personal ties that AFL-CIO President George Meany and other trade union leaders had over the years with Golda Meier. He recalled her address to the 1969 AFL-CIO convention, the dramatic telephone call she made to George Meany at the time of the 1973 Yom Kippur attack on Israel, which Meany took at the podium of the AFL-CIO convention that was then in session.

And in 1976, after her retirement as prime minister, when the AFL-CIO presented her with its Murray-Green Award, Kirkland recalled the words with which she explained her commitment to Israel, so that her children and grandchildren could live their lives "as free, independent citizens of a free, democratic state."

That same inspiration, Kirkland noted, "guided the founders of this nation" and "lies at the heart of the American labor movement."

Israeli Consul Moshe Gilboa expressed the warm thanks of his nation for the tribute to its longtime leader. Joining university and public officials on the dais were Wisconsin State AFL-CIO President John W. Schmitt; Steelworkers District Director Bert McNamara, who is a University of Wisconsin regent, and Building & Construction Trades Council President James Elliott, who is president of the State Vocational Board.

The library marked the dedication with an exhibit tied to Golda Meier's life.

W. E. Brennan, Nebraska State Leader, Dies

Omaha, Neb. — Services were held here for William E. Brennan, president of the Nebraska State AFL-CIO, who died on Aug. 7 at the age of 57.

Before assuming the presidency of the State AFL-CIO in 1972, Brennan served as a member of its executive board and as recording secretary of the Omaha Central Labor Union. He was a member of the Elevator Constructors.

Brennan also served as a member of the Nebraska State Senate and as an Air Corps pilot in World War II.

In a message to his widow, Marilyn, AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland expressed the pride of the labor movement in "his contributions as a union leader, as a public official, and as a member of the armed forces."

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Governors Join in Protest Of Cutback in Jobless Aid

Economic Slowdown Worsens

A clear slowdown in the economy, marked by declines in auto sales, a fall-off in housing starts, and a drop in earnings, showed up in a rash of economic reports, even as the government reported a further rise in corporate profits over 1978.

After-tax earnings of American businesses between April and June rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $138.6 billion, the Commerce Dept. reported, a 13.2 percent increase over the year-earlier level. The profits total actually declined 2.4 percent, however, when measured against the first-quarter figures, which were up 35 percent from a year earlier.

At the same time, Commerce revised its estimate of second-quarter economic growth to show real gross national product—the value of all goods and services produced in the nation—falling at an annual rate of 2.4 percent during the second quarter, instead of the 3.3 percent decline initially reported. The government attributed most of the change to stronger inventory investment than originally estimated.

Still, the real GNP decline was steep by any standard and compared with an increase of 1.1 percent in the first quarter of the year. The report, along with other economic developments, reinforced signs of the nation's third recession in the past 10 years.

Most Administration and private economists expect the current July-September quarter also to show a drop in real GNP. If so, the two consecutive quarterly declines in economic growth would fit the standard definition of a recession.

Meanwhile, as gloomy reports on the economy poured in, the banking industry appeared poised for another boost—to a record 12.25 percent from 12 percent—in the prime lending rate charged on corporate loans.

The 12 percent level was first set on Aug. 15 by New York's Chase Manhattan Bank and the action was quickly followed by other banks, making it industry-wide.

Earlier, the Federal Reserve Board announced a half-percentage point rise, to 10.5 percent, in its discount rate, the fee it charges on loans to member banks, a move calculated to further tighten the money supply as an anti-inflation measure.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald warned, however, that the Fed's action in raising the key interest rate only "puts an additional squeeze on an economy

(Continued on Page 8)

Retirees Hit With Sharp Budget Rise

Living costs for an elderly, retired couple last fall showed their largest increases since 1974, reflecting the sharply rising rate of inflation throughout the economy, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

A man and his wife maintaining an "intermediate" standard of living in October 1978 needed $7,846 to pay for the essentials of life, the government said. That represents an 8.2 percent increase between autumn 1977 and autumn 1978.

Since last fall, consumer prices have risen another 8.1 percent, which would bring the total budget cost to $8,481 at the middle level, $5,960 at a "lower" standard of living, and $12,535 at a higher level.

The three budgets, drawn up for selected urban areas of the country, are based on a hypothetical package of goods and services that might be purchased by a man aged 65 or more and his wife. They are assumed to be self-supporting, in reasonably good health, and able to take care of themselves.

The lower budget was not designed as a subsistence, or poverty, level but simply a level relatively lower than the intermediate budget. BLS said. The total cost of the lower budget between 1977 and 1978 rose by 8.5 percent and the higher budget by 7.7 percent, also the largest increases in four years.

In all three budgets, the components showing the largest increases were food and medical

(Continued on Page 3)



FUN AND GAMES at this Chicago lakefront festival included the Myra Wolfgang Memorial Waiters and Waitresses Race, named after a popular leader of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees. Contestants were judged by the fastest time over a quarter-mile course and the least champagne spilled from the four glasses on each tray.

In Steelworkers' Dispute:

Broad Boycott Right Affirmed by NLRB

A unanimous National Labor Relations Board ruled that a conglomerate can't shield itself from a consumer boycott stemming from a labor dispute at one of its subsidiaries.

The landmark decision upheld the nationwide boycott the Steelworkers launched nearly two years ago against all consumer products made by Pet. Inc., and its many divisions and subsidiaries. The union's action was in support of USWA members on strike against the Hussman Refrigerator Co., which makes commercial refrigerators at a Bridgeton, Mo., plant.

The parent company sought to have the NLRB brand the union's conduct an illegal secondary boycott aimed at neutral parties to a labor dispute. But the NLRB said there was sufficient linkage between Pet and its subsidiaries to make the boycott legal.

Thus, the union's advertisements and handbills urging the public not to buy the various products of Pet companies were protected by a section of federal labor law covering conditions under which a union may use publicity "for the purpose of truthfully advising the public" of a related labor dispute.

In addition to various milk and ice cream products, Pet makes and markets a variety of brand-name goods through its subsidiaries and divisions. These include Whitman Chocolates, Stuckey candies, Reese Finer Foods, Musselman Fruit Products, and others.

The union placed advertisements in local newspapers advising the public of the Hussman strike and asking consumers to refuse to buy any Pet, Inc., product, including 17 food items manufactured by the conglomerate's various divisions.

The boycott was endorsed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council in

(Continued on Page 7)

New Rules Proposal Denounced

The National Governors' Association has joined with the trade union movement in declaring its "strong opposition" to a Labor Dept. proposal that would curtail the extended unemployment compensation program.

With the national economy "entering a recession," the governors said, "the timing of this proposed change is extremely poor."

The extended benefits program operates during periods of high, recession-level unemployment. It provides up to 13 weeks of joint federal-state payments to workers who are still jobless after their regular state unemployment benefits are used up. The program goes into effect, either nationally or in one or more states, when the insured unemployment rate reaches the "trigger-on" level and is phased out when the jobless rate drops below the trigger.

Under Administration pressure to hold down budget costs, the Labor Dept. has proposed to change the method of computing the insured unemployment rate so as to make it harder to reach the national trigger rate. It would also phase out both national and state programs sooner than would be done under present rules.

It would accomplish this by eliminating persons receiving extended unemployment benefits from the count of the insured unemployed.

(Continued on Page 2)

Union Fights Resurrection Of Sweatshops

New York—The sweatshops are back, and the Ladies' Garment Workers once again is turning the spotlight of publicity on dingy basements and dilapidated tenement apartments.

Union organization and social reform laws long ago wiped out the sweatshops where earlier generations of immigants toiled over sewing machines. But as the ILGWU showed reporters on a tour of New York's poverty-ravaged South Bronx, they have sprung up again.

It's illegal, of course, to employ people at piece rates that bring in less than half the minimum wage and to operate businesses out of firetraps of apartments and boarded-up frame houses. It is also illegal, except under the most

(Continued on Page 3)

Task Force Asks Tight Controls On Toxic Chemicals in Workplace

Hundreds of thousands of American workers will die needlessly unless there is more effective regulation of potentially deadly chemicals, a high-level government committee warned.

A two-year study by the Toxic Substances Strategy Committee found the task of policing workplaces, store shelves and the environment "almost overpowering" but essential. It found also that the available resources are "small in relation to the job to be done."

In a draft report to the President, on which it invited public comment, the interagency committee termed America's workplaces "the most serious source of human exposure to toxic chemicals."

It called for a bolder regulatory approach and stressed that prevention of hazards is cheaper than dealing with their consequences.

"We can't wait around for people to start dropping," Gus Speth, the task force's chairman, told reporters. Speth was recently named head of the Council on Environmental Quality, one of a score of government agencies that took part in the study.

AFL-CIO Occupational Safety & Health Director George H. R. Taylor welcomed the report's emphasis on prevention and its support for stronger regulation at a time when industry has been pressing for weakening of existing protections.

The report confirms "what the labor movement has said all along," he added.

But the Chemical Manufacturers Association complained that the report overplayed the risk of cancer. The trade association said the nation shouldn't be "stampeded into unnecessary actions and costly new government programs."

The task force said exposure to

(Continued on Page 3)

Governors Hit Proposed Cut In Jobless Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

The National Governors' Association expressed its opposition to the proposed rules change in a letter to Labor Sec. Ray Marshall from Rhode Island Gov. J. Joseph Garrahy, chairman of the association's Committee on Human Resources.

Garrahy said the governors "seriously question the economic and public policy wisdom of tinkering with a triggered countercyclical relief program in the early stages of a national economic recession."

The proposal to exclude persons receiving extended benefits from the count of insured unemployed "is inconsistent with the view of extended benefits as a necessary and integral part of the overall unemployment insurance system," he said.

Garrahy urged Marshall not to put any regulatory changes into effect before the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation completes its "comprehensive review of the entire federal-state unemployment insurance."

Meanwhile, the Labor Dept. was also receiving formal protests from a large number of AFL-CIO affiliates and state central bodies.

Earlier, AFL-CIO President George Meany had termed the cutback proposal "unconscionable" and said the new regulations would cause hardship among the unemployed and prolong a recession through the loss of purchasing power.

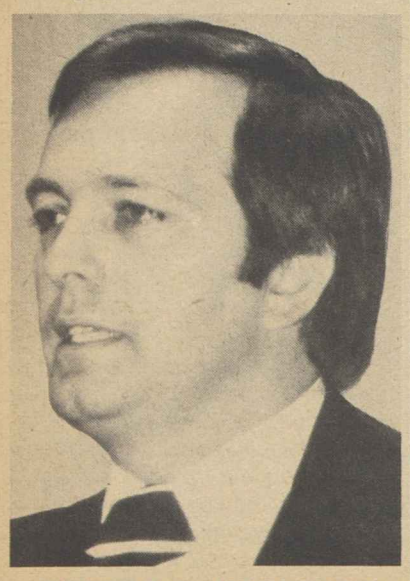
Food Trades Elect Harbrant As President

Chicago—The executive board of the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. has elected Robert F. Harbrant as president and Harry R. Poole to replace him as the department's secretary-treasurer.

Harbrant succeeds William H. Wynn, president of the recently-merged Food & Commercial Workers, who has headed the department for the past year. The shift makes the presidency a fulltime position.

Poole, who will serve as secretary-treasurer of the department, was president of the Meat Cutters before it merged with the Retail Clerks to become the Food & Commercial Workers. He is executive vice president of the merged union.

Harbrant, formerly on the staff of the AFI-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept., was named executive director of the Food & Beverage Trades Dept. when it was rechartered in 1976 and was named secretary-treasurer the following year.



ROBERT F. HARBRANT



THE AFL-CIO will ask Congress when it reconvenes to give high priority to legislation to increase the nation's housing supply, Federation Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told delegates to the Plasterers & Cement Masons' 44th convention in New Orleans. Seated is Plasterers President Joseph T. Power.

OSHA Acts to Correct Chlorine Exposure Limit

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration has moved to correct what basically was a typographical error that has permitted some 80,000 workers to be exposed for eight years to higher levels of airborne chlorine than OSHA intended.

Even at very low exposure levels chlorine can cause skin and lung irritations in some persons. At high levels it can cause serious respiratory disorders.

The error in the standard has allowed affected workers—including iron makers, dye makers, chlorinated solvent makers, paper bleachers and others—to be exposed to up to 1 ppm chlorine (one part chlorine per million parts air) averaged over an 8-hour day. OSHA intended to limit exposure to a ceiling of 1 ppm exposure at any time.

The Chlorine Institute, whose members include some of the largest chlorine manufacturers, has filed suit in federal court in New Orleans to block OSHA from instituting the lower ceiling limit and also has petitioned the agency to stop the new limit from becoming effective as scheduled Oct. 15.

The Chlorine Institute argues the tougher standard will be costly and that there is no evidence workers have suffered "material impairment of health or functional capacity" as a result of chlorine exposure under the erroneous rule.

Paperworkers President Wayne Glenn has written to OSHA chief Dr. Eula Bingham challenging industry efforts to stop the ceiling level from becoming effective in October. Paperworkers Health & Safety Director Vernon McDougall points out that workers need the protection of the tougher standard and industry "did not make a case for irreparable harm" it claims it would suffer under the stricter standard.

Emphasizing the importance of the ceiling limit to paper bleachers, McDougall notes that most are exposed to high peak concentrations. The ceiling standard would mean the manufacturing process would have to be cleaned up so that, in addition to the paper bleachers, those who get exposed less frequently also would benefit.

The error in the current OSHA standard dates back to 1971 when OSHA issued its first group of standards, including air contaminant rules. OSHA meant to include a 1 ppm ceiling for chlorine but instead specified a time-weighted average limit. The agency subsequently corrected its air contaminants standard but mistakenly omitted the "C" for ceiling from the chlorine entry.

The mistake was discovered and a correction was issued in December 1978. In February 1979, the correction was stayed and time was allowed for public comment. Recently, the 1 ppm ceiling level was reaffirmed and Oct. 15 was set as the effective date for the tougher rule.

Rail Clerks, Rock Island Weigh Pact

The Railway & Airline Clerks continued to meet with federal mediators in an attempt to resolve their contract differences with the Rock Island Railroad.

After meeting for four hours on Aug. 16 with George Ives, a member of the National Mediation Board, the two sides agreed to consider a government proposal for settling the dispute. They also agreed that neither party would engage in any self-help action prior to 12:01 a.m., Aug. 24.

Prolonged negotiations have stumbled over the issue of pay retroactivity for BRAC's 1,800 members employed by the carrier. The NMB proffered arbitration over a month ago after an impasse developed.

BRAC accepted the arbitration proposal but Rock Island refused, setting in motion a 30-day "cooling-off" period before the union was free to strike under the Railway Labor Act. The union was legally free to strike on Aug. 18.

BRAC President Fred J. Kroll said that his union sought a settlement similar to the national agreement signed with most other major railroads this year.

Russell Appointed COWPS Director

President Carter named R. Robert Russell to succeed Barry Bosworth as director of the Council on Wage & Price Stability.

Russell, a former economics professor at the University of California at San Diego, has been the agency's deputy director for the past year. Alfred Kahn remains chairman of the council and the Administration's chief spokesman on the anti-inflation program.

The change was not considered part of the President's reshuffle of his Cabinet and White House staff.

At 44th Convention:

Plasterers Adopt Per Capita Boost

New Orleans—Some 400 delegates to the Plasterers & Cement Masons' 44th convention here approved a number of internal changes, elected officers, and acted on three dozen resolutions.

During the four-day meeting, a large number of speakers addressed the delegates on a wide range of issues confronting the industry and the nation.

Among the internal changes adopted by the convention was an increase in per capita tax, the first in over four years. Currently $6 per month, per capita payments will rise by $1 on Jan. 1 in each of the next two years. In each of the following three years, additional increases of 50 cents to $1 a month will take effect.

The need for higher per capita resulted from inflationary increases in operating costs, President Joseph T. Power said in his keynote address.

In other resolutions, delegates approved holding their constitutional convention every five years instead of quadrennially. They also approved a complete rewriting of the constitution to bring it up to date. The revised constitution will be sent to all locals at the call of the next convention in 1984.

With an eye on next year's national elections, delegates adopted a measure urging all local unions to form a Committee on Political Education and to contribute to COPE to help combat labor's foes who have been "working full time and collecting millions of dollars to defeat the purpose that working men and women have joined to support."

Victor Bussie, president of the Louisiana State AFL-CIO, outlined labor problems in his state, and pledged a major effort to repeal Louisiana's so-called right-to-work law.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, discussing the nation's economic problems, said that major efforts toward inflation control and energy independence top the list. But, he cautioned, there is also an urgent need for anti-recession action.

When Congress returns from its summer recess, he said, the AFL-CIO and its affiliated unions will be working hard for passage of job-creating employment and training programs, improved unemployment compensation, and a standby public works program to meet an expected rise in joblessness.

As recession fears increase, Kirkland added, the outlook is for a severe falloff in new housing starts, a development that would adversely affect workers in the building trades. The AFI.-CIO is giving high priority to legislation to increase the nation's housing supply, he said, particularly low-rent public housing and leased housing programs to help those whose needs are greatest.

In a series of resolutions, the delegates recorded their support for retention of the Davis-Bacon Act, which requires the payment of prevailing wages on most construction supported by federal tax dollars; called for an anti-inflation program based on equality of sacrifice; urged Congress to reverse President Carter's decision to decontrol oil prices; reiterated their support of national health insurance and enactment of labor law reform, and appealed for action to end immigration abuses.

Power was re-elected to a third term as president without opposition. Also unopposed for re-election were Sec.-Treas. Robert J. Holton and Executive Vice President Melvin H. Roots.

Among the major speakers were Rep. Lindy Boggs (D-La.); Norman Hill, executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; Al Barkan, director of the AFL-CIO COPE; Bricklayers' President Thomas Murphy; Dale Witcraft, chairman of the Impartial Jurisdictional Disputes Board; Thomas Dailey, chairman of the National Associated General Contractors' building division; Joseph LaRocca, executive vice president of the National Erectors Association; and President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers.

Labor Dept. Booklet Explains Bonding Rules

The Labor Dept. has published a new booklet explaining the bonding requirements unions must meet for their officers and employees under the Labor-Management Reporting & Disclosure Act and the Civil Service Reform Act.

Copies of the booklet, "Bonding Requirements Under the LMRDA and the CSRA," are available free in limited quantities from the Labor Dept.'s Labor-Management Services Administration, Room N-5119, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20216, or at area offices of the agency.



BACHELOR OF ARTS degrees are presented to summer graduates of the George Meany Center for Labor Studies by David A. Frisby, right, dean of Antioch University's Maryland branch. The new graduates are Charles M. Nobles, left, of the Food & Commercial Workers and Andrew A. Cuvo of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Workplace Hazards:

Stiff Controls Sought On Toxic Chemicals

(Continued from Page 1)

toxic substances can cause cancer, birth defects, kidney damage, lung and heart disease, serious skin disorders and other ailments.

"More than 100,000 workers are believed to die each year as a result of physical and chemical hazards at work, but the magnitude of the long-term health effects of occupational conditions is unknown," it reported.

Occupational exposure to carcinogens is a factor in an estimated 20 to 38 percent of all cancer cases, it said. And an unknown number of people are endangered "because of hazardous chemicals seeping into water supplies from the thousands of hazardous-waste dump sites" and because of exposure to chemicals that may show up in household products "from cosmetics to breakfast food."

Government agencies are responsible for regulation of tens of thousands of chemical substances but "years of research can be required to determine if a particular substance is hazardous," and the list of new products threatens to make a huge backlog even bigger.

The task force concluded that "the basic approach" of the laws dealing with toxic chemicals is sound. For the most part, they require action to limit exposure "when evidence of the hazard is convincingly suggestive" even if not completely certain.

But the "implementation of these laws has been slow" and the number of chemicals regulated to date "disappointingly small," it pointed out. Despite budget increases, the existing backlog will take many years to overcome.

The inter-agency committee called for an integrated network of data on toxic chemicals with information freely available to any group in government with an interest.

It said government agencies should be able to share, with proper precautions against disclosure of confidential data, information obtained from manufacturers bearing on the ingredients of products.

The committee indicated concern that the government must depend on industry sources for much of its testing. Thus, "much of the scientific and technical information used in agency decisionmaking today is industry-generated. Only a small portion is produced through government research, testing or monitoring programs," the report found.

As a step towards lessening the dependence on industry, the task force supported both an expansion of government research, better coordination among the various agencies and priorities to assure that the government use its research capabilities "as effectively and efficiently as possible."

To help overcome a shortage of trained personnel, the committee said agencies with responsibilities in this area should develop proposals "for a federal retraining and education program in environmental health and environmental pollution control technology."



N.Y. Post photo by Goldenberg

THE YEAR IS 1979, but this South Bronx workroom is like an East Side sweatshop scene more than half a century ago. The Ladies' Garment Workers found this illegal operation going on behind the barred windows of an old clapboard house.

ILG Fights Revival Of Sweatshops

(Continued from Page 1)

carefully regulated circumstances, to farm out bundles of garments to be completed at home, perhaps with the help of young children.

But the fines that the New York State Dept. of Labor can levy are small, the criminal prosecutions drawn out and difficult. Most important, complaints are few because so many of the exploited workers are aliens without residence permits who are subject to deportation. They come from the Caribbean and the West Indies, Latin America and the Asian continent.

Reporters for New York newspapers had doors slammed in their faces at a crumbling building that the union identified as city-owned and in another location were stopped by "a padlocked iron gate and a broom-wielding young man." But a Times reporter was able to "look through barred windows and see a single fan going as workers leaned over ironing boards." A woman identified by employees as an owner of the shop "cursed at reporters" and refused to discuss the unionists' charges that the premises had no sprinkler system and a sealed fire exit.

The union reports more than 500 sweatshop operations in New York, but it also has found comparable exploitation of alien workers in other cities including Boston, Chicago, Miami and Los Angeles.

In the South Bronx, where the concentration is greatest, the ILGW has opened a center that provides counseling in legal aid, employment and health for workers and other residents of the area.

Unions Press Protection Of U.S. Airline Routes

Las Vegas, Nev.—Unions representing nearly 200,000 airline employees urged Congress not to stretch the deregulation concept to the point that jobs and job security would be sacrificed in a major U.S. industry.

Transport Workers President William Lindner testified at Senate hearings on behalf of the AFL-CIO Air Line Coordinating Committee, which includes the Machinists, Air Line Pilots, Railway & Airline Clerks and Flight Engineers, as well as the TWU.

Lindner reiterated the AFL-CIO's opposition to granting cabotage rights to foreign airlines, which would allow them to fly passengers from one U.S. city to another.

The "public interest in aviation" is more than just low fares, Lindner stressed. "It also includes the real and legitimate interests of airlines and their employees."

Likewise, he strongly opposed allowing the Civil Aeronautics Board to suspend authority of a U.S. airline to operate an international route and allow it to grant the route to a competitor without a full hearing.

The five unions did, however, express support for provisions of a bill introduced by Sen. Howard W. Cannon (D-Nev.) that would allow the CAB to suspend or restrict a foreign air carrier's operations in the United States when that carrier's government imposes arbitrary restrictions on U.S. airlines.

The unions also endorsed allowing airlines to calculate anticipated future costs in setting fares. Without such a provision, Lindner said, soaring fuel prices can cause major losses before fares can be adjusted.

Cannon, who is chairman of both the aviation subcommittee and its parent Senate Commerce Committee, held the hearings in his home state during the recess of Congress.

At its recent meeting, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said allowing foreign airlines to provide air service within the United States would result in wasteful and costly duplication.

Living Costs Shoot Up For Retired Couples

(Continued from Page 1)

care, each jumping about 13 percent. Because food and medical costs are smaller proportions of the total budget at the intermediate and higher living standards, the increases in total budget costs were less for these two levels than for the lowest budget.

The average social security benefit for couples in October 1978 was $433 a month, or $5,196 a year. And the maximum possible social security benefit—$734 a month, or $8,808 a year, for a couple—was still well short of the higher BLS retiree budget.

Thus, supplemental income of some kind would have been necessary for retirees to reach either of the two higher budgets.

Food costs in the budgets include a specified number of meals away from home and an allowance for guest meals, BLS said. The medical-care component provides for "out-of-pocket" costs for Medicare and allows for items not covered by the plan such as dental care, eye glasses, and most out-of-hospital prescription and non-prescription drugs.

The budgets reflected substantial increases in transportation costs, due to higher oil and gasoline prices. These costs were 6.8 percent higher at the lower level, 6.5 percent more at the intermediate and 6.9 percent higher at the top budget.

Housing costs, which jumped about 5 percent at the three levels, are based on the assumption that retired couples own their homes and have no payments for mortgage principal and interest.

In general, retired couples fared a little better in smaller cities, especially in the South. In areas classified by BLS as "metropolitan," the costs were decidedly higher.

United Way Names Director for Labor

United Way of America, the national association of community service groups, has announced the appointment of Jordan L. Biscardo as director of labor participation.

Biscardo, a member of the Amalgamated Transit Union, has been AFL-CIO labor liaison representative in Pittsburgh with the United Way of Allegheny County.

Retired Couples' Budgets At Three Living Levels

Here is a summary of budget estimates for a retired urban couple at three levels of living in the fall of 1978. The figures are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

	Lower Budget	Intermediate Budget	Higher Budget
Food	$1,725	$2,299	$2,884
Housing	1,831	2,641	4,139
Transportation	360	701	1,299
Clothing	220	369	568
Personal Care	156	229	335
Medical Care	765	769	774
Other family consumption	220	366	722
Other items	237	472	875
TOTAL BUDGET	**$5,514**	**$7,846**	**$11,596**

AFGE Survey Shows Federal Pay Trailing

Eighty-eight percent of federal white-collar jobs pay less than comparable private sector jobs, the American Federation of Government Employees charged.

The AFGE, which represents the largest group of federal employees, cited survey data of the Bureau of Labor Statistics to show the widening gap between government pay and the salary comparability that Congress mandated by law in 1970.

AFGE President Kenneth T. Blaylock and top officials of other federal worker unions, including groups not affiliated with the AFL-CIO, have joined in protesting the Administration's plan for a 5.5 percent cap on federal pay raises for the second successive year. They said job comparability data supports their demand for a 10.3 percent across-the-board raise.

Blaylock sent his union's research data to newspapers that had earlier received what he termed "highly misleading" statements about government pay issued by the director of the federal Office of Personnel Management, Alan K. Campbell.

In addition to the job-by-job comparisons, the AFGE packet included data developed by the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. showing the erosion of federal pay over the years.

Thus, a mid-level professional whose salary in 1972 was nearly 11 percent above the Bureau of Labor Statistics intermediate budget level for a family of four, has fallen nearly 13 percent below that level.

Likewise, the salary grade that in 1972 was 100.7 percent of the high family budget now has dropped to 77.8 percent—a gap of $6,595.

At the lowest professional entrance level, in terms of constant 1967 dollars, today's government worker is 16.5 percent worse off in buying power than 10 years ago.

And since the passage of the law that was supposed to keep federal pay in line with comparable private jobs, the average government salary has gone up 61.6 percent—while both the comparability index and the consumer price index have risen more than 92.1 percent.

The Hand of OPEC

AMERICANS ARE AWARE that the price of energy has emerged as the chief engine of inflation, and they are aware that the hand on the throttle of that engine is the hand of OPEC, aided and abetted by their junior partners, the international oil companies.

Most of the troubles we face can be traced back to 1973, when the Arab nations imposed an absolute boycott on sales of oil to this country, and then relaxed to the extent of selling at a 400 percent markup. The price has never stopped increasing from that extortionate level. Since the first of this year, the price has risen another 60 percent, and no end is in sight.

For six long years nothing was done to restore America's position. Over that period the oil companies steadily cut back domestic oil production and steadily increased oil imports, making America twice as dependent as before on the OPEC cartel.

So President Carter's six-point energy program is about six years overdue, and all Americans are going to pay heavily for the delay. But we welcome and applaud the President's proposals. We fully support his call for conservation, a crash program to develop new energy sources, the creation of an Energy Mobilization Board, an Energy Security Fund and a windfall profits tax.

The AFL-CIO has called for all of these measures, and we intend to keep pressing for a little more.

We want to see oil imports taken out of the hands of OPEC's henchmen and put in the hands of a government agency that would determine the amount of oil to be imported, negotiate the price on a direct government-to-government basis with the oil-producing nations, and allocate its distribution in the United States in order to meet the needs and interests of all regions and all citizens.

We also want to see a reversal of the President's misguided decision to decontrol domestic oil prices. We believe it is a proper and legitimate responsibility of government to protect the American people from huge energy price increases set by the whim of foreign governments and joyfully adopted by American profiteers. The American people deserve to be protected against price gouging that runs hundreds of percent beyond the cost of production.

WITH OR WITHOUT decontrol, there must be an excess profits tax on the oil companies for use by the government to develop new energy sources, improve mass-transit facilities and relieve the pressure on those who earn too little to withstand higher gasoline and heating-oil prices.

The President has called for a 50 percent excess profits tax. The House has passed a bill calling for 60 percent. We are urging the Senate to set the figure at 85 percent and to defeat any effort to weaken the tax by exemptions or phase-outs or by permitting any part of the tax to be given back to the oil companies.

We would prefer to see controls that are tight enough so that there is no excess to be taxed. But as long as profits are indecently excessive, let them be taxed for the benefit of the American people and for the purpose of achieving energy independence.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at the Plasterers' convention.

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'Full Steam Ahead!'



Second Quarter Untypical:

Productivity of U.S. Workers Remains Highest in the World

By Gus Tyler

EITHER THE AMERICAN WORKER is suddenly getting lazy or American technology has suddenly gone rusty. That must be the conclusion if we are to believe what the Joint Economic Committee of the United States Congress tells us about what is happening to productivity in this country.

They have just completed a "study" and have announced that the amount that an American worker turns out per hour has fallen dramatically. And, if the committee is to be believed, catastrophically.

In the second quarter of 1979 (April to June), productivity fell by 5.7 per cent—the biggest drop in any quarter-year since 1947 when we began gathering statistics on productivity. The headline in The New York Times announcing this bad news read: "Lag in Productivity Called Major Peril to Living Standard."

Looks bad, doesn't it? So to get some perspective on all this palaver about productivity, let's look at a few facts:

Productivity in the United States is higher than in any country in the world. Despite all the talk about high productivity in Japan, if the United States is taken as a standard of 100, Japan drags far behind at 62. It takes ten people in Japan to do the work that six do in the United States.

The American worker with American technology outproduces all other workers anywhere in the world. We have had this lead for a long time and we continue to hold it.

As for the second quarter of 1979, that quarter-year is as typically American as camels walking up the Capitol steps to take their seats as members of the Joint Economic Committee.

Productivity fell badly in that quarter. It had to, because a big chunk of employed America was unproductive.

One little thing: a Three Mile Island accident. People on palroll were idled; others were busy containing the catastrophe; others were occupied with the clean up; loss of power put other works out of commission.

Another little thing: DC-10s were grounded. The airlines did not fire their pilots, hostesses, mechanics, or ticket sellers, but they did not have planes to fly. That's counter-productive.

But then a big thing: the oil shortage. Gas stations did not fire all of their help, especially it they were mom and pop operations. They continued on the payroll but they were not pumping gas.

All kinds of guys with little business vehicles had to wait in line for an hour or two to get gas, a most unproductive use of time.

Independent truckers—men who owned their own rigs—refused to deliver things, a truly counter-productive operation.

Many small businesses did not operate for lack of fuel. In their moments of non-operation they did not fire their entire staffs because they needed these trained people when they resumed operation.

In sum, April to June 1979 were months when millions—literally millions—of Americans continued on payrolls, counted as on the job, while they were producing nothing.

This wild weird moment is now presented by the Joint Economic Committee as typical of the trend in America.

What makes the whole exercise ludicrous is the report that in 1977 and 1978—years earlier described by the same committee as periods of decline in productivity—productivity rose by 5.3 percent and 4.4 percent annually, close to the highest rates of growth in American history.

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Davis-Bacon Still Needed Safeguard

Since being signed into law by President Hoover in 1931, the Davis-Bacon Act has been an important protection for workers in the construction trades.

It became national policy then, and remains, to forbid contractors to beat down wages to win government contracts.

These workers are uniquely vulnerable. They do not hold regular, salaried jobs. They are frequently unemployed, often for long periods. Davis-Bacon provides at least some stability for these workers.

Incredibly, there are members of Congress who want no protection for the same workers we can thank for a construction industry envied throughout the world.

—Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall

Enemies Chipping Away:

Cuts in Social Security Benefits Would Hit Poor Blacks Hardest

By Bayard Rustin

EVER SINCE SOCIAL SECURITY became the law of the land in 1935, its conservative opponents have repeatedly sought to destroy it, or failing that, to substantially weaken the system. Of course, Barry Goldwater's frontal assault on social security in 1964 proved to be quite a political disaster. Learning from that experience, the enemies of social security have adopted a new, more effective strategy. They have begun to chip away gradually at the system by cutting benefits, changing eligibility requirements and opposing any creative changes.

This quiet, almost unnoticeable attack on social security has ominous implications for evoryone, but especially for black people. I say this for two reasons: First, the proposed cutbacks and changes are largely in the life insurance and disability insurance components of social security. And second, it is these benefit areas—rather than "old age" insurance—which are critically important to thousands of black families and youngsters.

To begin with, let us consider the Carter Administration's proposal to reduce benefits paid to disabled workers. These cuts, which I find especially baffling at a time of chronic inflation, will make it far more difficult for workers to maintain a decent, but far from luxurious standard of living. Since black workers are twice as likely as white workers to be seriously injured on the job, they are disproportionately represented among recipients of disability benefits from social security. Also, disabled black workers are more likely than whites to have dependent children at home. In light of these facts, then, it is clear that the suggested cuts will have a broad and severely adverse impact on the black community.

While disabled black workers watch their income from social security shrink, their children will also be harmed by two other cutback proposals. The more serious of the two is a move to completely phase out social security benefits to dependent students under age 22. Under the present setup, youngsters who lose their father receive a monthly cash payment while they attend high school or college. For blacks this student aid program has special importance for two reasons: the mortality rates for black fathers are higher than rates for whites, and black families have a greater number of children than whites. Consequently, black youngsters of college age are less likely than whites to have an income-producing father at home. Moreover, the financial strains of a large fatherless family make it significantly more difficult for a black youngster to raise sufficient funds for college. If Congress accepts this proposal to kill student benefits, it will in effect be voting to destroy the ever more limited opportunities available to black youth.

THE SECOND PROPOSAL which will affect black youngsters is the plan to lower the cut-off age of children who live with widowed mothers. Presently, widows receive a monthly payment for each child under 18. But under the proposed change, all payments would end when the child turns 16. Quite understandably, this will mean a substantial reduction in income with no offsetting reduction in the costs of decently supporting a child.

Other radical changes under serious consideration include the retirement age, eliminating the lump sum death benefit (a mere $255 usually spent on funeral costs), and abolishing the minimum benefit (a scant $122 per month). In every instance, these proposals strike hardest and with their most devastating impact against poor people and blacks. And the supposed savings realized by these cuts are at best minimal.

This planned rip-off of the social security system, I think, teaches us some useful political lessons. It once again reminds us that in a time of "fiscal austerity," groups which have the least amount of power will inevitably bear the brunt of the sacrifices. It also reminds us that attacks against the weak will always be quiet, discreet, and aimed against the least expected target like that old stand-by, social security.

Unemployment Already High:

Job Programs Urged to Ease Impact of Developing Recession

EXPANDED JOB-CREATING programs will be needed to keep the nation's economic downturn from reaching the severity of the 1973-74 recession, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald warned.

Oswald said the downturn could be more severe than many economists have predicted because the unemployment rate never fully bounced back from the last recession. Thus, he said, joblessness is "substantially higher" than it was at the start of the 1973 recession.

Black unemployment, especially, is high today and America's minorities are usually the first to be affected by recessions, he noted. Oswald was interviewed on Labor News Conference, the weekly AFL-CIO program carried by the Mutual radio network.

Inflation and unemployment are feeding on each other, Oswald warned.

He cited the damaging impact of the recent increases in bank prime interest rates to a record 12 percent, and in the Federal Reserve Board discount rate to an unprecedented 10.5 percent.

"Such boosts in interest rates "curtail the ability of people to purchase goods," he said, leading in turn to reduced production and increased joblessness.

As to the argument that the higher interest rates are necessary to protect the value of the dollar, Oswald noted that inflation accelerated sharply during the period that the Federal Reserve discount rate rose from 6 to 10.5 percent.

"These continued jack-ups of interest rates get built into the whole price structure," he stressed, making inflation worse instead of alleviating it.

Oswald noted that it is the lower-income and middle-income people who are most hurt by the combination of rising unemployment and rising prices. By contrast, during the 1970s, "we had a big growth in the number of millionaires."

APART FROM LABOR'S basic objections to the concept of guidelines that amount to a ceiling on wages but few if any restraints on prices or other forms of income, Oswald said the original guideline concept has lost all relevance since inflation has so far outstripped the Administration's assumptions.

On anti-recession programs, Oswald reiterated the AFL-CIO's support for the various counter-cyclical job programs, including quick public works construction, that can be undertaken to offset recesession-caused unemployment.

The important thing, he said, is to put people to work.

Reporters questioning Oswald on the Labor News Conference program were Frank Swoboda, assistant financial editor of the Washington Post, and Harry Conn, editor of Press Associates, Inc.

Full Measure of Quality!



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE NATION HAS COME a long way from the days when stagecoaches were the only form of intercity public transportation. But while technological advances over the years have provided a much broader array of options for the long-distance traveler, many critics of the national transportation system believe that in terms of policy planning there's a horse-and-buggy mentality unbefitting a jet-age, energy-conscious era.

In 1830, there were a mere 23 miles of railroad track in the country, carrying but a few adventurous passengers; by 1929 there were some 20,000 passenger trains plying a vast national spiderweb of rails and carrying 77 percent of intercity passenger traffic by public mode in the United States. Buses carried 15.4 percent and the airlines served a minuscule percentage of the market.

In 1970, with fewer than 450 trains operating—and 100 of those in the process of being discontinued—rail passenger traffic had declined to 7.2 percent of the commercial share. Airlines dominated the public carrier market with 73 percent. Buses managed to retain 16 percent.

A number of factors contributed to the transformation of the nation's public transportation picture.

America was developing her "love affair with the automobile"—a romance that today is represented by some 135 million cars operating on some 3 million miles of paved roads and streets, in addition to a massive coast-to-coast, border-to-border interstate highway system.

While the popularity and use of cars and commercial air carriers grew, the attraction to rail service declined, in part due to the deliberate neglect by railroads interested in concentrating on more lucrative freight traffic. The process of deterioration was helped along by the Transportation Act of 1958, which allowed discontinuance of trains on notice.

In 1971, the federal government created Amtrak as a private corporation. With about 2,000 old passenger cars and some locomotives, Amtrak belatedly tried to halt the spiral of decay of the rail system.

From 1971 through 1977, Amtrak subsidies totaled $1.8 billion, or 2.37 percent of all federal subsidies to transportation during those years. Meanwhile, highway construction accounted for 53.9 percent of the subsidies—$41 billion—and air transport accounted for 18.4 percent, or $14 billion.

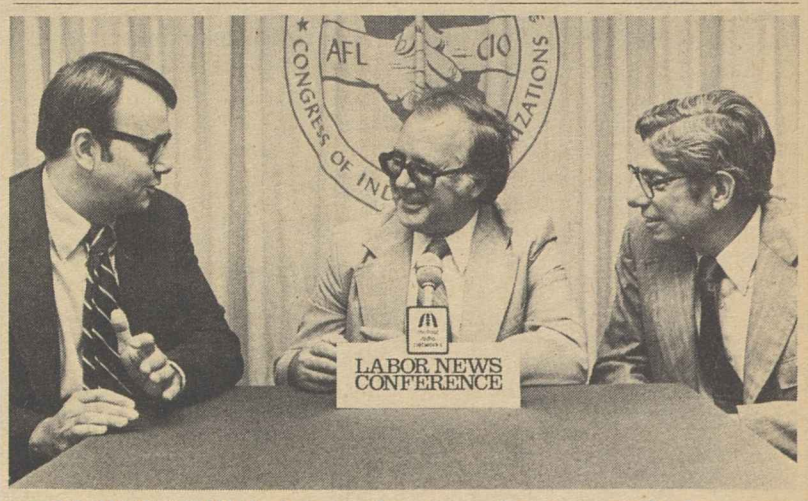
With limited funds, Amtrak struggled along with ancient cars, rundown facilities and poor track—hardly a winning formula to meet its congressional mandate to operate a "modern, fast and comfortable" service.

FOLLOWING AN ADMINISTRATION proposal early this year to reduce the Amtrak system by 43 percent of track, Amtrak President Alan Boyd warned the Congress about the desperate situation of the network. If the commitment to operate a national rail passenger system "is hesitant," he said, "or if we cannot provide better service over whatever route system the Congress dictates, I personally believe it would be better to close Amtrak down."

Due to the energy crunch and a related upsurge in patronage of the Amtrak system, the Administration's original plan has been shelved. But while Amtrak has won a reprieve, there remain the basic problems underlying the history of rail passenger service.

The decline in that service and lopsided growth in other transportation modes occurred without benefit of a coordinated national policy and planning for the future. The abrupt, and perhaps temporary, reversal in Amtrak's fate proves a national strategy still is lacking.

Meanwhile, a recently completed, two-year report by the National Transportation Policy Study Committee predicts passenger travel will double from 1975 to the year 2000. The report warns that the transportation system is in danger, that "it may not be able to meet the needs of a growing America."



THE RECESSION that is already under way could be more severe than most economists have predicted because the unemployment rate at the start of the economic downturn is abnormally high, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post, left, and Harry Conn, right, of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced program is broadcast weekly by Mutual radio.



UPDATED REPORTS on the activities of anti-union management consultants were presented to organizing directors of AFL-CIO affiliates at a meeting of the federation's National Coordinated Organizing Committee. Addressing the session is Director Alan Kistler of the Dept. of Organization & Field Services. Discussions were also conducted by a labor lawyers' subcommittee on union-busting organizations.

Insurance Workers Ask Curbs On Door-to-Door Sales Abuses

The Insurance Workers union has been waging a struggle in state legislatures and at the bargaining table for measures that would minimize if not eliminate the abuses that occur in door-to-door life insurance sales.

In that effort, IWIU President Joseph Pollack has testified before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee on antitrust and monopoly which has been investigating the industry and spoken out elsewhere on the union's program, which includes these major elements.

- A statutory requirement of 90 hours of college-level training at a state-certified institution before a prospective life insurance agent can take the license examination. Only one state, New York, has enacted a watered-down version of this proposal, calling for 40 hours of training. Yet most states do require pre-examination training for those seeking licenses to sell auto and homeowners insurance — 90 hours in New York, for example, and more than 200 hours in Florida.

- License examinations whose difficulty is in keeping with the training requirements.

- Strictly enforced bans on sales contests, prize awards, etc. based on the amount of insurance written. As New York law has recognized for more than 70 years, incentives that may be acceptable for sellers of vacuum cleaners or magazine subscriptions are unsuitable for insurance agents.

- Elimination of "production quotas" for established agents, who now can be dismissed, regardless of seniority, if they fail to bring in a predetermined amount of new business.

This is primarily a collective bargaining goal, but Pollock noted that such quotas put heavy pressure on older agents to press for questionable sales in order to keep a job they may have held for a quarter-century.

IWIU rejects the proposition often advanced before the Judiciary subcommittee and the Federal Trade Commission that life insurance should be sold over the counter in company offices and in banks to customers who come looking for it.

"This is like picking out a pair of glasses from a table in the dime store," Pollack said. "A professional agent, like an oculist, can advise the client how to buy what's best at the lowest cost. And without the debit agents making their rounds, most low-income people, especially members of minority groups, would have no life insurance at all," Pollack noted.

"The system isn't at fault—it's the abuses that have been ignored, or even encouraged, by greedy managements."

Insurance companies oppose the IWIU training bill, Pollack said, preferring to hire untrained prospects on a sink-or-swim basis. Turnover is enormous; fewer than half last as long as five years and most leave sooner. In Prudential Insurance Co., the nation's largest, the union represents 17,500 agents, but lacking a union shop, must enroll nearly 3,000 a year to maintain its average membership of 9,000.

Pre-examination training would weed out all but serious applicants and would protect the public from unskilled opportunists with no interest in a lasting agent-client relationship, Pollack maintained.

The life insurance industry is by far the largest in the United States whose supervision and regulation is by act of Congress left to state governments, the IWIU points out.

The only semblance of national uniformity is effected by the New York state insurance code, the most comprehensive in the nation. The New York law requires a company licensed to do business in that state to observe its code in all other states as well. For example, New York bans life insurance policies that are paid for by the week. No company licensed in New York can sell such policies anywhere.

Virtually all the companies involved in the recent "exposés" are not licensed in New York.

The New York code is not without faults but it's the only meaningful restraint now operating. Whether a federal code would be desirable is a matter of current debate within the industry and the Insurance Workers union.

Other Unions Press Strike:

IBEW Gains Accord With Westinghouse

Pittsburgh—Members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers reached a tentative settlement on a new three-year contract with Westinghouse Electric Corp., but other unions still were without an agreement with the company.

The IBEW's settlement with the nation's second largest electrical manufacturer, reached here on Aug. 17, ended a strike by the union's 13,500 Westinghouse members that began on July 16.

Meanwhile other unions that struck the firm at the same time led by the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, maintained their picketing at company locations.

The IBEW and the IUE, along with the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers, are the major members of the coordinated bargaining committee conducting this year's negotiations with the electrical industry. The IUE and UE represent about 24,000 Westinghouse workers between them. The unions settled with General Electric, the country's biggest electrical manufacturer, last month.

The IBEW pact, which is subject to ratification by members in 52 local unions across the country, provides for wage increases of 44.5 cents an hour over three years, more liberal cost-of-living protection, and considerable improvements in fringe benefits. At several locations, local problems remained to be ironed out.

A major issue in the Westinghouse bargaining—one that has kept IUE, UE, and other unions represented by the coordinated bargaining committee from reaching a settlement — has been pensions. Westinghouse sought to win a contributory pension plan, under which workers would pay for part of their retirement benefits.

The IBEW agreement calls for a non-contributory pension plan with benefits rising to $13 a month per year of service from $11 a month. The pact also includes an improved early retirement benefit formula for workers who lose their jobs because of plant relocations and an agreement to renegotiate that formula beginning Aug. 1, 1980.

The IUE, UE and the other unions, rejecting the company proposal, agreed that Westinghouse took a "dramatic step" in dropping its contributory pension plan but did not increase benefits enough or offer adequate job security to protect workers they represent at older plants.

Vincent Vingle, IUE's chief negotiator and chairman of the union's Westinghouse Conference Board, said that thousands of Westinghouse jobs have disappeared over the last few years and that IUE members need greater protection against job loss—job training rights, the right to transfer with the job, and the right to a pension after 25 years of service regardless of age.

"It does no good to have a good pension, good wages, and working conditions, and see all of them wiped out because the plant cuts back or closes down," he said.

Other issues remain unsolved, Vingle added, including vacation improvements, and contract language improvements relating to disability pay, and grievance and arbitration procedures.

The still-striking unions recessed their talks with the company indefinitely on Aug. 18. Representatives of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service had participated in the previous week's negotiations.

The cost-of-living escalator clause in the IBEW contract calls for semi-annual pay adjustments at the rate of one cent for each rise of two-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index, without a "ceiling" or limit on payments. Under the old formula, hourly pay rose by one cent for each increase of three-tenths of 1 percent in the CPI, and adjustments were made annually. The old formula also included a "corridor" disallowing payment for CPI increases between 7 and 9 percent.

Other terms of the settlement:

- A new dental plan for employees and their dependents, on a co-insurance basis, starting in the second year of the agreement.

- A new prescription-drug plan for retirees, effective on Jan. 1, 1980. Retirees will pay the first $2 of the cost of a prescription drug, while the plan will pay the next $5.

- The vacation schedule is improved to allow three weeks after seven years of service instead of 10 years as called for under the old contract.

- Major medical insurance coverage was raised from $100,000 to $350,000.

Ruling Strengthens Union's Right To Fine Strikebreaking Members

A federal court decision has strengthened the authority of a union to discipline members who abandon their fellow workers during a strike by crossing picket lines and returning to work.

The 2-1 ruling by a panel of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the procedure adopted by the Machinists to deal with an issue that previous court cases had left unresolved.

Past Supreme Court decisions have clearly upheld a union's right to fine members who cross its picket lines to work as strikebreakers. But a murkier legal area has been the remedies available to a union if a member resigns or seeks to resign during a strike and then helps break the strike.

In a 1973 case, also involving the IAM, the Supreme Court declined to enforce the union's fine against persons who resigned before returning to work during a strike. The court said that since the union's constitution was silent on the issue, it remained an "open" question as to the extent that a union may limit a member's right to resign.

The remedy employed by the Machinists was an amendment to the IAM constitution that prohibited a member who resigned during a strike or within 14 days before the start of a strike from working behind the union's picket lines for the duration of a legal strike.

In the case that reached the 9th Circuit appellate court, a 3-2 majority of the National Labor Relations Board ruled that the IAM provision was invalid because the union has no power to regulate conduct after a worker has resigned.

But the majority of the appellate court panel supported the reasoning of the two NLRB members who found that the constitutional bar amounted to a proper restriction on resignations during a crisis situation.

The court said the NLRB majority had given a "hypertechnical" reading to the IAM constitution. The restrictions imposed by the Machinists, the court suggested, are more likely to pass Supreme Court muster than a flat prohibition against resignations during a strike.

As for the right of a union to protect itself and its members through reasonable disciplinary powers, the 9th Circuit Court noted that a strike is "the ultimate weapon in labor's arsenal" and past decisions have affirmed that the power to fine or expel strikebreakers "is essential if the union is to be an effective bargaining agent."

Thus a union may properly spell out conditions for resignation that do not relieve a member who chooses to quit during a strike "of his existing duty to refrain from strikebreaking."

The IAM constitutional provision "is a reasonable regulation," the 9th Circuit Court found.

The case on which it acted arose out of fines imposed on three workers who abandoned the union's strike against the Dalmo Victor division of Textron, Inc., in California.

Unchallenged, in that case was the fact that the union members knew well before the start of the strike of the conditions imposed on resignations by the IAM constitution.

However, in a previous case in a different situation, the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals held that the union's constitutional provision did not provide "unmistakably" clear notice to workers "that mid-strike resignation could result in fines." Therefore, the 2nd Circuit court held at the time, it was not necessary for it to grapple with the "difficult question" that the Supreme Court had left unanswered.

While contradictory positions by various appellate courts are not unusual, the differences make it more likely that the Supreme Court would grant review if a party to such a case should seek it.

OSHA Book Lists Standards for Industry

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration has issued the first reprinting of general industry safety standards since the deletion of nearly 1,000 "nitpicking" rules in October 1978.

The paperbound volume is available for $6.50 from the Supt. of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Election Highlights Convention:

Goss Succeeds Grospiron As Oil Workers' President

Hollywood, Fla.—Robert F. Goss, 57, was elected president of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers by delegates to the union's 15th biennial convention here.

Goss defeated Anthony Mazzocchi by a roll-call vote of 83,618 to 80,485. Both candidates were vice presidents of the Denver-based union, which represents approximately 200,000 employees of the oil, chemical and nuclear industries in the United States and Canada.

Goss succeeds Al Grospiron, who declined to seek re-election after 14 years as head of the union. Grospiron has been a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council for ten years and is chairman of the council's standing committee on safety and occupational health.

Robert V. Palmer, 52, an international representative from Beaumont, Tex., was elected secretary-treasurer without opposition. His predecessor, A. C. Sabatine, also did not run for re-election.

Elected vice presidents were L. Calvin Moore, 44, who was the union's legislative director in Washington, and Ernest Rousselle, 45, an international representative from New Orleans.

Goss, born in Michigan and reared in California, joined the Oil Workers in 1940 as an employee of Union Oil at the company's Los Angeles refinery.

He became a full-time union representative in 1949. He worked seven years as an international representative for the International Federation of Petroleum & Chemical Workers (IFPCW), and later as assistant general secretary of ORIT, the Western Hemisphere regional organization of workers headquartered in Mexico City. He also was administrative assistant to Grospiron for seven years, before his election as a vice president of OCAW.

In other convention action, the 800 delegates approved a constitutional change giving the Canadian segment of the union authority to merge with other unions in Canada.

The proposition expands the autonomy voted the Canadians at past conventions to where they will in effect be a separate union with a new identity, but still will maintain an "organic relationship" wth OCAW. The per capita tax will be collected in Canada by the Canadian entity, which in turn will pay for services received from the international union. The Canadian members will continue to participate in the OCAW defense fund.

Among convention speakers were Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.); Labor Sec. Ray Marshall; Dr. Eula Bingham, director of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration; Administrator Douglas Costle of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Dennis McDermott, president of the Canadian Labor Congress.

McGovern called for an energy policy "that is both effective and fair" and an economic policy that will control inflation and prevent recession. He also urged that the nation "restate and deal with the unfinished agenda of social justice," and a "sounder vision of national security" instead of "both needless danger and needless waste."

Marshall discussed what he called the Carter Administration's "commitment to working men and women." Among actions and positions taken by the President, Marshall cited his stand on labor law reform, the signing into law of minimum wage improvements, opposition to repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act, improvements in the operation of OSHA, passage of reforms for mine safety and health and black lung disease benefits.

Dr. Bingham told the delegates that OSHA will soon issue a rule requiring employers to preserve employee medical records and records of toxic exposure. The rule also will require employers to provide workers access to those records.

"We know from experience that some employers know of adverse reactions to workplace chemicals and physical agents such as radiation; yet they fail to inform workers of this fact," she said.

"By giving workers the right to see relevant exposure and medical data it will be easier for them to identify the hazards that may be causing health problems. The educated worker is the strongest possible force for making changes in the workplace," Bingham said.

Costle said money spent now to protect the environment and the public can result in significant benefits later. He noted that a preliminary conclusion of EPA researchers is that cutting the levels of air pollution by 60 percent would save $36 billion a year in lost wages and productivity.

"In the area of hazardous waste, the country is coming to realize that it makes no sense to pay later, and I think it is ready to start paying for past negligence before the price gets even higher," he said.

McDermott told of the deep involvement of the Canadian Labor Congress in the recent federal election campaign in Canada. He described what he termed a "separate but parallel" campaign of labor union families and friends working to elect candidates of the New Democratic Party.

By taking the message to each of the 2.3 million members of the CLC through union representatives, stewards, committeemen and others, the campaign was a success, he said, and the NDP increased its seats in Parliament from 16 to 26.

The CLC president was introduced by Neil Reimer, who was re-elected by the Canadian delegation as national director of the union in Canada.



PLAQUE HONORING New Mexico's Gov. Bruce King, left, is presented by State AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Neal Gonzalez. King, a speaker at the state federation's convention, vetoed a "right-to-work" bill that the New Mexico legislature had adopted earlier this year.

NLRB Ruling Upholds Conglomerate Boycott

(Continued from Page 1)

February 1978. In announcing the endorsement, AFL-CIO President George Meany said he had sought a meeting with the president of Pet, Inc., to explore the possibility of settling the dispute but had been turned down.

Pet alleged in its complaint that the call for a total boycott violated federal law banning secondary boycotts because Pet and its divisions were neutrals in the union's dispute with Hussman. The union argued to the contrary, saying that Pet and its subsidiaries had a "direct economic interest" in the outcome of its dispute with Hussman.

In its decision, the NLRB found it unnecessary to determine the neutrality issue in disposing of the case, citing instead the publicity proviso of Section 8(b)(4) which allows publicity . . . "for the purpose of truthfully advising the public, including consumers and members of a labor organization, that a product or products are produced by an employer with whom the labor organization has a primary dispute and are distributed by another employer, as long as such publicity does not have an effect of inducing any individual employed by any person other than the primary employer in the course of his employment to refuse to pick up, deliver, or transport any goods, or not to perform any services, at the establishment of the employer engaged in such distribution."

The NLRB said the central question was whether Hussman is a "producer" of the boycotted products of Pet and its other divisions. The board concluded that, as a result of its relationship with the diversified Pet, Inc., "Hussman applies capital, enterprise, and a service to Pet and its other subsidiaries and divisions.

"We therefore conclude that Hussman is a producer of the products of Pet and its other subsidiaries and divisions as that term is used in the publicity proviso and that respondent's total consumer boycott of said products is thus exempt" from the secondary boycott proscriptions of the Taft-Hartley law.

The Steelworkers no longer represent the workers at Hussman. In an election against an independent union and "no union," last year, the USWA garnered the most votes but failed to obtain a majority. In a runoff election in January, the Steelworkers were eked out.

The U.S. district court in St. Louis subsequently granted the company an injunction against the boycott for 90 days or until the board handed down its decision in the case.

Since the NLRB ruling, the USWA has reinstated the boycott.

School Administrators Raise Local Dues Floor

Kiamesha Lake, N.Y.—The three-year-old American Federation of School Administrators moved to shore up its locals' financial resources, approving an increase in minimum membership dues at its second constitutional convention here.

The 120 delegates from the union's 65 locals across the country voted to raise dues to no less than 1 percent of the lowest annual salary in the unit. The AFSA per capita was not raised.

Delegates also elected officers to new three-year terms, acted on 26 resolutions, and weighed problems facing their profession. The union represents 10,000 school principals and other supervisory personnel.

Re-elected were President Albert L. Morrison, Sec.-Treas. Martin Kalish, and Executive Vice President Peter S. O'Brien. The delegates also elected 10 vice presidents: Norman S. Anthony of Local 4, Washington, D.C.; Ronald E. Banks, Local 10, Buffalo, N.Y.; Bruce H. Berndt, Local 2, Chicago; Roland Desmarais, Local 3, San Francisco; Ted Elsberg, Local 1, New York; Aaron Gordon, Sr., Local 28, Detroit; Louis L. Marrone and Murray Schneider, Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y.; Loretta F. Nolan, Local 2, Chicago, and Grace R. Whittaker, Local 6, Boston.

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, in an address to the delegates stressed the value of participation by AFSA locals in the activities of central labor councils, state federations, and other AFL-CIO bodies.

Theodore W. Kheel, a prominent New York arbitrator and mediator of labor disputes, spoke on collective bargaining in the public sector. Dartmouth Prof. Bruce Cooper outlined local and national trends in the organization of school administrators. William W. Thompson II, AFSA's general counsel, reviewed the litigation and legal issues facing the union.

AFSA was chartered as an AFL-CIO affiliate in 1976, after functioning for five years as an organizing committee.



NEW TEAM elected as top officers of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers links arms. From left: President Robert F. Goss, Vice Presidents L. Calvin Moore and Ernest Rousselle, and Sec.-Treas. Robert V. Palmer. Retirements of President A. F. Grospiron and Sec.-Treas. A. C. Sabatine led to the leadership reshuffle.

CORRECTION

Photographs on Pages 7 and 8 of the Aug. 18 issue of the AFL-CIO News were inadvertently transposed.

One picture showed the presentation of a plaque to New Mexico Gov. Bruce King and the other showed Charles M. Nobles and Andrew A. Cuvo receiving Antioch College degrees at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies. They are reprinted with their correct captions on Pages 2 and 7 of this issue.

When Senate Returns:

Windfall Profit Vote Termed Critical Test

The AFL-CIO has asked union people involved in labor's legislative efforts to let their home state senators know that the federation considers their votes on the windfall profits tax bill "of critical importance."

A letter from AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young expressed concern that the Senate Finance Committee is seeking to slash the already weakened windfall profits tax bill that the House passed, to drastically reduce the anticipated revenue of $186 billion over the next 10 years.

With the pressure in Congress for a balanced budget, Young warned, "the windfall profits tax is the only vehicle that could raise the money necessary to break away from the stranglehold that the OPEC nations have upon American workers and their families."

Young noted that the House bill would provide revenues for such purposes as synthetic fuel plants, development of other alternative energy sources, home heating oil subsidies for lower-income households and improved mass transit.

"Such projects mean jobs for American workers and diminished dependence on OPEC," he said.

"Senators must be made to know now that we consider their votes for the strongest possible tax of critical importance to labor. Otherwise," he warned, "the President's energy program will be permanently crippled for lack of available funds to implement it."

The big oil companies "wounded" the windfall tax bill in the House, Young noted, and are working to gut it completely in the Senate with amendments that would strip away up to three-fourths of the tax the House version would impose.

An AFL-CIO fact sheet that has been sent to the federation's central bodies noted that consumer energy costs rose at an annual rate of 47 percent during the first six months of 1979. During that same period the profits of 20 major U.S. oil corporations shot up 59 percent, or $3.2 billion.

In another legislative area, Young asked union groups to urge senators to vote against a bill by Sen. Frank Church (D-Ida.) that would allow large corporate farms in California to continue to benefit from a federal irrigation program that was designed to help family-sized farms.

Only farms up to 160 acres are supposed to obtain subsidized, low-cost federal water rights, but lax enforcement enabled huge landowners to expand their holdings.

The Senate bill would in effect overturn a court decision directing the Interior Dept. to set up procedures to break up the illegal land holdings.

The legislation would reward "powerful landowners who openly flouted the law for decades," Young noted. They include "companies notorious for their union-busting opposition to the Farm Workers," Young said, and conglomerates such as Tenneco, which has been fighting the Steelworkers at a Virginia shipyard.



GOLDA MEIR LIBRARY at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee honors "a daughter of the American trade union movement," AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said at the dedication ceremony. The woman who was to become prime minister of Israel came from a trade union family and attended teachers college in Milwaukee before emigrating to Palestine.

Letter Carriers Oppose Private Delivery Plan

The Letter Carriers registered firm opposition to any relaxation of the private express statutes for "extremely urgent" letters.

A brief setting forth the union's position was filed with the general counsel of the Postal Service following a proposal by the Postmaster General to relax the private express statutes to allow delivery of "extremely urgent" (time-sensitive) letters by private carriers.

The brief emphasized that the private express statutes are essential to maintain the strong national postal system envisioned by Congress to provide full service at fair rates for every postal customer in the entire nation.

No private carrier or group of carriers has or can have the resources the Postal Service already maintains: a skilled, experienced and cost-competitive nationwide workforce extending to every community; a network of specialized equipment and vehicles; experienced personnel and a large system of contracts for mail carriage by air, the NALC said.

In view of this, the union said, the Postal Service is more capable of successfully handling "extremely urgent" letters than private industry and there is no sound reason why the service should relinquish business through any relaxation of the private express statutes.

The brief said the Postal Service already offers highly successful, specialized services that enable businesses to dispatch urgent letters through the mail for delivery on the same or the following business day.

In view of its expertise and facilities, expansion of services for the urgent letter market would be a self-sustaining venture and entirely consistent with the congressional intention that the Postal Service move toward financial independence, the NALC said.

The brief added that the foreseeable results of any dilution of the private express statutes are a reduction of postal services, increased costs to postal customers, a need for government subsidies, the possible loss of thousands of jobs and perhaps the demise of the entire postal system.

8/25/79

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

U.S. Economy Slides Deeper Into Recession

(Continued from Page 1)

already slipping into a recession."

"Economic policies should mitigate the downturn rather than aggravate it," he declared.

The auto industry—the weakest sector of the economy—continued to report poor sales in early August, with volume down about 18 percent over the year. Housing sales have also slowed as higher mortgage rates pinch the market.

After a brief upsurge in June, housing starts fell 7 percent in July to 1,799,000 units, on a seasonally adjusted annual basis, resuming a decline that has been taking place since late last year.

Other economic reports:

- Industrial production slowed by one-tenth of 1 percent in July, and a further slide appears likely in August, the Federal Reserve Board hinted.
- Prices—as measured by the GNP implicit price deflator, a weighted index covering the whole economy—rose at an annual rate of 9.3 percent in the second quarter, compared with 9.9 percent in the first, the Commerce Dept. said.
- Spending for construction fell in June to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $221.5 billion from a revised $223.2 billion in May, Commerce reported.
- Average weekly pay of factory workers in July fell to $268.40 from a revised $269.06 the preceding month, the Labor Dept. said.
- Manufacturing capacity utilization fell to 85.6 percent during July, a drop of four-tenths of 1 percent from June's revised rate and 1.5 percent below the 87.1 rate reached in March.

Worker buying power, meanwhile, has dropped steadily as retail prices continue to soar.

Network Broadcasts Set for Labor Day

AFL-CIO leaders will appear on the following radio programs on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3:

Vice President Paul Hall on Mutual radio, 2:10 p.m. EDT

Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland on NBC radio, 2:30 p.m. EDT

President George Meany on CBS radio, 6:45 p.m. EDT

Local stations may alter program schedules and should be checked for exact broadcast time.

Union Groups Establish Safety, Health Institute

Formation of the Workers' Institute for Safety & Health, a new research and education organization within the labor movement, was announced by President Jacob Clayman of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

Clayman said the institute "fills a critical need to identify information concerning the special safety and health hazards of workers and their families, and to marshal human, monetary and material resources to assist in their control."

He said the institute would work to accomplish these purposes in collaboration with the scientific community as an independent, not-for-profit, agency.

Trustees of the institute, which is incorporated in Columbus, Ohio, are Clayman; Sec.-Treas. Warren Smith of the Ohio AFL-CIO; President Peter Bommarito of the Rubber Workers; President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers; Sec.-Treas. William Lucy of the State, County & Municipal Employees; President George Parker of the Flint Glass Workers; George Perkel, director of health and safety for the Clothing & Textile Workers; George H. R. Taylor, director of health and safety for the AFL-CIO; Fred Hoehler, director of the George Meany Center for Labor Studies; Sec.-Treas. Leonard Smith of the Kentucky AFL-CIO; and Sheldon W. Samuels, director of health and safety for the IUD.

Warren Smith, who has been elected chairman of the board of trustees, heads the operating committee for the institute. Bommarito is chairman of the development committee and Samuels is chairman of the program committee.

To ensure the quality of its programs, Clayman said that the institute is establishing a scientific advisory committee to provide continuous evaluation of its programs. Members will include scientists in the fields of occupational health and safety, community medicine, and education. Prof. Irving J. Selikoff, director of the Environmental Sciences Laboratory of Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, is chairman of this committee.

In collaboration with the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health, the institute's initial project will assist workers who have a high risk of cancer because of past exposure to cancer-causing agents such as beta-Naphthylamine and asbestos. Directing this project is Dr. Knut Ringen.

Dr. Ringen, formerly a study director for the National Academy of Sciences, is also collaborating with the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine on a study of the toxicology of paints.

Facilities for the institute are being provided by the Ohio AFL-CIO and the IUD.

Labor Panel Formed to Aid Girls Clubs

A new Labor Support Committee will help channel union support for programs of the Girls Clubs of America, a non-profit organization operating primarily in economically disadvantaged city neighborhoods.

The committee will seek to stimulate union representation on local and national boards and advisory committees, recruit union volunteers, participate in fund raising and provide guidance on such matters as career awareness and employment.

Plans for labor support were drawn up by Joyce Miller, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women; AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis, and Mildred Kiefer Wurf Washington representative of the Girls Clubs of America.

Union groups participating in the formation of the support committee were the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept.; Machinists; Food & Commercial Workers; Postal Workers; Communications Workers; Operating Engineers; Clothing & Textile Workers; State, County & Municipal Employees; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the Auto Workers.

Wage Law Attack Killed in Arkansas

Little Rock, Ark.—Arkansas was another state where an attempt to repeal a prevailing wage law was soundly beaten, State AFL-CIO President J. Bill Becker reports.

A bill to repeal the state's "little Davis-Bacon Act" came up in the House twice—losing initially by a 30-23 vote and subsequently, on a motion for reconsideration, by a 44-22 vote.

The measure never got out of committee in the state Senate.

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NLRB Bargaining Order Hits Stevens Lawlessness

Real Wages Sapped by Price Jump

By James M. Shevis

Sharply rising consumer prices, soaring at a compounded annual rate of 12.8 percent over the past three months, are further eroding the living standards of most Americans.

The purchasing power of workers, expressed in terms of "real" spendable earnings, fell again in July, declining a seasonally adjusted four-tenths of 1 percent from the previous month when a like decrease occurred. The drop in buying power was almost wholly due to a seasonally adjusted increase of 1 percent in retail prices as average weekly hours worked remained unchanged.

In reporting the figures, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said real spendable earnings, or take-home pay adjusted for inflation since 1967, plunged 3.9 percent in the past 12 months. Average hourly earnings over the year increased by 8.1 percent, but a decrease of eight-tenths of 1 percent in average weekly hours and an 11.5-percent jump in prices combined to bring about the drop in workers' buying power.

The steep decline in real spendable pay also reflects the pinch of higher effective tax rates for many workers. While tax liabilities were reduced in January, the increase in weekly earnings negated the effect of the tax cut because the tax system's progressive nature pushed workers into higher brackets as their nominal incomes grew, BLS observed.

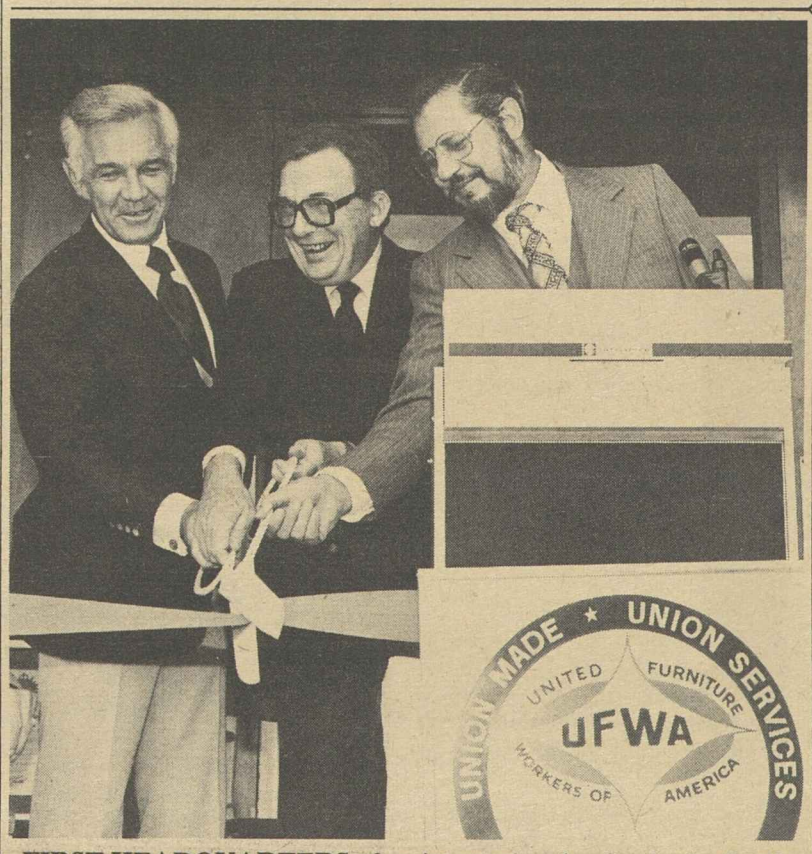
In July, the average production worker with three dependents had real spendable earnings of $89.21 a week, or 35 cents less than in June and $3.29 below the July 1978 level, BLS said.

Real earnings now have declined in four of the last six months, and in seven of the last 12 months. Buying power for workers fell in four of the seven major industries covered by the BLS survey in July—1.4 percent in manufacturing, five-tenths of 1 percent in transportation and public utilities, four-tenths of 1 percent in construction, and 2.9 percent in mining.

Last month's 1 percent increase in the government's consumer price index was the same as June's and marked the seventh straight month in which the CPI rose by 1 percent or more. The 1 percent rise is the equivalent of a 12 percent annual rate before compounding. BLS Commissioner Janet Norwood said that she saw no evidence in the agency's monthly inflation analysis to indicate a letup in the price spiral.

The Carter Administration has forecast that inflation by the end of the year would come close to

(Continued on Page 3)



FIRST HEADQUARTERS of an international union in the South is dedicated as the Furniture Workers officially open their new building in Nashville, Tenn. Officiating in the ribbon-cutting ceremonies were, from left, Nashville Mayor Richard Fulton, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and UFWA President Carl Scarbrough. The UFWA had been based in New York for 45 years. **(Story, Page 3.)**

Company Must Pay Costs of Organizing

The Clothing & Textile Workers won a key round in the union's 16-year struggle for worker rights at J. P. Stevens & Co. as the National Labor Relations Board set aside a representation election the union lost at the company's Wallace, N.C., facilities and declared ACTWU the bargaining agent for some 1,000 Stevens employees.

In upholding the March 1978 decision of an administrative law judge, the NLRB also ordered the big textile firm to reimburse ACTWU for the cost, plus interest, of the union's six-month campaign to organize the Wallace workers. The board said it was the first time it had ever ordered reimbursement of a union's organizing expenses in an unfair labor practices case.

ACTWU described the NLRB decision as "another defeat for the J. P. Stevens company in its long history of breaking the law. We wish we could say that this will show the company the error of its ways, but based on past experience we know the company will continue its deliberate lawlessness."

The company announced it has already filed an appeal of the decision in federal court.

NLRB Chairman John H. Fanning and Members Howard Jenkins, Jr., and John C. Truesdale, affirming the ruling of Administrative Law Judge Joel A. Harmatz, said the company's "illicit campaign destroyed a fair election atmosphere and influenced the 540-404 vote loss of the union."

Instead, the panel ruled, the validly executed union authorization cards constituted a more reliable measure of employee choice than

(Continued on Page 8)

1st Lettuce Pact Won by Farm Union

Keene, Calif.—The Farm Workers reached tentative agreement with a major lettuce grower, the first lettuce producer to break ranks since the union struck California vegetable growers in January.

The settlement with West Coast Farms in Watsonville covers about 350 UFW members, and would raise hourly wages from the current $3.70 to $5.71 over the next three years. The contract also provides increased piece rates for pickers, a cost-of-living increase each year, and increased employer medical contributions. Ratification was expected by this weekend.

UFW President Cesar Chavez said he expected the pact would set a pattern for other lettuce growers.

The agreement was the third contract reached in the industry. The other two were with tomato producers. A three-year pact with the Meyer Tomato Packing Co., in

(Continued on Page 2)

In Workers' Self-Interest:

Labor Day Themes Reflect Rights Goals

The basic rights of workers must be guaranteed if they are to achieve the goals they seek and protect their past gains, AFL-CIO leaders declared in a series of Labor Day messages.

The American labor movement is concerned with advancing the interests of workers in the United States and with the struggles of workers in other lands, they noted.

Federation President George Meany pointed out that workers have an economic self-interest in the promotion and protection of human rights.

"They can only prosper when they are free to fight," Meany stressed. "All a climate of respect for human rights guarantees is the right to struggle," he observed. "It does not guarantee them victory.

"Quite often—as the history of every fight for social welfare legislation proves—big business still wields more than its fair share of power in the Congress," Meany said, citing the example of the decades-long campaign for a national health insurance program.

In a political democracy, labor has the right—as well as the responsibility—to carry on the fight for effective social programs, Meany said.

Noting that better wages and working conditions are not automatic byproducts of successful corporate enterprises, Meany warned that "workers who do not fight for a fair share of the wealth they produce are not likely to receive a fair share.

"Unions are formed precisely to give workers their own instrument in the struggle over the distribu-

(Continued on Page 2)

Rock Island Rail Strike Seeks Retroactive Pay

Two AFL-CIO railroad unions—the Railway & Airline Clerks and the United Transportation Union—struck the Rock Island Railroad over the carrier's refusal to grant their members retroactive pay.

BRAC began its strike on Aug. 28, charging that the carrier failed "to negotiate realistically" on the pay issue. UTU struck the following day.

BRAC President Fred J. Kroll said the railroad at least twice had turned down government proposals for fair, final, and binding arbitration.

"All of this has left us no alternative but to strike and to hope that this strike will quickly bring Rock Island management into the real world where working men and women, faced with the ever-present rise in the cost of living, cannot get along on the wages of two or three years ago," Kroll said.

BRAC has tried since January to reach an agreement with the line

(Continued on Page 3)

Wide Earnings Advantage Found for Union Workers

A new Labor Dept. study confirms the value of union membership in just wages alone.

Data on hourly earnings for May 1978, published in the August issue of the department's Monthly Labor Review, show that the median hourly earnings of workers under union contract were 87 percent higher than for the non-union group.

"In every major occupation and industry group, union coverage is associated with higher earnings for workers paid by the hour," Economists Janice N. Hedges and Earl F. Mellor point out in an article in the magazine.

The authors, staff members of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, found that workers under a union contract in the goods-producing sector had median earnings 61 percent above those for workers without union coverage. In the service sector, the differential was even higher—92 percent. Occupational groups for which the union-nonunion earnings ratio was highest included transport equipment operatives and nonfarm laborers.

Almost one-third of all hourly-paid employees were reported working under union contracts in May 1978. The proportion was 50 percent or more for craft workers and factory operatives, but less than 10 percent for sales, farm, and private household workers.



PLAQUE HONORING Edward M. Lonergan, center, for his role in developing and conducting the Labor Dept.'s international trade-union exchange program is presented by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, left, and Labor Sec. Ray Marshall at a testimonial dinner. Lonergan recently retired as director of the program which, since its establishment in 1955, has brought thousands of foreign trade unionists to the United States as guests of cooperating unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

Progress Cited:

ITU Convention Delegates Press Guild Merger Talks

St. Paul—The prospect for merger of the Typographical Union and the Newspaper Guild initially and then of all unions in the publishing industry was the prime topic at the ITU's 121st convention here.

Rising demand among the membership for "strength and security" mandates that "we accelerate" efforts to complete a proposal for merger of the Guild and the ITU, delegates declared in adopting the report of the convention's committee on mergers.

At the same time, the convention declared, the ITU should move to "establish closer relations" with the Graphic Arts International Union and the Printing & Graphic Communications Union to "hasten" realization of the "goal of one big union in our industry."

Noting considerable progress during the 22 months of talks between the ITU and the Guild, especially during the last 12 months, the convention urged that a "pragmatic approach" be taken toward areas still awaiting agreement by the unions' merger negotiating committees.

Pointing out that technological changes "have obliterated traditional jurisdictional lines" in the publishing industry, the convention called upon merger negotiators to seek to "combine that which is practical with that which is possible." The product should be "an entirely new" union, the convention said.

Earlier delegates heard ITU President Joe Bingel, in his opening address state that while "there are still substantial areas of agreement to be reached" with the Guild, "far greater obstacles have been surmounted in the past."

Guild President Charles A. Perlik, Jr., in a mid-week address, reaffirmed his union's commitment to continue to work toward merger. He also noted that "there has been progress—substantial progress—in the past year."

Perlik also pointed out that "impatient as our members are for merger to succeed, the publishers and their spear carriers are even more impatient for it to fail, for reasons we all too well understand."

Alan Kistler, AFL-CIO director of organization and field services, also concluded an address on the growth of the anti-union "consultant" business and the need for labor law reform, by noting the ITU moves toward merger.

"What a happy day it would be when the printing and graphic arts and communications industry would be confronted by the strength of one union," said Kistler, a former leader of the Guild in Pittsburgh.

The convention approved constitutional amendments that would:

- Remove the terms "printing and kindred trades" and "mailers and kindred trades" from the definition of the ITU's jurisdiction, substituting "graphic arts, news and advertising media and communications industry."
- Change members' dues obligation to the international from one percent of "total earnings" to one percent of "straight-time earnings."
- Exempt "public employee members" from payment of the additional one-half percent dues dedicated to the ITU strike fund while simultaneously barring those members voting on any local or international matter that is "strike related."

All three amendments must now go to referendum.

Other convention actions included:

- Endorsement of the Farm Workers' boycott of nonunion iceberg lettuce as well as the Coors beer boycott.
- Reaffirmation of the union's support for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.
- A call for legislation to provide full social security benefits to retirees at age 60.
- A warning to members to be alert to the hazards of toxic chemicals increasingly being used in the industry and to guard also against possible fatigue and eyestrain from video display terminals.

Leaders of Three Faiths Pay Tribute to Workers

Leaders of the three major religious faiths paid tribute to the nation's working men and women in traditional Labor Day messages, emphasizing the right of workers to a job, to form trade unions and to bargain with their employers.

"In prosperous as well as lean times, all citizens should have the fundamental right to work and to benefit from the fruit of their labor, Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, president of the Synagogue Council of America, said.

"The skill and enterprise of the American working man and woman made our blessed country a land of opportunity for all," he said. Jewish tradition extolls the "nobility of labor" in serving God and one's fellow human beings and in improving the quality of life, he observed.

Rev. M. William Howard, president of the National Council of Churches of Christ U.S.A., said the American labor movement has been "a living testimony to the centrality of workers' rights to a healthy democracy."

He noted that the council's governing board last May called upon its 42 million constituents throughout the country to participate in a nationwide Affirmative Action Sunday on Sept. 2, Labor Day Sunday, as a way of "symbolizing the continuing challenge of equal employment opportunity for all citizens, and the churches' continuing response to this challenge."

Msgr. George G. Higgins of the U.S. Catholic Conference said that one of the most fundamental rights of all people is the right to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Church leaders and the administrators of church-related institutions must "unequivocally" recognize the right of their employees to organize if they so desire, he said.

"Any direct or indirect attempt to circumvent or to interfere with the free exercise of this right will predictably lead to serious trouble — the kind of trouble that could divide the Catholic community for many years to come, neutralize the effectiveness of ongoing church-related programs for social justice both at home and abroad," Msgr. Higgins said in his Labor Day statement **(Excerpts, Page 5.)**

To some extent, he added, public confusion as to precisely where church-related institutions stand on this issue is based on a misunderstanding of what was involved and what was not involved in a recent series of court cases concerning labor-management relations in church-related schools.

"It is important to understand exactly what the Supreme Court did and did not say about the right of teachers in church-related schools to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining. It said that the right to organize for this purpose is not protected under the terms of the National Labor Relations Act. It did not question nor negate the right to organize — and, indeed, would have had no authority to do so.

"The right to organize is a fundamental human right beyond the reach of civil law, and therefore beyond the jurisdiction of the judicial branch of the federal government."

UFW Gains Breakthrough Lettuce Pact

(Continued from Page 1)

Watsonville was reached on Aug. 11, covering 300 workers. A three-year settlement was reached on Aug. 18 with Gonzales Packing Co., in the Salinas Valley covering nearly 250 tomato harvesters.

Twenty-five other vegetable growers continue to negotiate on new contracts with the union, including the nation's largest grower, Sun Harvest Inc., which is owned by United Brands and employs about 2,000 workers.

The UFW's strike against the six largest Salinas Valley growers, meanwhile, continued.

In other action, the union filed suit in federal court in San Francisco against two growers for infringing on its trademark label and the UFW black eagle emblem.

The suit against Grower Exchange Inc. of Monterey County and J. J. Crosetti Co. of Santa Cruz County asks for $30 million damages from each company and an injunction halting their use of the union's name or eagle label on any of their containers or products without UFW approval. The union currently does not have a contract with either firm.

Labor Day Messages Keyed to Human Rights

(Continued from Page 1)

tion of the national income," he said.

Meany said the rights of workers in other countries must be guaranteed as well. He noted that American workers face growing unemployment, inflation and economic uncertainty. But, "as they and their unions try to cope with these problems, they will not ignore distant struggles for human rights throughout the world."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland observed that largely because of the past success of the labor movement, Americans have become used to having the highest living standard in the world.

But for millions of American families, that standard is now being eroded by inflation, Kirkland pointed out. He said workers are prepared to share in the fight against inflation, but they are sacrificing more than their fair share.

While the incomes of rich investors and profits of business are insulated from the worst effects of inflation, the incomes of workers remain unprotected, Kirkland pointed out.

Furthermore, he stressed, "they are the target of unfair—and we believe unlawful—government policies that aim not only at keeping wage increases below price increases, but at imposing absolute reductions in purchasing power and living standards."

The evils of inflation, recession and the energy crisis must be dealt with simultaneously, he said, calling for a wide range of federal economic, jobs and housing programs as well as effective price controls.

"To those who say that America can't afford these things, we say that what America can't afford is to continue to allow the OPEC nations and their cohorts—the multinational oil companies—to continue to drain America's resources," he declared.

President Jacob Clayman of the Industrial Union Dept. said that the entire decade of the '70s has been largely disappointing for American workers.

"They saw their standard of living threatened by chronic inflation, their job opportunities eroded by high unemployment and a flood of unfair imports, and their rights and cherished institutions threatened by constantly increasing pressure from reactionary forces," he said.

But he expressed confidence that the labor movement will continue to rise to its responsibilities to working people and all Americans.

President Robert A. Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept. said that all of organized labor must unite to meet the challenge of anti-union forces.

"Only by matching unity with unity and numbers of people against corporate dollars can we preserve all that we have accomplished," Georgine declared.

He noted that the attacks on the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage act, on-site picketing rights and labor law reform are being led by the nation's largest corporations.

Federal Judge Dismisses Machinists' OPEC Suit

Los Angeles—A federal judge has dismissed a suit by the Machinists charging the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) with violating U.S. antitrust laws through a price-fixing conspiracy.

Judge A. Andrew Hauk ruled that he does not have authority to take action against the 13 member nations of the OPEC cartel.

The IAM suit accused OPEC members of conspiring to fix prices on petroleum exports, causing severe hardship for American consumers and damaging the nation's economy.

Hauk said his decision was based on his belief that the Sherman Antitrust Act specifically grants immunity to foreign nations from antitrust protections.

The IAM had filed the suit last December, arguing that OPEC nations are subject to U.S. laws since they do business in the United States.

The IAM was seeking an injunction to have OPEC roll back oil prices and to head off future price increases. Its suit was also based on the 1975 Foreign Immunities Act, under which other countries can be sued for commercial activities outside the United States that have a direct impact on the United States.

Hauk issued his ruling Aug. 23 at the conclusion of a four-day hearing. IAM lawyers said they would appeal the decision.

Since the union filed the suit last December, OPEC has twice jacked up the price of crude oil. The cartel's oil ministers first set a 9 percent hike on Mar. 27, raising the price of oil to $14.54 a barrel. This was followed by a 24 percent increase in June setting the minimum price at $18 a barrel, with differentials allowed to bring the cost to $23.50 a barrel in some cases.

New Headquarters:

Furniture Workers Shift Base to South

Nashville, Tenn.—The South—once a haven for anti-union employers fleeing the extensively unionized North—now has an international union based here with the arrival of the Furniture Workers headquarters staff.

The UFWA, which had been centered in New York City for the past 45 years, dedicated its newly constructed $550,000 headquarters building near Nashville Metro Airport in August. Most of the UFWA's major organizing victories in recent years have been in the South.

The union was welcomed to the city by Mayor Richard Fulton who proclaimed the Aug. 23 dedication date as "UFWA Day" in Nashville. Participating in ribbon-cutting ceremonies, Fulton said "all of Nashville is indebted to your union and your belief in our city."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, speaking at the building dedication, said the relocation of the first international union to the South "will open a bright new chapter in the history not only of the United Furniture workers, but of the entire American labor movement."

As a native southerner, Kirkland said he well knows the need of the union presence in the South, stressing that the UFWA is playing a leading role in the effort to bring new hope and encouragement to millions of unorganized workers.

"Your presence here will not please everybody," he noted. "It won't please the management of J. P. Stevens and . . . the anti-union employers in a wide range of industries here in Tennessee and in the surrounding states who follow the Stevens example."

Kirkland observed that many industries had been lured to the South from other regions "by promises of low taxes, low wages, a docile and unorganized workforce and the absence of a strong trade union tradition. The outlander managements of those runaway companies are at least as anti-union as any native enterprises."

He pointed out, however, that "workers in the South are fighting back, asserting their human rights and exercising their legal right to join or organize unions, to set their own goals, choose their own spokesmen and negotiate on equal terms on their wages and working conditions."

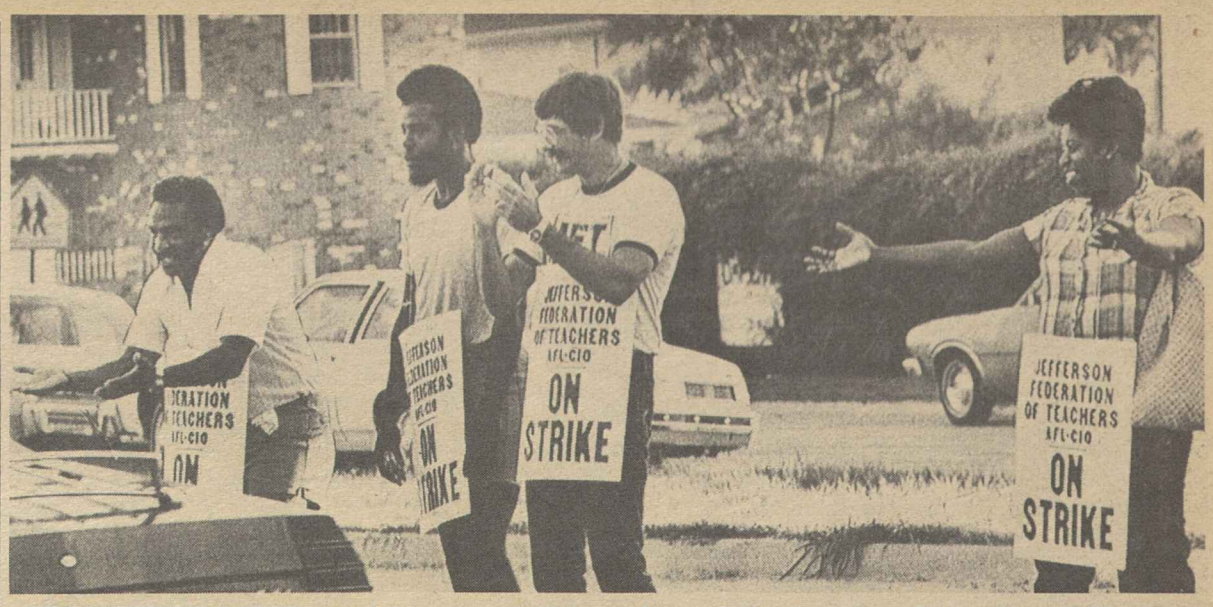
Pledging the full support of the AFL-CIO to the UFWA, Kirkland said the federation and its affiliated unions are committed to provide all the assistance that southern workers need in their fight.

UFWA President Carl Scarbrough, who was born and raised in Tennessee, cited the strong growth of industry in the region. "The advantages industry has enjoyed," he stressed, "will soon be shared by the working people of this area, as well as by the entire community."

The UFWA executive board made the decision last year to shift the union's headquarters to Tennessee's capital city.

The 100-member headquarters staff was transferred to Nashville in stages after the building was completed in May. In addition to headquarters operations, the building houses the UFWA's pension plan, insurance fund and on-the-job training activities.

UFWA Sec.-Treas. Lowell Daily said the new location of the headquarters will give the union a vast growth potential, since about 60 percent of the nation's furniture manufacturing is now done in the South. The union's current membership is nearly 30,000, but only about 25 percent of UFWA members are in southern states.



TEACHERS' STRIKES involving some 6,000 members of the American Federation of Teachers focused primarily on wages as the new school year opened across the country. These Jefferson Parish teachers in Metairie, La., members of AFT Local 1559, picket a faculty parking lot.

Retroactivity Key Issue on Rock Island

(Continued from Page 1)

that follows the pattern of wages and working conditions contained in the national agreement reached by railroad unions and most other major carriers last year. The union seeks retroactive pay covering the period from Jan. 1, 1978, to date. Several unions that reached agreement with the Rock Island have already received the retroactive pay.

Some 1,800 BRAC members engaged in the walkout brought freight and passenger service to a halt all along the railroad's 7,200 miles of track in the nation's midsection.

About 2,500 UTU members—yard and operating workers, except engineers—also are participating in the action. The UTU members received pay increases when the last contracts were negotiated with the carrier, but not the retroactivity.

While the carrier has been undergoing reorganization under federal bankruptcy laws for the last three years, "it is perfectly able to meet its financial obligations," Kroll said.

"It has received a 7 percent rate increase, which other railroads received after paying wage adjustments—but Rock Island just pocketed the extra income. It is getting $57 million for the sale of some of its properties; the back wage payments could have come from that, but Rock Island won't agree."

Kroll added that the carrier needs to be reminded that it has an obligation not just to its shareholders and managers, but also to its employees and to the grain growers and shippers in the Midwest trying to ship this year's bumper crop to market. The Rock Island, operating in a 13-state area, hauls more than $3 billion of grain yearly.

The National Mediation Board, which has been attempting to settle the dispute, rejected a request from the carrier for appointment of a presidential emergency board to study the issue. Appointment of such a board would automatically end the strike for 60 days.

NMB Chairman Robert O. Harris said the board did not believe that the strike threatens to deprive any section of the country of essential transportation service, and added:

"It should be noted that an emergency board only can make recommendations as to how to settle a labor dispute, and the Rock Island has already indicated that it will not be bound by any recommendations by outsiders. Labor disputes are settled at the bargaining table even when there is a strike."

Teachers' Strikes Seek To Overcome Pay Lag

Members of the American Federation of Teachers struck for higher wages and improved working conditions in Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania, and threatened additional walkouts in Detroit and San Francisco over similar issues as schools across the country began a new year.

While thousands of teachers in five other states also were on strike, these belonged to the unaffiliated National Education Association.

The largest number of AFT members on strike was in suburban New Orleans where 3,375 teachers at 82 schools in Jefferson Parish were involved. The county runs Louisiana's fourth largest school system.

AFT Local 1559 struck a week ago when the school board refused to grant a 20 percent salary boost over two years. The board instead offered an 8.33 percent increase this year and no increase in the second year. Jefferson Parish teachers have had no pay increase for two years.

In Oklahoma City, experiencing its first teachers' strike ever, AFT Local 2309 struck for much the same reasons. Teachers' pay is so low in the state capital that a teacher with a doctorate and 17 years experience draws only about $14,500 a year. Some 2,200 teachers are involved in the dispute.

The union seeks a 12 percent across-the-board wage increase in a one-year contract. The school board's latest pay offer amounted to an average 9 percent increase.

Salary also is an issue in Bethel Park, Pa., a Pittsburgh suburb, where 410 teachers struck on Aug. 22. Members of AFT Local 1607, who last struck the school system three years ago, also want a reduction in class size and improved job security.

Meanwhile, tough negotiations in Detroit and San Francisco threaten walkouts there as teachers encountered stiff resistance from school boards. In Detroit, the nation's fifth largest school district with 10,000 teachers, AFT Local 231 seeks to obtain higher salaries and to knock down several regressive proposals of the board.

Because Detroit teachers earn less than their colleagues in surrounding districts in Wayne County, the union is asking that the salary level be raised to equal the average pay of the five school districts with the higher pay. The board has offered 4 percent, which the union says would not meet its request.

In San Francisco, AFT Local 61 also seeks higher salaries and reinstatement of some 1,200 teachers laid off last year.

AFT President Albert Shanker commenting on this year's negotiations, said "teachers are dedicated professionals charged with one of the most important responsibilities in the country, yet they are among the lowest paid occupational groups.

"In areas where there are strikes or strikes are threatened, teachers have had no choice but to demand more money to obtain equity to keep up with inflation."

Real Wages Continue Slide as Prices Soar

(Continued from Page 1)

11 percent, but the rate of increase in prices thus far would seem to make that prediction overly optimistic. At the current rate, prices are rising at their fastest pace since 1946 when inflation hit 18.2 percent.

Earlier this year, Administration economists expressed hope that an abatement in food price increases during the second half of 1979 would produce a lessening in the overall inflation rate. Food prices have improved, rising only two-tenths of 1 percent in July and three-tenths of 1 percent in June, but soaring energy and housing costs have kept the aggregate inflation rate from leveling off.

About two-thirds of the July CPI increase was due to higher energy and homeownership prices, BLS reported. AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said "the outlook for the rest of the year may well follow the July pattern with reduced inflationary pressures on food and continuing increases in energy prices and interest rates."

To bring the current pace of inflation down to the range of the Administration's year-end forecast, he said, would be "a major achievement."

Transportation costs advanced sharply in July for the ninth consecutive month as gasoline prices at the pump soared 4.9 percent. In the 12 months ended in July, gas prices have risen 42.7 percent, the government said.

Housing costs rose 1.2 percent in July, the sixth straight increase of 1 percent or more in this category. Rising homeownership costs and household fuel prices continued to account for most of the increase. House prices rose 1.1 percent, home financing costs jumped 2.6 percent, and maintenance and repairs increased eight-tenths of 1 percent. The 6.2 percent surge in fuel oil prices was the sixth large monthly gain in a row.

Total housing costs over the last 12 months were up 12.2 percent, led by a 40 percent rise in fuel costs, a 19 percent increase in financing, and a 13.5 percent boost in purchase prices.

The bright spots in the July report were the increases of two-tenths of 1 percent in both food and clothing prices. The slight rise in food prices compared with a three-tenths of 1 percent increase in June and was the smallest increase in this category in 12 months. The increase in clothing prices followed declines of two-tenths of 1 percent in June and one-tenth of 1 percent in May.

ILPA Gathers Key Support in Postage Case

The International Labor Press Association received strong support for a hearing by the Postal Rate Commission on ILPA's move to make labor papers and all nonprofit publications eligible for certain postage discounts now available to commercial publications.

The Officer of the Commission, designated by law to represent the public interest in commission hearings, urged the commission to expand a current rate case to consider the proposed discounts for sorting and bundling labor papers by zip codes.

In addition, the Catholic Press Association filed a brief with the commission supporting the labor press. The Associated Church Press, the Evangelical Press Association and the American Jewish Press joined in CPA's motion.

Allen Y. Zack, secretary-treasurer of ILPA, estimated the labor press could save nearly $1 million a year in postal costs if the proposed discounts were approved by the commission.

SEIU Wins Vote At Texas Hospital

Beaumont, Tex.—Some 900 employees of Baptist Hospital, one of the largest medical facilities in the state, have voted overwhelmingly for representation by Service Employees Local 706.

The balloting capped a four-month organizing drive in which management sought to intimidate workers and disparage the union. In the end, Local 706 President Val Cox said, the workers "realized that they needed representation and that by voting for the union they could do something about it."

Two separate units—one consisting of registered nurses, the other of technical, service, and clerical employees—picked SEIU as their representative by a 4 to 1 margin.

The Meaning of 'More'

ONE WORD TORN OUT of context is hardly a firm foundation for a sound theory of the labor movement, and Samuel Gompers would have been the first to agree. But the distortions that stem from the one word "more" as summing up labor's philosophy continue to spread, and on this Labor Day the record should be set to rights.

Gompers did say "more," as part of "more, more now." He said also: "Our objective is to make today better than yesterday and tomorrow better than today." He recognized that "first things come first. The primary essential in our mission has been the protection of the wage earner, now: to increase his wages; to cut hours off the long workday, which was killing him; to improve the safety and the sanitary conditions of the workshop; to free him from the tyrannies, petty or otherwise, which served to make his existence a slavery."

From the very beginning Gompers conceived the unions to be motivated by a burning sense of justice. Concerning his philosophy of unionism, he said:

"If the rights of any individual are infringed, he has the right to counsel. But where political conditions touch a man's daily life once, economic conditions will affect it fifty times.

"To insure economic justice, therefore, I hold that the principle of right to counsel maintains. By economic counsel I mean an agent, expert upon the matters in question, selected with the approval of the individual. Thus, the economic organization of the workers is basic.

"This economic organization, in addition to its defensive service, is free to develop constructive functions as soon as it is accepted by the management and its spokesmen admitted to conferences considering various problems in which their work is concerned."

GOMPERS INSISTED that there were no limits to "the Federation activity," that its funcions were economic, political and social.

"What does labor want?" Gompers asked, and answered: "It wants the earth and the fullness thereof. There is nothing too precious, there is nothing too beautiful, too lofty, too ennobling, unless it is within the scope and comprehension of labor's aspirations and wants.

"We want more school houses and less jails; more books and less arsenals; more learning and less vice; more constant work and less crime; more leisure and less greed; more justice and less revenge; in fact, more of the opportunities to cultivate our better natures. . . ."

This, then is Gompers' "more" that has become for a handful of labor's critics a measure of what they castigate as "business unionism."

The "business" of trade unions on Labor Day 1979 is exactly what it was on the first Labor Day, 85 years ago: building a better life for all who work for wages.

As Gompers put it so well 60 years ago:

Workers "will never stop in their efforts to obtain a better life for themselves, for their wives, for their children and for all humanity. The object is to obtain complete social justice."

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'You're Not Invited!'



Turnout at Polls Underestimated:

Study Shows American Voters Have Lively Interest in Politics

By Gus Tyler

THE AMERICAN VOTER is not apathetic; he (she) is interested in elections and does turn out to vote.

I have held to this belief and have been saying so for several years in the face of a popular myth that voters in this country have been staying away from the polls in ever larger numbers.

Now comes a solid study by Ronald C. Moe, a research specialist at the Library of Congress, that sheds new light on the level of voter interest in our country. Moe says that our citizens have far more involvement in elections than we have been led to believe.

It is common talk that in 1976 only about one of every two eligible voters came out to vote (actually, only 53.3 percent.) But these figures are wrong because the term "eligible" is wrong.

The figure of 53.3 percent is arrived at by taking all residents in this country above the age of 18 and then figuring out what percentage actually cast a vote for the President of the United States.

But not all "residents" are potential voters: many of those counted in the census are here illegally (several million) and others are here legally but are not citizens and, therefore, cannot vote.

In addition, in most states a voter continues to be carried on the books as "eligible" to vote if he or she cast a vote in a recent election. In the interim, that voter may have died or may have moved. But the name remains on the books as "eligible," although the voter cannot vote while dead or living outside the district.

Voter interests, as measured by votes cast for the President, is also distorted since many voters come out to vote but are not counted because they marked a ballot incorrectly or because they did not choose to vote for the presidential candidate although they did vote for other offices.

If you allow for these factors, you get a voter turnout that is much bigger than the 53.3 percent people use to show abysmal apathy. In California, for instance, of the 9,980,000 registered voters, 78 percent turned out to vote in 1976 for a presidential candidate. If you allow, however, for the other voters who did not choose a President but did, nevertheless, sign the election register to participate in the balloting, the percentage rises to 81.5 percent—not a bad showing.

If, on top of this, you allow for people who died or who moved but whose names were still on the registration list, then of all the truly eligible, 87.5 percent came out to vote.

By a similar calculus, Moe concludes that voter turnout in New York was 87 percent, in Hawaii 91 percent, and in Connecticut 90 percent.

Moe's case would be strengthened if he allowed for the change in the make-up of the "eligible" voters between a year like 1960 and 1976. In the '60s, teenagers did not have the right to vote; by 1976, they did. Hence, the count of eligibles includes all those 18 and above although many of these are away at school, newly settled into a neighborhood, or preoccupied with matters of a non-political nature. The inclusion of the 18 to 21 necessarily lowers the voting percentage since these younger people have not yet been drawn actively into the political process.

In short, the evidence is that adult Americans are now—perhaps more than in the past—showing a lively interest in politics, contrary to current cliches.

Southern Workers Are Fighting Back

We hear a great deal about the New South and its thriving new industries. There has indeed been great progress in overcoming a long, unhappy history of industrial stagnation.

But much of the industry in this part of the world has been lured away from other regions by promises of low taxes, low wages, a docile and unorganized workforce and the absence of a strong trade union tradition. The outlander managements of those runaway companies are at least as anti-union as any native enterprise.

Workers in the South are fighting back, asserting their human rights and exercising their legal right to join or organize unions, to set their own goals, choose their own spokesmen and negotiate on equal terms on their wages and working conditions.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

Bishops' Statement Cited:

Church Bodies Must Recognize Their Workers' Union Rights

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

THE 1971 SYNOD OF BISHOPS, in its plenary statement on Justice in the World, pointed out that the mission of preaching the Gospel message which the Church has received from Christ includes a demand for justice in the world. It is for this reason that the Church has "the right, indeed the duty," to proclaim justice at all levels of society and to denounce instances of injustice when the fundamental rights of men and women are involved.

The Synod was at pains to emphasize, however, that "While the Church is bound to give witness to justice, she recognizes that anyone who ventures to speak to people about justice must first be just in their eyes."

"No one," the Synod document declares, "should be deprived of his ordinary rights because he is associated with the Church in one way or another."

One of the most fundamental of these "ordinary rights" is the right to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Recent events in the United States have led some observers to question whether or not church-related institutions are prepared to honor this right in practice as well as in theory.

It is essential, then, for Catholic institutions, which in the aggregate employ tens of thousands of professional and non-professional employees, to recognize, in the words of the Synod document cited above, that "anyone who ventures to speak to people about justice must first be just in their eyes."

This means, at the very least, that church leaders and the administrators of church-related institutions must unequivocally recognize the right of their employees to organize, if they so desire, for the purpose of collective bargaining.

To some extent, public confusion as to precisely where church-related institutions stand on this issue is based on a misunderstanding of what was involved and what was not involved in a recent series of court cases concerning labor-management relations in church-related schools.

It is important to understand exactly what the Supreme Court did and did not say about the right of teachers in church-related schools to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining. It said that the right to organize for this purpose is not protected under the terms of the National Labor Relations Act. It did not question nor negate the right to organize—and, indeed, would have had no authority to do so. The right to organize is a fundamental human right beyond the reach of civil law and therefore beyond the jurisdiction of the judicial branch of the federal government.

It is all the more important to highlight this distinction in view of the fact that the media, in far too many cases, simply ignored or, at best, blurred it in reporting on the Supreme Court's recent decision.

A number of Catholic spokesmen, including a ranking official of the U.S. Catholic Conference, have tried to clear up any confusion that might have resulted from such misleading press reports. An authorized spokesman for the USCC pointed out in a public statement that the conference "was and remains committed to the right of employees of church-related institutions to organize and bargain collectively."

There is good reason to think that the majority of Catholic school administrators are prepared to implement these principles. Some have long since done so in their respective jurisdictions, and others are currently in the process of doing so.

Catholic school administrators, as they review their personnel policies in the light of the Supreme Court's decision, will also have to reckon with the fact that teachers in Catholic schools who want to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining must be granted the right to do so through a union or association of their own choice.

OBVIOUSLY THE PRINCIPLES which apply in the case of teachers employed by Catholic schools also apply to the workers employed by Catholic hospitals and by other church-related institutions. In one respect, however, their situation is different from that of the schools. Hospital workers are covered by the National Labor Relations Act and are subject to the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Board. This should make it easier, from the procedural point of view, for these workers to exercise their right to organize.

Unfortunately, however, recent events in several parts of the country suggest that, in isolated cases, hospital administrators are resorting to legalistic technicalities, fashioned by sophisticated anti-union consulting firms, to interfere with their workers' right to organize. The use of such delaying tactics is a great injustice to all concerned.

One of the great mistakes made by American industry 50 years ago—when industrial unionism in this country was coming into its own—was that it completely underestimated the intelligence, the determination, the skill, and the drive of the workers it was dealing with. This proved to be a costly mistake and one which the more intelligent leaders of American industry, by hindsight, have come to regret.

Catholic institutions, for ethical as well as practical or pragmatic reasons, will want to avoid making this same mistake now that their own workers are belatedly beginning to exercise their right to organize—a right which the second Vatican Council, reaffirming traditional Catholic social teaching, described as being "among the basic rights of the human person."

Deep Slump Forecast:

Job-Creation Programs Needed To Soften Recession's Impact

UNLESS Congress and the Administration shape programs and policies to curb both inflation and unemployment, AFL-CIO Economist Markley Roberts warned, the current recession will slide deeper and last longer than many now predict.

"It's not an either-or proposition," Roberts declared on Labor News Conference. He stressed that unemployment already is feeding on the persistent high inflation rates, which are forcing growing numbers of workers to cut back on current spending as well as drop or postpone plans to buy homes, cars and other major items.

"We can see unemployment rising to 7 or 8 percent," Roberts asserted. He pointed out that official forecasts from the Administration and from the Congressional Budget Office now peg the 1980 jobless rolls as high as 9 million.

Roberts scored the idea advanced by some conservatives that recession is a good way to bring inflation under control. "It's wrong to think that allowing recession to run its course is going to bring down inflation . . . it won't do that," he declared. He pointed out that the current recession is being fueled by pressures in energy, "the blackmail of the oil exporting countries, rising health care costs and high interest rates," not by too much money in the hands of people willing to pay higher and higher prices.

Job-creation, he said, should be a very high priority anti-recession measure, pointing out that it would produce "much more bang for the buck" than tax cuts. "You'd have to cut taxes by $3 billion to get the same impact that you would, in terms of job-creation, by spending $1 billion on job programs or public works." He said that creating jobs in mass transit, for example, will also help ease the nation's energy problems and that similar "long-run benefits" will flow from other job-creation efforts.

Reporters questioning Roberts were Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

TUESDAY, APR. 1, 1980, will be Census Day, the day when data collection begins for the 20th Decennial Census of Population & Housing in the United States.

One of the prime purposes of the census, as indicated by the Constitution, will be the same as the first census in 1790: to provide the basis for fair apportionment among the states of seats in the House of Representatives.

Census data collected in 1980, however, also will be critical to the operation of federal, state and local governments. The data will be used for the distribution of federal funds to state and local governments, currently estimated at more than $50 billion a year, and for the distribution of additional billions in state funds.

All levels of government will use the census data for current and long-range planning to assist in decisions on scores of government programs, from schools to employment to health care.

Here are some examples:

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- The total population and per capita income statistics for 39,000 local governments help the Treasury Dept.'s Office of Revenue Sharing distribute funds under the State & Local Fiscal Assistance Act.
- The number of people 18 and older who have less than five years of schooling determines the amount of money allotted to each state under the Adult Education Act.
- The number of children 5 to 17 in poor families determines the amount of money allotted to counties under the Elementary & Secondary School Act.
- The number of people unemployed, or with low incomes, determines whether a community qualifies for assistance under the Public Works and Economic Development Acts.

STATE GOVERNMENTS

In recent years, the courts in applying the one-person-one-vote principle have ruled that the census will serve as a basis for the states to draw legislative district and ward boundaries.

The states also use census data for the distribution of state funds to counties, cities and other political subdivisions. These funds are used to:

- Maintain schools, hospitals, libraries, prisons, fire departments, juvenile courts, etc.
- Provide public services such as education, foster home care, fire and police protection, health and welfare services, street and sewer maintenance, pension and civil defense.
- Meet specialized needs such as in prisoners' court costs, school bus purchases, judges' salaries and veterans' requirements.

Census data also is of great value in planning by state and federal governments for parks, hospitals, schools and meeting other public needs.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Local governments often use census data to help:

- Select alternative sites for new public facilities such as schools and fire stations.
- Prepare population estimates and projections for entire communities and neighborhoods to help anticipate changes in requirements for municipal services.
- Assess the potential environmental impact on neighborhoods of proposed highways or mass transit systems.
- Estimate future tax revenue on the basis of trends in population composition, retail sales, payroll data, number of retail establishments and related statistics.
- Establish voting district boundaries.

The count is expected to cover approximately 222 million people residing in some 86 million housing units.



PROGRAMS AND POLICIES aimed at curbing both inflation and unemployment are the only ways to stave off a deeper recession than many are now predicting, AFL-CIO Economist Markley Roberts, center, warned on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Robert Cooney, left, of Press Associates, Inc. and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Meany on Labor Day:

Human Rights Are Fundamental to Labor

By George Meany

FOR MOST AMERICANS, Labor Day marks a new beginning—a new year of work. Families are closing out their summer vacations; children are about to start a new school year; the last long holiday weekend of summer is over.

And as America returns to work, trade unionists turn to their traditional Labor Day stock-taking. We look back at the progress workers have made and forward to the problems they face in the year ahead. Inevitably, we tend to measure our progress in specific economic terms: jobs, wages, hours, social benefits. And, indeed, no labor movement that failed to achieve advances in these areas would long enjoy, or deserve, the support of its members.

Better wages and working conditions are not the automatic byproducts of successful corporate enterprise. Much as some might wish otherwise, workers who do not fight for a fair share of the wealth they produce are not likely to receive a fair share. Unions are formed precisely to give workers their own instrument in the struggle over the distribution of the national income.

If this struggle is to take place on fair terms—on terms not completely disadvantageous to the worker—there have to be fair ground rules. Such rules can only be guaranteed in a climate of respect for human rights.

So to a trade unionist, human rights are not airy abstractions. Freedom of association, assembly, and expression, under the rule of law, are the indispensable building blocks of trade union organizations. Without each and all of these rights, workers could not band together, hold meetings, select leaders, or air grievances. Not only do the inner workings of a union require respect for these human rights, but so does the ability of unions to protect themselves in the society at large.

These same human rights are, of course, the prerequisites of political democracy. Without them, opposition political parties cannot be formed; citizens cannot choose or remove their governments. The state tyrannically rules over popular majorities. There is no one-man, one-vote; numbers cease to count; the will of the people does not prevail, it is suppressed. Arms or wealth, or both in combination, are the source of power.

Workers have an economic self-interest in the promotion and protection of human rights. They can only prosper when they are free to fight.

All a climate of respect for human rights guarantees workers is the right to struggle. It does not guarantee them victory. Quite often, as the history of every fight for social welfare legislation proves, big business still wields more than its fair share of power in the Congress. We still are fighting, for example, for national health care for all Americans—a fight we have been waging for two decades.

But because we live in a political democracy, we have the right to carry on the fight for these objectives. I believe that we have an equal responsibility to carry on that fight. And, because there is a clear and demonstrable need and a clear majority seeking such legislation, I am confident ultimately we will prevail.

What we want for American workers we want for all workers. Here again our economic self-interest reinforces a moral commitment. American workers cannot compete with foreign workers making 50 cents an hour. In the long run, stemming the export of American jobs to cheap foreign labor markets will require raising the wages of exploited foreign workers. With higher wages, these workers could also afford to buy more American products, thus benefitting American workers as well.

There is no reason to assume that foreign employers are any more generous than their American counterparts. To get their higher wages, foreign workers need strong unions.

Unfortunately, in many parts of the world, the right to form free and independent unions exists only on paper, if even there. That's because in most countries human rights exist only on paper.

No society that scorns human rights generally will make an exception on trade union rights. And so, ever since the days of Gompers, it has been clear to the American labor movement that, if we wanted to encourage the growth of trade unionism abroad—which we recognized to be in our own best interest—we had simultaneously to promote political democracy abroad.

That's why long before President Carter's human rights campaign—which the AFL-CIO applauds—American labor vigorously urged that the promotion of democracy and human rights should be the heart and soul of American foreign policy. That point of view is frequently at odds with that of the American business community, which feels that the protection of their narrow economic interests abroad should be the compelling concern of U.S. foreign policy.

From its founding, the American labor movement has stood for justice, freedom, equality and human dignity—human rights.

To us, human rights are absolute qualities, not relative quantities. They cannot be measured in degrees or percentages. They cannot be quantified in terms of some political victims released—so long as any remain in jail. Human rights cannot be considsidered a body count of emigrants or as an empty basket in a diplomatic agreement.

The simple fact is that outside of agencies specializing in human rights issues, no institution in American life has been involved so deeply or on such a broad front as the AFL-CIO in human rights activities. We do not care whether the suppressors of human rights are Communists or fascists. Both are the enemies of free trade unionism. So the American labor movement, in the words of Thomas Jefferson, has sworn an oath of "eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man."

The first rights to be taken away by dictatorships of the right and the left are those which are the lifeblood of both free trade unionism and democracy: freedom of speech, freedom of association and assembly.

You cannot have a trade union or a democratic election without those rights. Without a democratic election, whereby the people choose and remove their rulers, there is no method of securing human rights against the state. No democracy without human rights, no human rights without democracy and no trade union rights without either.

In various international forums and in this country, a peculiar debate has been taking place on the relationship between human rights and economic rights. The debate tends to counterpose political democracy and economic justice.

On one side are some conservatives who argue that political democracy is the most important value and that the price Americans must be prepared to pay for it is a high level of economic inequality and social injustice. They argue that egalitarian social programs lead to the growth of state power, which in turn threatens liberty.

Another point of view, associated with many Third World leaders, puts a premium on the alleviation of poverty through economic development and considers democracy an impediment to development, an unaffordable luxury.

The American labor movement subscribes to neither view.

We consider political democracy is sapped by, not rooted in, social inequality. Political democracy is not an impediment to economic development. It is the only assurance that it will proceed in a balanced and healthy way, not through the exploitation of workers.

Our whole experience at the collective bargaining table and in the legislative halls tells us that political and economic rights are not antagonistic but mutually reinforcing, mutually enriching, mutually indispensable.

This year, as American workers and their families return from their summer vacations, they face growing unemployment and inflation, a climate of economic anxiety and uncertainty. As they and their unions try to cope with these problems, they will not ignore distant struggles for human rights throughout the world. We recognize that the denial of human rights in other lands is inescapably our problem. And on this last Labor Day of a troubled and disappointing decade, we are resolved to continue our fight for freedom and human rights wherever and whenever they are threatened.

Labor Unity Essential to Counter Challenge from Big Business Foes

From a statement by Robert A. Georgine, president of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept.

THE TRADITIONAL PURPOSE of Labor Day is recognition of the role the American working man and woman have played in the development of the greatest society yet known to civilization. This year, perhaps we should attach a double purpose to the observance of Labor Day.

It might be appropriate if the working men and women, especially those in the building and construction trades and other components of organized labor, used the occasion to inquire why they are under constant, merciless, unjustified attack from a tiny but powerful group of their fellow countrymen.

Instead of being honored for continuous efforts down through the years to produce a nation in which all citizens may live in some comfort, security and dignity, organized labor is the target of malicious, scurrilous, unfounded allegations and innuendoes.

Historians will mark the late 1970s as a period of great crisis in the construction industry.

The massive attack this year on Davis-Bacon is, in fact, part of a larger, well-coordinated attack on the building trades unions. And it encompasses many smaller assaults on the trade union movement over the past decade, including the erosion of local bargaining patterns, and practices which have existed for years, the rapid growth and subsidy of the open shop contractor in industrial construction, the defeat of labor law reform and common situs picketing legislation in the Congress and a series of court decisions to strip workers of their traditional legal protections.

Leading the war against us is an association of 200 of the largest corporations in America which calls itself the Business Roundtable. These corporations are among the largest clients of industrial construction in the United States.

Marching to the same tune are the Associated Building Contractors, the National Right to Work Committee, the National Association of Manufacturers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

To meet the massive challenge, we must unite—we in the building trades, we in all organized labor. Only by matching unity with unity and numbers of people against corporate dollars can we preserve all that we have accomplished, not just for ourselves but for the ordinary people of America.

What better time to set this course, to make this resolve, than Labor Day 1979?

New Opportunity in New Decade

Labor Day statement of Jacob Clayman, president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

LABOR DAY 1979 ends a decade of considerable stress and change in the American national life. The 10 years of the 1970s also were generally disappointing ones for American workers. They saw their standards of living threatened by chronic inflation, their job opportunities eroded by high unemployment and a flood of unfair imports, and their rights and cherished institutions threatened by constantly increasing pressure from reactionary forces.

Now, Americans face a sea of uncertainties. We must cope with historically high inflation rates. We must develop a national energy policy that will overcome paralyzing dependence on foreign oil and allow American productivity and skill the fullest opportunity to advance our social and economic well-being.

We must develop once again a national consensus which upholds basic rights for all Americans and which protects American institutions from those special interests who promote heedless destruction for the sake of power.

I am confident that the IUD, like the rest of the AFL-CIO and all of the labor organizations in America, will continue to rise to its responsibilities on behalf of working people and all Americans. We will continue to move vigorously, through the collective bargaining process, through political education and action programs, and through alliance with other progressive segments of American life, to advance our members' interests and our nation's programs.

Kirkland on Labor Day:

Workers Face Struggle to Preserve Gains

By Lane Kirkland

IT IS TRADITIONAL on Labor Day to point with pride to the high standard of living produced by America's working men and women. It was here in America that, for the first time in world history, workers became able to buy the things they make and to share, at least to a modest extent, in the good life that their labor makes possible.

Thanks, in large measure, to the success of the trade union movement in bringing about a more equitable sharing of economic gains, Americans have become used to having the highest living standards on earth and to seeing those standards rise higher with each generation.

But on this Labor Day 1979, for millions of families, living standards are declining. For most of the last decade, inflation has been eroding their purchasing power, and never more than in this year.

As long ago as 1966, the AFL-CIO told then President Johnson that union members wanted inflation stopped and that they were prepared to make sacrifices to help stop it, provided the sacrifices were shared equally by all. We repeated that pledge many times, to four Presidents. We stand by it today.

Inflation is a national danger that can only be overcome through a national response in which all Americans have a part to play. There should be equality of sacrifice through uniform and equitable restraints on both buyers and sellers, lenders and borrowers, tenants and landlords, employers and employees.

Sacrifices have been made—painful and continuing sacrifices—but only by workers, consumers, borrowers, tenants and pensioners.

The incomes of rich investors and the profits of business and industry have been insulated from the worst effects of inflation by large, arbitrary and frequent increases in prices and rents and by extortionate interest charges.

But the income of those who live by selling their labor are not only unprotected, they are the target of unfair—and we believe unlawful—government policies that aim not only at keeping wage increases below price increases, but at imposing absolute reductions in purchasing power and living standards.

The Administration's so-called voluntary guidelines set a limit of 7 percent on wage increases, scarcely more than half of the recent rate of increase of the prices of all the things those wages must buy.

Over the first half of this year, consumer prices rose at a rate of 13.6 percent. The biggest and most rapid increases have come in the prices of food, shelter, fuel and health care, the basic necessities of life that account for more than 60 percent of the average family budget.

As a result, after all the wage increases and cost-of-living adjustments, the average worker's buying power is 3.5 percent lower than it was a year ago. It is lower than it was in 1965, and every housewife is painfully aware that she can buy less with each trip to the supermarket.

But while the buying power of wages, pensions and savings is falling, corporate profits are booming. In the first quarter of this year, they rose 37 percent above the same period last year. They increased 19.6 percent in the second.

The chief engine of inflation has been the energy crisis, which has been growing since 1973, when the OPEC nations raised oil prices 400 percent. They have steadily increased their demands ever since, with the full cooperation of America's oil companies, which have multiplied their earnings at the expense of the American people. Profits of oil companies rose in the second quarter of 1979 by 20 to 235 percent. Those profits are the product of spectacular increases in the price of gasoline and other fuels. And yet, the Administration insists on proceeding with its plan to remove every vestige of control over domestic oil prices.

That action will do nothing to increase fuel supplies. It will only continue to increase the profit margins of oil companies and to make inflation worse.

Other inflationary trends are already inescapable. Wholesale prices have been rising at an annual rate of more than 13 percent, pushing retail prices to new heights. The Federal Reserve System has raised its discount rate—the interest it charges its member banks—to a record 10.5 percent, sending bank rates to businessmen and consumers much higher.

But the most inflationary element on the horizon is the growing threat of a new recession—the third in 10 years—which will, as it did in the Nixon and Ford years, reduce government tax revenues at the very time that government outlays for unemployment and welfare benefits are expanding.

Six million workers are already unemployed, the highest number ever seen at the beginning of an economic decline. Government economists are forecasting that perhaps 2.5 million more workers will lose jobs.

Large-scale unemployment is not only cruel, heartless and dangerous as social policy; it is foolish and recklessly wasteful as economic policy.

The skills and productivity of American workers, not to mention the taxes they pay, are the greatest economic resource our country has. To condemn large numbers of them to unemployment, to deprive the Treasury of their tax contributions and to force them to live on unemployment benefits at public expense is the most expensive luxury any society ever chose to buy.

A recession means the housing shortage will grow much worse, and that prices of homes, already out of reach for most families, will go even higher. Low production means fewer goods in the marketplace, again at higher prices. High unemployment means vast increases in federal, state and local budget deficits and further pressure on public services.

So the evils of inflation, recession and the energy crisis are closely tied together. They are mutually reinforcing and feeding on each other.

The AFL-CIO is convinced that they cannot be dealt with separately. There has to be a general resolve and a coordinated national effort to overcome all three.

One clear way to stabilize the economy is to have a full, carefully legislated program of controls on prices, profits, rents, dividends, interest rates, professional fees, executive pay and every other form of income, including but certainly not limited to the wages of working people—controls on the cost of everything and the income of everybody.

We support the thrust of President Carter's energy program, including its proposals for conservation measures, the development on a very large scale of new and alternative energy sources, the creation of an Energy Mobilization Board, an Energy Security Fund and a windfall profit tax on the oil industry.

We want also to see oil imports taken out of private hands so that the United States can deal with the OPEC nations on a government-to-government basis. We want to see the Energy Security Fund expanded to a full-scale Energy Independence Authority, responsible for encouraging, funding and guiding the development of new energy industries. We are urging the Congress to adopt an excess profits tax of 85 percent on the oil industry to help pay for it.

These two major efforts toward inflation control and energy independence are, beyond all doubt, the nation's major needs. But there is also a need for direct anti-recession measures.

Therefore, the AFL-CIO has called on the Administration and the Congress to expand job-creating employment and training programs, to improve the unemployment insurance system and to enact a standby public works program that can be ready to meet rising unemployment.

We have asked for an expanded program of targeted and standby countercyclical aid programs to help state and local governments and for a range of programs to increase the nation's housing supply.

Effective control of arbitrary and unjustified price increases, public investment in housing and energy research, development and production on a massive scale, and job development and training programs to help prepare workers to handle the new technologies and new energy industries would help stabilize and strengthen the economy and provide a base for a more secure and more productive nation.

To those who say that America can't afford these things, we say that what America can't afford is to continue to allow the OPEC nations and their cohorts, the multinational oil companies, to continue to drain America's resources. What America can't afford is to allow inflation to continue transferring wealth from those who have little to those who already have too much. America can't afford to condemn millions of workers who are willing and eager to work to idleness and poverty.

In the coming legislative battles to restore America's place in the world, we will face heavy and entrenched opposition from those who profit from the status quo, from shortages, high prices and high interest rates, low wages and uncontrolled expansion of private profit at the expense of the national and public interest.

But we are not alone. This is no private fight. Our program is not designed to promote the interests of unions or their members, but to defend and advance the interests of all ordinary Americans. We expect their support in this struggle on their behalf, and we are confident we will not be disappointed.

Workers Deserve Nation's Support

From a statement by Labor Sec. Ray Marshall:

LABOR DAY 1979 gives all Americans an opportunity to reffect upon the many contributions this country's working men and women make to our society.

At the same time, we should consider the obligations our society has to improve conditions for working people, and to protect important gains achieved for them throughout many years of struggle.

We must work harder than ever to enforce laws which protect people from exploitation in pay and working conditions. And we must continue doing all we can to encourage and facilitate compliance with standards we fought hard to establish governing wages, hours, pensions, safety and health, equal employment opportunity and a host of other vital areas.

We recognize that working men and women are the greatest victims of the economic problems this nation faces today. But workers are also the key to solving those problems which threaten to erode purchasing power and reduce standards of living for all of us.

Let us not compromise or hold back in our pursuit of decency or justice for working people. Instead, let us follow the example that workers themselves have set through their organizations in the free American labor movement: that people working together toward worthwhile, unselfish goals can overcome great odds and opposition to build better democracy and a better way of life for all citizens.

Our finest tribute to workers on Labor Day 1979 is a promise that all groups in our society will join together to provide maximum opportunities for people to work under the best conditions we can make possible.

Labor Battles for All Americans

From the Labor Day statement of President Carter:

LABOR DAY IS an appropriate time to reflect on our blessings as Americans and the strengths of our dynamic and free economy which provides jobs for almost 100 million men and women. It took determination, courage and hard work to build the most productive economy in history. Those same qualities are still alive and strong in America today.

We should also give thanks to the generations of brave men and women in American labor who struggled to win fundamental rights for American workers. Their efforts have not only increased the productivity of our economy and improved the lives of American workers, but they have also strengthened our democracy and basic freedoms.

This is the third Labor Day that we have celebrated during my presidency. These years have been a time of progress and achievement. We have dramatically reduced unemployment, created about 8 million new jobs, strengthened important health, safety and pension protections for American workers and have worked to enact a just and fair minimum wage.

We do face difficult problems, however. The inflation that began a decade ago continues to erode the paychecks of American workers. Our energy problems, particularly our dependence on foreign oil, have both drained our economy and created new burdens for working men and women. We also face the threat of an economic downturn that could erode some of our hard-won gains.

I am confident that we as a nation can surmount these difficulties. American workers, and the organizations that represent their interests, have always been willing to do more than their share in times of crisis. Again and again, labor unions have battled not only for the interests of their members, but to improve the lives of all Americans.

Bargaining Order Issued:

NLRB Hits Stevens For New Violations

(Continued from Page 1)

the election results. The board also found that the company had committed further unfair labor practices by attempting to encourage workers to invalidate these cards when they were called as witnesses before Judge Harmatz.

The decision marked the second time that ACTWU has won legal recognition at a Stevens facility after losing a representation election. The same thing happened at the firm's Statesboro, Ga., plant, which Stevens subsequently closed.

Under the bargaining order set forth by Harmatz, and affirmed by the NLRB panel, Stevens must negotiate with ACTWU upon request for all production and maintenance workers employed at Stevens's Carter plant, Holly plant and warehouses at Wallace.

The board found Stevens guilty of a series of independent acts of restraint and coercion of employees during the organizing drive. The labor law violations fell into three categories—interfering with employee distribution of union literature, unlawful granting of benefits, and coercion of employees by supervisors.

The board ordered the company to cease and desist from further violations and directed it to give the union nationwide access to Stevens's bulletin boards, access to deliver speeches at any plant where it is involved in a campaign, and the opportunity to respond to speeches by plant managers.

The NLRB also ordered the company to reimburse with interest both the union and the board itself for their litigation expenses, including costs of investigating, preparing, presenting, and conducting the case.

But it was the panel's decision upholding its hearing officer's recommendation for reimbursement of the union's organizing expenses that makes the ruling stand out. Harmatz had found that there was a causal link between ACTWU's "extraordinary" organizing expenditures in connection with the Feb. 19, 1975, election and Stevens's unlawful acts.

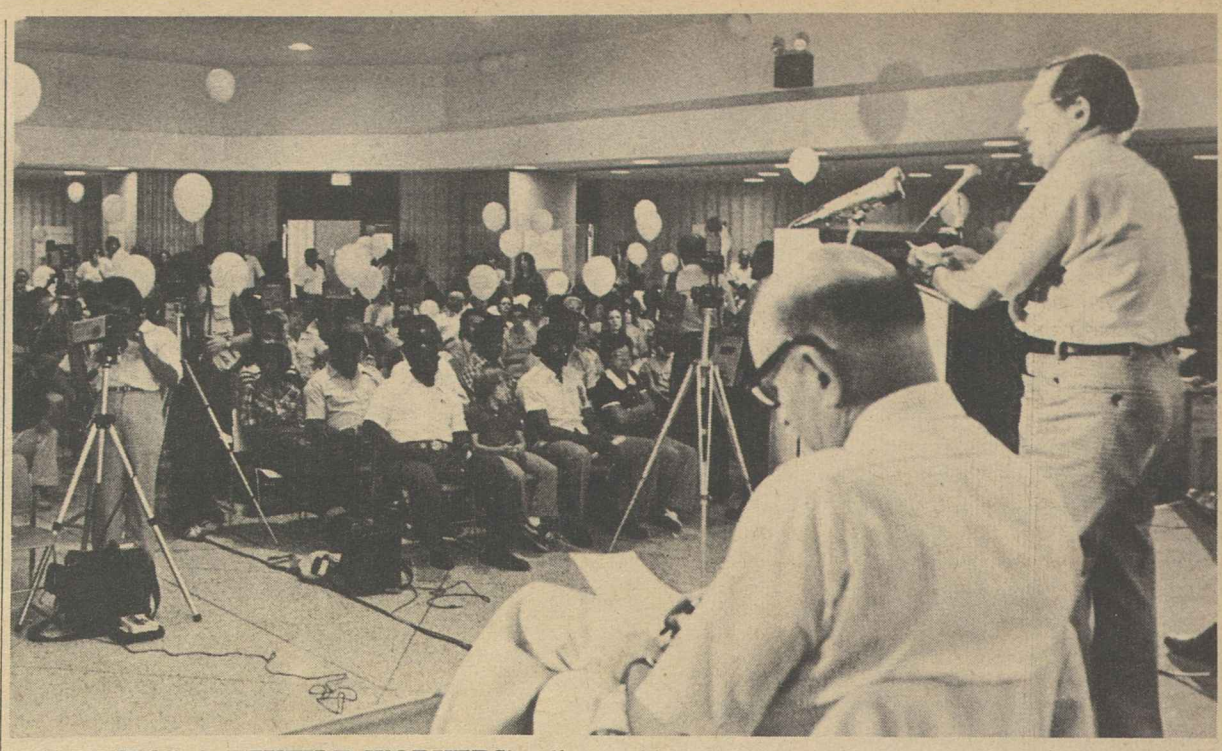
In ordering the reimbursement, which could run well into thousands of dollars, Harmatz declared that employee organizational rights "have been threatened over the years by the efforts of J. P. Stevens to destroy the union through persistent violations of the law, board orders, court decrees, and contempt citations."

"No end appears to this unrelenting effort to exhaust the resources of this union in the hope that eventually it will be left with no alternative other than complete withdrawal, an event which more than likely would provide the final stroke to the statutory guarantees which employees in this and other plants have sought to vindicate," Harmatz said.

"This record convincingly demonstrates that past efforts by the union to organize employees at Wallace were abandoned in the face of flagrant behavior on the part of the respondent which violated both the (National Labor Relations) Act and outstanding court orders."

The board ordered Stevens to post copies of its decision in all 83 of its plants in the United States, and to mail copies of the official NLRB notice of violation to every one of its employees, along with a letter from each plant manager summarizing the board's decision. The notice also must be read to workers by the highest management official at each plant or, at Stevens's option, by an NLRB agent.

Since 1966, the NLRB has found the company guilty of labor law violations in 20 of 21 cases brought before it. The latest illegal conduct by Stevens occurred while the company was under a U.S. Court of Appeals contempt citation for earlier violations, the NLRB observed.



CLOTHING & TEXTILE WORKERS' rally marking the fifth anniversary of the union's election win at J. P. Stevens & Co.'s Roanoke Rapids, N.C., mills drew some 1,000 workers who renewed their commitment to the struggle for decent wages and working conditions at the textile company. ACTWU Senior Executive Vice President Sol Stetin, at the rostrum, told the rally the battle for economic justice has earned wide public support. Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman is in foreground.

Roanoke Rapids Workers Achieve Gains Despite Absence of Contract

Roanoke Rapids, N.C.—Lack of a contract five years after voting for union representation failed to dampen an enthusiastic mass rally here of some 1,000 J. P. Stevens & Co. workers, who hailed the gains they have made from the presence of the Clothing & Textile Workers and from their own solidarity.

Ten rank-and-file workers told an overflow crowd of fellow Stevens workers and their families at the Civic Center that the 1974 election has given them new dignity on the job, protection of their rights through union grievance procedures, some safety and health improvements, and other advantages.

The theme of the rally, "We're still here, stronger than ever," was borne out by the Stevens workers and by union officials, who pledged to stay with them until a contract is won.

"We'll stay with you, and we'll stay with you as long as it takes to get you decent wages, decent benefits, a good contract, and most of all, human dignity," said Harold McIver of Charlotte, organizing director of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

Hundreds of workers from other Stevens plants, some from as far away as Tifton, Ga., turned out for the rally to denounce Stevens, which has been branded the nation's worst labor-law violator.

Bennett Taylor, a member of the employee negotiating committee at Roanoke Rapids, noted that Stevens had denied the workers an annual wage increase this year in order to force them to accept a second-rate contract. The company proposal was unanimously rejected, he said, because "it's not a contract that's important, it's what's in the contract.

"That's what we've been saying for five long years, and that's why we are stronger than ever. . . . We are not about to sell ourselves, nor our union, for 30 pieces of silver."

Another worker, Maurine Hedgepeth, said: "We're not just thinking about a first contract. We're thinking about the rest of our lives and the lives of our children and grandchildren."

Evidence that the union is growing in Roanoke Rapids was provided by local ACTWU Representatives Clyde Bush and Cecil Jones, who said that the union had signed up 109 new members since Aug. 2. Bush said that of the small minority of Stevens's 3,000-member workforce here who had actively opposed ACTWU, only a bare handful remains.

One former anti-union worker, now a dedicated union supporter, told why she changed her mind. Janie Hawkins said that after two years of watching the company and its anti-union employees' educational committee do nothing for workers, she decided that she was wasting her time, and went to the union office for some answers. "Before I left, I signed a union card," she recalled.

Grady Cullon, an 11-year Stevens employee, said he became disgusted with Stevens's policies four years ago, and switched to the union "because of its efforts to treat everybody fairly." He said he later convinced more than 40 other workers in his department to join ACTWU.

Addressing the rally briefly were ACTWU Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman and Senior Executive Vice President Sol Stetin.

Praising the "patience and determination" of the workers, Sheinkman recalled the familiar question asked over the ages, "How long, oh Lord, how long?" and declared: "You people have given the answer—for as long as it takes to win what is right, what is fair and what is just."

Stetin described the battle for justice by Stevens workers as "a valiant struggle which has captured the support and aroused the indignation of the public."

Also on hand to greet the workers and pledge their continuing full support "for as long as it takes" were North Carolina AFL-CIO President Wilbur Hobby and Scott M. Hoyman, executive vice president of ACTWU, who has headed the union negotiating team from the beginning.

Hoyman reported on continuing negotiations and congratulated the Roanoke Rapids employees for refusing to be deceived into accepting Stevens's offer of a meaningless contract for a pay raise.

As a result of Stevens's action, Hoyman reported, ACTWU has filed new unfair practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board, including a demand for the withheld 8.5 percent wage increase in Roanoke Rapids "retroactively and with interest."

6-State Energy Project Set for Midwest Labor

Chicago—The AFL-CIO Great Lakes Regional Council is developing an energy program for union members in six midwestern states under a $66,000 grant from the Dept. of Energy.

The project, initially funded for one year, is designed to address a wide range of interests and concerns of workers and their unions in energy policies and programs.

In outlining the aims of the project, Council President William C. Marshall said a central resource center will be established to provide needed materials and expertise on energy matters. He said the project will also focus on building an effective liaison with the Dept. of Energy and developing an extensive educational program.

Planned activities include the presentation of seminars, analyses of state energy programs, detailed studies on complex energy policies and researching questions on energy matters for affiliated unions.

The Great Lakes Council, which was founded last year, comprises six AFL-CIO state bodies—Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin—representing some 2.5 million workers.

Marshall, who also is president of the Michigan state labor federation, said a primary objective in the creation of the council was to better represent the concerns of workers as they are affected by government policies and programs.

Other top officials of the council are Vice President John W. Schmitt, president of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO, and Sec.-Treas. Robert G. Gibson, president of the Illinois AFL-CIO. Serving as council trustees are President David Roe of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, President Willis Zagrovich of the Indiana AFL-CIO and President John Wengart of the Iowa AFL-CIO.

Network Broadcasts Set for Labor Day

AFL-CIO leaders will appear on the following radio programs on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3:

Vice President Paul Hall on Mutual radio, 2:10 p.m. EDT.

Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland on NBC radio, 2:30 p.m. EDT.

President George Meany on CBS radio, 6:45 p.m. EDT.

On Sunday, Sept. 2, Vice President William W. Winpisinger will appear on the NBC television interview program, Meet the Press, at noon.

Local stations may alter program schedules and should be checked for exact broadcast time.

Meany Urges Utah Pardon For Joe Hill

A posthumous pardon to Joe Hill, the union organizer and songwriter who was executed in 1915 for a murder many believe he did not commit, would be a "magnanimous and healing act," AFL-CIO President George Meany said in a letter to Utah Gov. Scott M. Matheson.

Meany's letter noted that the federation's Executive Council unanimously adopted a resolution last month requesting the governor to act on the pardon.

"A posthumous pardon of Joe Hill would not, of course, change history, nor would it impugn the honor of those who sat in judgment on him," Meany observed in his letter.

"It would be, at most, a declaration that the animosities of the past have been dissolved and an acknowledgment that a member of the human family who was executed in 1915 is no longer execrated and excluded."

The granting of such a pardon would be "a magnanimous and healing act and a worthy expression of the humane impulses of the government and the people of Utah," Meany said.

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Policy Shift Ups Federal Pay Hike to 7%

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President's Step Hailed By Labor

A shift in the Carter Administration's federal pay policy will produce a 7 percent wage increase for 3.5 million white-collar workers and the military next month.

Unless either the House or Senate disapproves, President Carter's proposal to increase federal pay scales from 5.5 to 7 percent will go into effect the first full pay period in October. Congress is not expected to disapprove.

AFL-CIO President George Meany and public employee union leaders commended the President for the action, but pointed out that the move was still short of full comparability with private business and industry under the law.

Meany said "we are pleased that the President has chosen to end the obvious discrimination against federal workers which resulted when he applied a harsher wage standard to them than to other workers." Under the wage guidelines the Administration held pay increases outside the federal sector to 7 percent.

In 1978 federal salary increases were capped at 5.5 percent despite a much sharper increase in the comparability formula. This year the comparability approach called for a 10.4 percent hike.

President Kenneth T. Blaylock of the American Federation of Government Employees said Carter's decision "is evidence to us that he has been persuaded by our persistent representations to him on this point." Blaylock said, "we reaffirm our belief that comparability (with the private sector) is the only appropriate measure of federal pay rates—comparability in reward and sacrifice."

In a message to Congress on the pay proposal, Carter said "pay comparability for federal civilian employees and the military must be viewed in the light of the current economic situation. Inflation continues to be the single greatest threat to our economy and is a national problem of foremost concern."

He added, "I believe that the loyal and outstanding service given to the country by the government's civilian and military personnel warrants recognition" in the light of the changed economic conditions and the new pay standards for 1980.

Blaylock noted, "although we recognize that full comparability would require an adjustment of 10.4 percent, we stress that the willingness of federal employees to

(Continued on Page 7)

Farm Workers Win Pact With Top Lettuce Grower

Accord Set In Electrical Bargaining

Pittsburgh — The Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers ended their seven-week-old strike against the Westinghouse Electric Corp., after approving a new three-year contract giving greater job security to their members.

The agreement, reached on Aug. 30, received favorable votes from more than 17,000 of the 18,000, IUE members employed by the electrical-equipment manufacturer. Most have returned to their jobs.

IUE President David J. Fitzmaurice praised the "militancy and determination of the strikers for winning key job-security protections and for turning back a massive company effort to impose a takeway pension.

"This is a good, solid settlement. It was won on the picket lines," Fitzmaurice said.

Vincent Vingle, IUE's chief negotiator and chairman of the union's Westinghouse Conference Board, observed that the national agreement for the first time offers protection to Westinghouse workers whose plants are closed down.

The terms of the agreement also were accepted by the Machinists, Steelworkers, Allied Industrial Workers, and the unaffiliated United Electrical Workers, all members of the coordinated bargaining committee which conducted this year's negotiations with the electrical industry. UE has about 5,000 members at Westinghouse plants, IAM about 2,000, USWA 1,000 and the AIW about 500.

(Continued on Page 3)



LABOR DAY PICNICKERS at the White House, including President and Mrs. Carter and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, enjoy the evening's entertainment. More than 1,200 trade union leaders and representatives were guests of the Carters at the affair. **(Story, Page 8.)**

Service, White Collar Potential:

Meany Sees Gains For Unions in 1980s

Workers in the fast-growing service industry and those in professional and white-collar occupations are turning more and more to trade unions to secure and protect their economic rights and gains, AFL-CIO President George Meany observed in a Labor Day radio address to the nation.

In the 1980s, these workers will spark another expansion of the American labor movement, much as industrial workers and public employees did earlier, Meany predicted over the CBS network.

"Office workers. professionals, workers in stores, farm workers—all segments where union representation is now low in comparison with the total workforce—will look to the labor movement to ensure them a voice on the job, to bring democracy to the workplace," Meany declared.

The basic goal of the labor movement remains unchanged ever since the first national trade-union center was established in the United States 98 years ago, he said.

"It is—as it has always been, and I am sure always will be—to better the standards of life for all who work for wages and to seek decency and justice and dignity for all Americans," he said.

Workers need unions and for this reason the existence of the labor movement is assured, Meany said.

In other traditional Labor Day broadcasts, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirk-

(Continued on Page 8)

$2-an-Hour Wage Gain Ends Strike

Keene, Calif. — The Farm Workers have won a three-year contract with Sun Harvest, Inc., the nation's largest lettuce grower, that is expected to serve as a model for other West Coast growers.

The settlement, reached on Aug. 31, ended an eight-month, violence-marred strike against the United Brands Co. subsidiary.

UFW President Cesar Chavez, describing the agreement as "a victory for both the union and the company," immediately called off the union's nationwide boycott of United Brands products.

"The union will now focus all its resources on the boycott of non-union iceberg lettuce," Chavez said, adding that the union planned to expand the lettuce boycott.

Some 2,000 workers are employed at Sun Harvest fields in California and in Arizona. The company is the fourth grower to settle with the union since Aug. 12.

Like the agreements signed earlier with a small lettuce grower and two tomato growers, the Sun Harvest contract raises the minimum hourly wage for general laborers from $3.70 to $5 immediately, to $5.40 next year, and $5.71 a year later.

Under a cost-of-living escalator clause, however, the base pay probably will go higher. The clause provides for annual COL adjustments at the rate of one cent an hour for

(Continued on Page 3)

Expanded Monthly Survey Urged To Hone Accuracy of Jobless Rate

By James M. Shevis

A blue-ribbon federal panel concluded 14 months of study and evaluation of the nation's employment and unemployment statistics with a recommendation that the government expand its monthly job survey to improve the accuracy of state and local jobless figures.

But the National Commission on Employment & Unemployment Statistics, chaired by Sar A. Levitan, director of George Washington University's Center for Social Policy Studies, turned down a labor proposal to include so-called "discouraged" workers in the jobless count.

The AFL-CIO and other groups have long contended that such workers—jobless persons who are not seeking work because they believe none is available—should be counted as unemployed if the true extent of joblessness is to be measured.

Four of the nine panel members, including AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, argued that counting discouraged workers among the unemployed would more accurately reflect the nation's jobless situation.

In its final report, the presidentially-appointed panel listed 88 formal recommendations. By law, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall must review the commission's findings and transmit his comments to the

(Continued on Page 3)

House Urged To Bar Cut in Disability Aid

The AFL-CIO renewed its opposition to a bill that would reduce future social security disability benefits and called on House members to vote it down.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young wrote House members on their return from the August recess that the legislation contains "unwise and unnecessary benefit reductions for disabled workers who in the future will have eligible family members dependent on them."

The legislation, cleared to the floor earlier in the year by the Ways & Means Committee, was scheduled for House debate in the

(Continued on Page 3)



RE-ELECTION NOMINATION of James W. Murry, left, executive secretary of the Montana AFL-CIO, was delivered at the state federation convention by his son, Patrick Murry, standing, a member of Carpenters Local 153 and president of the Helena central labor council.

Montana Delegates Vote Increase in Per Capita

Helena, Mont.—Delegates to the Montana AFL-CIO's 23rd annual convention approved a 10-cent increase in the per capita tax over the next three years.

The first boost of 6 cents will go into effect in 1980. Two additional increments of 2 cents each will become effective in 1981 and 1982, raising the monthly per capita payment to 52 cents.

Six cents of the increase is earmarked for the state federation's general fund, 3 cents to its COPE operations and 1 cent to the retirement fund.

Re-elected to new two-year terms at the three-day convention were President Robert G. Kokoruda, Vice President Blanche Copenhaver and Executive Secretary James W. Murry. Four of the state federation's six executive board members were also re-elected. The two new executive board members are Virgil Wright of the United Transportation Union and James McGarvey of the Teachers.

Murry was nominated by his son, Patrick Murry, a member of Carpenters Local 153 in Helena and president of the Helena central labor council. The younger Murry represents the third generation of the family to serve as a delegate to a Montana AFL-CIO convention. His grandfather, Boyd Murry, was instrumental in organizing Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers Local 2-443 in 1941 and served on the state federation's executive board..

Key resolutions adopted by the convention voiced support for the AFL-CIO Executive Council's call for consideration of nationalizing oil companies if they fail to serve the nation's best interests and condemnation of excessive corporate profits while workers' real earnings are being eroded by inflation.

Convention speakers included AFL-CIO Regional Director L. D. Porter, Director Mike Arnold of the Human Resources Development Institute, President Lawrence Holley of the Aluminum Workers, President Joseph Davis of the Washington State AFL-CIO, Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept., President Robert Kennedy of the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Montana's Senators Max Baucus and John Melcher, Rep. Pat Williams and Gov. Thomas Judge.

For the first time at a state federation convention, a series of workshops was conducted for the 292 delegates and guests..

Appeal Filed In Television Dumping Case

A union-industry coalition has appealed a U.S. district court decision that would shift its lawsuit pressing for the collection of $600 million in dumping duties on imported color television sets to the U.S. Customs Court.

The suit was brought three months ago against the Secretary of the Treasury by COMPACT—the Committee to Preserve American Color Television—and the Electronic Industries Association.

Although the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ruled in June that COMPACT and EIA had the right to sue the Treasury Dept., Judge Thomas A. Flannery said the case belonged in the customs court.

COMPACT said it is seeking to keep the case in the federal district court because the customs court does not traditionally handle suits against federal agencies.

The suit would compel the Treasury Dept. to collect $600 million in dumping duties from Japanese TV manufacturers and U.S. importers of the Japanese sets.

The Treasury Dept. issued a dumping finding on the Japanese sets in 1971, but it permitted the duties to accumulate while imports escalated and drove a number of U.S. manufacturers out of business with a resulting loss of thousands of jobs, COMPACT charged.

Dumping is the predatory and illegal international trade practice of selling imported products at rates below their prices in the country of origin.

6-Month Interim Set on Local Affiliation Votes

Affiliation elections involving directly affiliated local unions of the AFL-CIO will not be scheduled during any six-month period following such a vote, AFL-CIO President George Meany announced.

The new policy is designed to provide a more reasonable opportunity for DALUs to consider seriously the question of affiliation whenever it is presented to them. Recently affiliation transfer elections have been held a month or two apart in a few local unions.

Broad-Ranging Effort:

AIW Delegates Draft Plans To Battle Anti-Union Forces

Atlanta—Delegates to the 22nd convention of the Allied Industrial Workers adopted an aggressive program to meet the growing anti-union trend in the United States.

Responding to President Dominick D'Ambrosio's warning in his keynote address, delegates approved programs to strengthen the union's political and legislative efforts, beef up its research efforts aimed at early identification of notorious anti-union lawyers and consultants and boost educational efforts both within and outside the union.

D'Ambrosio, who was elected to a second four-year term, told the delegates that the AIW—both at the local and at the international union levels—cannot afford to practice "business as usual" if it is to combat the challenges facing the labor movement.

He proposed a program that would pull together research, public relations, community services and educational activities into a team that could "respond early in critical situations," including difficult strikes, organizing efforts and political involvements.

D'Ambrosio said organized labor is facing "perhaps the beginning of its deepest crisis since the passage of the Wagner Act in 1935.

"We have employer after employer gaining tremendous sophistication in the art of keeping unions out of the plant, getting rid of unions, weakening the union," he said. "It's become a high art form in the corporate board rooms of this country."

He cited five AIW locals which directly faced such challenges since 1977, and said "each one is a horror story." He added: "What happened to these locals can happen to any local in this room."

In response, the 514 convention delegates passed resolutions creating an international union program to assist locals in dealing with such problems. The convention also urged that the union coordinate its efforts with the AFL-CIO which is compiling information on anti-union consultants and attorneys.

Delegates voted to strengthen the union's voluntary COPE program by creating a political action campaign fund for federal candidates. In another resolution, the convention urged the union to devote greater efforts to put forth the AIW position on legislative matters and in political education.

The convention urged a strengthened educational program, including tuition-free summer school programs for newly organized locals and an effort to expand education on trade unionism in the school systems.

D'Ambrosio also called for a stronger commitment to worker education, including the use of more and better local union newsletters. He also proposed considering the use of advertising in a limited way in radio and community newspapers in selected areas, and proposed establishment of a new member program.

On another topic, D'Ambrosio announced that the AIW executive board was unable to present a tentative merger agreement as mandated by the AIW's previous convention. Delegates had directed the board to complete a merger proposal with the Molders or other unions.

D'Ambrosio reported that while general agreement had been reached with the Molders on a wide range of merger conditions, the discussions had broken down over several key structural matters.

The AIW president reminded the delegates that it is AFL-CIO policy to encourage union mergers, and noted that the number of AFL-CIO affiliated unions had dropped from 144 in 1955 to 103 at present, largely as a result of mergers.

"There is much to be gained by merging with other unions of our approximate size," he said.

The delegates were advised that the AIW continues to be bound by action at its 1977 convention urging efforts toward completing a merger with the Molders or other unions.

In the election, D'Ambrosio turned back a challenge from Region 3 Director Nick Serraglio of Cleveland. In the contest for secretary-treasurer, William Salamone, a longtime representative from Region 9, defeated Archie Robbins, who had held the post since his appointment to fill a vacancy in December 1977.

Charles Street of Youngstown, Ohio, an international representative, was elected board member-at-large, replacing Angelo Verdin of Milwaukee, who had held the position for four years.

All regional directors were re-elected by their respective caucuses.

In other actions, the convention voted to:

- Increase strike benefits from $30 a week to $35 with no increase in per capita payments to the strike fund, now at a near record high of $3.5 million.
- Provide for secret ballot elections of all international officers and board members starting at the 1983 convention.
- Establish a policy that local bargaining units shall not reject contract settlements solely on the basis of wage increases for skilled trades classifications.

Other resolutions called for passage of a comprehensive national health insurance program, legislation to assure early notification of plant shutdowns and to require employers to bargain on benefits for existing retirees.

Among major speakers, Corretta Scott King, widow of the slain civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, Jr., urged support for the Ford-Riegle bill to make corporations more responsible to communities and to require companies to give advance notice and fair compensation in cases of plant shutdowns. Mrs. King, co-leader of the Full Employment Action Council, also called for implemention of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act "to its full potential."

Among other speakers were Howard D. Samuel, deputy under secretary of labor for international affairs; Dr. Anthony Robbins, director of the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health, and Kathleen F. O'Reilly, head of the Consumer Federation of America.

Machinists to Monitor TV Broadcasts for Bias

The Machinists will be watching television closer than ever as part of the IAM's nationwide monitoring effort to identify anti-worker and anti-union bias in TV programming.

In announcing the year-long project, IAM President William W. Winpisinger charged that television has maligned workers and their unions in both newscasts and general programs.

Television portrays "a lousy image of union leaders and union members in particular, and American blue-collar workers in general," Winpisinger said.

The monitoring project will be conducted in all 50 states in an effort to determine if local TV stations and national networks are abiding by the federal fairness doctrine or if they are fostering unfair myths about U.S. wage earners, he stressed.

Initially, the IAM will indoctrinate some 500 full-time union representatives on the rules and regulations of the television industry. They, in turn, will recruit several thousand union members and their families to monitor a wide spectrum of television broadcast activities ranging from local news reporting to national network programming.

Winpisinger said the IAM feels that TV news broadcasts have been "grossly unfair." They focus largely on strikes—even though walkouts are involved in fewer than 1 percent of union contract negotiations—but seldom tell about the positive impact of a union contract on the local economy, he charged.

"They eagerly report the inflationary impact of a new union contract, but rarely—if ever—report the same impact of price increases and constantly swelling corporate profits," Winpisinger said. "They continue to paint the American worker as a culprit, rather than a victim of the inflation."

Because of the bad image TV has created of the worker and unions, he said, the labor movement's effectiveness has been weakened at bargaining tables, city halls and in Congress.

As part of the project, Winpisinger said IAM officials will become involved in "extensive dialogue with local and national leaders in the television broadcast industry." The union's efforts to curb unfair broadcasts will also include petitions to the Federal Communications Commission to deny station license renewals and national advertiser boycotts of products and services, the IAM said.

Robert Nagle Named To Pension Agency Post

Robert E. Nagle, a Washington attorney, has been named executive director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp., the federal agency that administers the government's multiemployer pension insurance program.

Before entering private practice in 1974, Nagle served as general counsel for the Senate Labor Committee.

Panel Recommendations:

Improved Accuracy Sought in Jobs Data

(Continued from Page 1)

White House and Congress for official consideration and action.

The 312-page report essentially endorsed the validity of the current employment and unemployment data issued monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The latest set of job figures was scheduled for release by BLS on Sept. 7.

At a news conference, Levitan acknowledged that the panel's recommendations, on balance, would not result in any substantial change in the unemployment figures derived from using current definitions and methodology. July's jobless rate was 5.7 percent.

"If all our recommendations are adopted, then chances are we will either stay the same or rise or fall by one- to two-tenths" of a percentage point, he said.

One limited change in basic definitions was recommended by the commission. Since the armed forces no longer draft personnel, they compete in the same labor market as other workers and should no longer be excluded from the national labor force, the panel reasoned.

But the principal recommendation was a proposal to expand the government's monthly sampling of households from the 70,000 level to be reached next month to about 120,000 to improve the accuracy of state and local jobless statistics. The proposal would account for about $20 million of the estimated $34 million annual cost of adopting all 88 of the commission's proposals.

Since these statistics are the principal criteria for allocating federal aid, they have been a major concern of Congress. The statistics are used to distribute $10 billion in federal funds to states and localities for public-service employment, job training, area development, and other programs in the current fiscal year.

The increase in the sampling size would improve the reliability of annual average statistics for all 50 states, metropolitan areas with a population of 1 million or more, and 11 major cities, the panel said.

The panel also recommended that BLS annually prepare a report on "economic hardship" of the working poor, connecting low wages, unemployment, and part-time or sporadic participation in the labor force.

"This proposal, which may potentially turn out to be one of the most important commission recommendations, grew out of a recognition that the increased number of families with two or three wage-earners, plus the widespread availability of unemployment insurance, food stamps, and other forms of income transfer, have reduced the correspondence of existing unemployment statistics with economic hardship," the panel said in a statement. But it also noted that some full-time, year-round workers are poor because they receive low wages or have large families.

The panel also recommended that the current minimum age of 16 for counting the labor force remain unchanged.

The commission, which was established by legislation in 1976, held public hearings in various parts of the country and sponsored 33 background studies by experts in the field of labor statistics.

Goldschmidt Endorsed For Transport Post

The AFL-CIO called on the Senate to confirm Neil Goldschmidt of Portland, Ore., as Secretary of Transportation citing his outstanding record in dealing with urban problems.

Federation President George Meany, in a letter to Sen. Howard Cannon (D-Nev.), chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, said Mayor Goldschmidt's "success in dealing with urban transportation problems uniquely qualifies him for this high office."

As mayor of Portland, Goldschmidt has maintained "an excellent working relationship" with the Oregon AFL-CIO, Meany wrote, and his work on behalf of mass transit has helped revitalize inner city areas. Goldschmidt was nominated by President Carter to succeed Brock Adams.

Job Security Gains Won In Westinghouse Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

The unions struck the company on July 16, slowing or halting production at 97 plants They were joined by three other unions, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Carpenters, and the Flint Glass Workers, who settled with the firm on Aug. 17.

The wage terms of the new IUE settlement were never in dispute, and are identical to those contained in contracts ratified two months ago by the union's members at General Electric Co. Those terms include a general wage increase of 44.5 cents an hour over the life of the agreement and semi-annual cost-of-living increases equal to one cent for each increase of two-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index.

The job security issue had been the major sticking point in the IUE talks. Among the new provisions are early retirement at age 50 for employees with 25 years of service in the event of a plant closedown, job movement or production relocation; a 50 percent increase in severance pay for younger workers, and an agreement to discuss possible plant closings and outbacks with the union in advance of the event.

Another major issue was pensions. Westinghouse had insisted that its workers contribute to the pension fund. The unions viewed this as a "takeaway" measure since production and maintenance workers at Westinghouse have had a non-contributory retirement plan for 25 years.

Westinghouse dropped its demand for contributory pensions and IUE accepted a plan calling for maximum monthly benefits of $13 for each year of service, up from $11 a month under the previous contract.

The agreement with IUE expires on July 11, 1982. The union's 31 Westinghouse locals still must work out supplementary agreements with the firm on local issues.



FARM WORKERS in Salinas, Calif., celebrate the signing of a three-year contract with Sun Harvest Inc., the nation's largest lettuce grower. The settlement ended the union's eight-month strike against the United Brands Co. unit as well as a nationwide boycott of all United Brands products. UFW President Cesar Chavez said he expects the contract to serve as a pattern for settlements with other lettuce producers in California.

Farm Union, Top Grower Reach Pact

(Continued from Page 1)

every six-tenths of 1 percent rise in the consumer price index past a 5 percent "corridor."

Base pay for irrigators over the term of the contract will rise to $5.90 an hour and to $6.77 an hour for tractor drivers. Piecework rates will rise from the present 57 cents for a box of 24 heads of lettuce to 75 cents the first year, 79 cents the second, and 82 cents the third.

In addition, Sun Harvest agreed to raise its contribution to a medical care fund from 16.5 cents to 34 cents an hour per worker in the first year of the agreement, to 36 cents in the second year, and to 38 cents in the final year.

Also, the company agreed to pay the wages of a few union representatives who will hear worker grievances and administer the contract. The pact also calls for binding arbitration in any disputes over mechanization.

"We think it's a competitive contract," said Ronald Kemp, a spokesman for Sun Harvest, which several weeks ago broke away from a grower coalition to negotiate separately with the union.

The lettuce strike, which began in the Imperial Valley of southern California last winter, has been marked by frequent violence on picket lines as the growers brought in non-union workers to keep the harvest going.

Last February, a UFW striker, Rufino Contreras, was fatally shot while picketing a lettuce field. At other fields, the union reported that white Ku Klux Klan crosses had been erected to intimidate those on the picket lines.

Five other big lettuce growers in the Salinas Valley remain struck by the UFW, which expected to arrange talks with the owners within a week.

Laborers' Projects To Train 1,000

The Laborers will provide on-the-job training for about 1,000 jobless and economically disadvantaged persons in concrete casting skills under a new $590,000 Labor Dept. contract.

The training project will be conducted in 16 states in cooperation with employers having collective bargaining agreements with the union.

Under 10 previous Labor Dept. training grants since 1967, the Laborers have trained 11,500 workers. The new contract expires July 31, 1980.

House Urged To Bar Cut in Disability Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

first days of Congress's return. Appropriation measures, foreign aid and energy legislation were all slated for early consideration.

The social security disability cutback is the only element of the Administration's proposals for elimination of existing social security benefits to be approved by a House committee and cleared for a floor vote.

The bill would set a cap on disability family benefits of 80 percent of average earnings before disability or 150 percent of the individual benefit, whichever is lower.

Young noted in his letter that a number of misleading statements have been made about the bill in correspondence sent to members of Congress by the social security commissioner.

He pointed out that the number of disability benefit awards has dropped to the lowest rate in 20 years and that the just-issued annual report of the Trustees of the Social Security System noted that the fund is running a surplus.

On other sections. Young wrote "we have no objections to the work incentive provisions of the bill," but that the serious adverse effects on the beneficiaries of disabled workers "far outweigh the beneficial provisions relating to work incentives and improved administration."

The disability measure before the House, he stressed, "breaks faith with the American people. We urge you, therefore, to vote against this unfair and discriminatory legislation."

Union Membership Rise Recorded by BLS Study

National and international unions based in the United States have reported an increase of 605,000 members during the 1976-78 period, reversing a decline of two years ago.

Their 1978 total membership of 21.7 million is the highest ever recorded.

The report, by the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics, included Canadian members of U.S.-headquartered unions. The membership gains were mostly in non-union manufacturing and government. Losses were reported in manufacturing industries.

Membership in employee associations declined during the two-year period from 3 million to 2.6 million, but the total combined membership of unions and associations reached 24,295,000, also a record.

An important factor in the loss of employee association membership was the shift of professional and state association members to labor unions. One of the largest shifts was the 207,000-member Civil Service Employee Association in New York State to the State, County & Municipal Employees.

When Canadian members are excluded from the total, membership in U.S. unions and associations increased to 22.8 million in 1978. As a proportion of the total labor force, however, membership declined by more than one percentage point between 1976 and 1978. In 1978, U.S. labor organizations represented 22.2 percent of the labor force.

The bureau reported that some 6.9 million union and association members were employed in white collar occupations in 1978, an increase of 182,000 or about 3 percent since 1976.

The increasing number of women in labor organizations also was reflected in the 1978 data, when some 6.7 million women were members of unions and employee associations. Women now constitute 27.4 percent of all organized workers.

Labor unions gained 455,000 women members between 1976 and 1978. During the same period, employee associations lost 231,000 women members. This shift accounted for a significant proportion of the overall membership changes in the two types of organizations.

With only brief declines, the bureau says, union membership in the United States has grown for nearly two decades. Much of the increase—604,000 or about 3 percent from 1976 to 1978—reflects a more buoyant economy over the two years, including an increase in average production worker employment of 8.5 percent.

The labor force and total nonfarm payroll employment continued to grow more rapidly than union membership, 5.8 percent and 8.0 percent, respectively.

Famous Brands Have It! UNION LABEL UNION LABEL
UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

The Basic Goal Does Not Change

THE LABOR MOVEMENT is beginning another expansion—in the growing service industry and among professional and white collar workers. These workers—like those before them—are today being told they don't need unions; that their employers are different; that the labor movement is "dead."

Well, they know better. They know what they need and want, and so their unions are growing. They are bringing new faces into the labor movement—more blacks, more Hispanics, more women.

Of course many of their concerns, on the surface, may seem to differ from those of construction or industrial or public workers. Because of this, some observers contend the labor movement is undergoing a fundamental change. It isn't. The general concern of these workers—the desire and the determination to improve their lot—has been, is now and shall always be the central role of the labor movement.

And what are editorialists saying as trade unionism grows in these new sectors of the economy? Just what they always said; the same tired old message: you don't need unions; unions can't help you; and, anyway, the labor movement is dead.

Well, it isn't dead and it won't die for one fundamental reason—workers need unions. They need free, democratic institutions which they alone control to represent them in collective bargaining with their employers and to represent their interests in the legislative arena.

They know that the only way they can get a fair shake in today's world is to be strong and united. By standing together—and only by standing together—can they match the economic strength of their employers.

IN THE EIGHTIES I am confident there will be a strong growth of unionism among groups previously considered not interested in union representation. Office workers, professionals, workers in stores, farm workers—all segments where union representation is now low in comparison with the total workforce will look to the labor movement to insure them a voice on the job, to bring democracy to the workplace.

They will be seeking exactly what construction workers, industrial workers, government workers sought before them—a better life for themselves and their children.

They will make up their own agenda of concerns. They will structure their unions and choose their leaders to achieve their goals. And the face of labor may change, just as it has changed with each new period of growth in the labor movement. But the basic goal will not change. It is—as it has always been, and I am sure always will be—to better the standards of life for all who work for wages and to seek decency and justice and dignity for all Americans.

And on Labor Day 1979, we in the labor movement rededicate ourselves to the age-old and ageless goal of making every tomorrow better in every worker's home in this land.

—From AFL-CIO President George Meany's Labor Day radio address.

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The Unanswered Question:

With World Oil Production Up, Why All the Long Gas Lines?

By Gus Tyler

SO WHERE DID all the oil go? In the first half of 1979—when gas ran low and tempers ran high—there was plenty of crude oil coming out of the ground. In these six months of this year, more was produced than in the six months of 1978.

The facts are now official or about as official as they are likely to be. The source is the Oil & Gas Journal, published in the American heartland of petroleum, Tulsa, Okla.

Between January and June of this year oil production around the world averaged more than 61 million barrels a day, which is about 3 million barrels a day more than were produced in 1978.

If this means anything, it means that there was no shortage. But if there was no shortage, why did:

Stations say, "Sorry, no gas," or "Pumps closed?"

Motorists wait for two and three hours for gas?

Governments post regulations saying that gas would only be distributed on odd or even days?

States post minimums to be bought and stations post maximums to be sold?

And above all why did prices shoot up from 80 and 90 cents a gallon to $1 and $1.15?

There were people—most people—who believed all along that the talk of a gas shortage was only talk. They believed that the oil companies were creating an artificial shortage to squeeze more pennies out of the motorist.

Through it all, however, highly posted people in government and in the business world were insisting that the shortage was real and that the suffering we were enduring was inevitable in this trying moment. Mainly, the finger was pointed at Iran, where oil production of crude was cut back because of the revolutionary deposition of the Shah.

But now the facts affirm that the Iranian revolution did not lessen the total output of crude oil at all. In the crucial months, more was produced this year than last by about 6 percent. The extra output could easily take care of any extra consumption and should most certainly have been enough to take care of the markedly reduced consumption of gas in the mean months of the long lines.

So what happened?

There may indeed be some logical explanation as to why motorists were put to pain and then made to pay extra for the discomfort. Perhaps we fell back in our refining capacity after we got the crude? Perhaps the ships carrying the liquid gold got lost in the oceans? Perhaps government regulations led to faulty distribution? Perhaps this was not some trick played by some profiteers on a puzzled public?

Maybe there is a reason why, when we were producing more, we were all led to believe that we were producing less. But where is the answer?

We turn to Washington for a reply. If they tell us that the only facts they can get are from the oil companies, then we must turn to the oil companies for a reply.

But if they refuse to answer or, if they say that the government is to blame, then we are still without an answer.

Out of such silence, the citizen hears unspoken voices that whisper to him in a quiet roar that he or she must learn to distrust. And until answers are forthcoming, who can blame them if they look upon the "pillars of society" as just so many overpriced spittoons?

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The Ripple Effect Of Energy Costs

This nation has a great and continuing need for energy, especially for petroleum, now being met by imported oil. As that price goes up and up and up, the entire economy suffers.

Soaring prices for oil ripple through the economy, affecting not only gas pump prices, but the costs of plastics, pharmaceuticals, fertilizer and food. The energy crisis has created a lower standard of living for American workers, and contributes heavily to both today's double-digit inflation and recession.

President Carter has dramatically and forcefully set the tone for developing sound solutions. He made it clear that the time for debate and political posturing is past, the time for action overdue. And we in the labor movement heartily agree.

—From a Labor Day broadcast by AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall.

A Moral Issue:

Blacks Should Have No Link With Palestinian Terrorists

By Bayard Rustin

AMID THE HEATED CONTROVERSY following Andy Young's resignation as Ambassador to the United Nations, some black people have suddenly embraced the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

As I see it, some black leaders have turned to the PLO in an effort to act as conciliators between Israel and the Palestinians. Other blacks, I believe, met with PLO representatives in New York to demonstrate their independence from official United States policy. And still others viewed such meetings as a way of striking back against Israel and the American Jewish community for their supposed involvement in engineering Andy's ouster.

But regardless of motivation, I think black people must clearly understand the moral—yes, moral—issue involved here. For in seriously considering links with a group like the PLO, the black community is moving beyond the realm of mundane "politics as usual." We are moving into an area where we face three enormous risks: First, we risk causing serious divisions within our own ranks; second, we risk the forfeiture of our own moral prestige, which is based on a long and noble tradition of nonviolence; and third, we risk becoming the unwitting accomplices of an organization committed to the bloody destruction of Israel, indeed of the Jewish people.

Some people have pointed to a few superficial parallels between the American civil rights movement and the PLO. Naturally, this talk about the PLO as a "civil rights" group or a minority movement within Israel has generated sympathy for the Palestinians among black people. But this identification and even solidarity with the PLO is based on a terrible perversion of the truth, not only the truth about the PLO, but the truth about our own movement as well.

Looking back on the history of the PLO, one thing becomes abundantly clear: the PLO, from the day of its creation in 1964, has never once uttered a word in support of any form of nonviolent resistance, peaceful relations between Israelis and Palestinians, or a political solution to the complex problems in the Middle East. By contrast, black leaders in America, especially central figures like Martin Luther King, Jr., and A. Philip Randolph, never once in the long history of the civil rights struggle countenanced violence or terrorism.

American civil rights leaders, of course, chose nonviolence for many political and tactical reasons; but Dr. King once identified the key source of the movement's strategy when he noted that the black American rejected physical force "because he believed that through physical force he could lose his soul." In short, the choice of nonviolence was based on deeply-held moral principles. It was based on a desire to build community, to unleash the creative force of love, and to protect and enhance the God-given human dignity of all people, be they friend or foe.

The PLO, however, espouses the opposites of all these principles. In word, but more importantly in deeds, it espouses violence, hatred, and racism. It repeatedly scorns reconciliation. While Dr. King frequently spoke of nonviolence as "the sword that heals," the PLO exalts the sword that kills.

My description of the PLO here is no exaggeration. Its tactics, values and goals, are candidly set forth in its National Covenant and other official documents. Its legacy of terrorism is written in innocent blood across Israel and Western Europe, and even across the Arab lands of Jordan and Lebanon. Between 1967 and 1977, for example, the PLO was directly responsible for killing over 1,100 unarmed men, women and children; its terrorist activities maimed nearly 2,500 people; and it held over 2,700 hostages. Moreover, this organization has trained and armed other terrorist groups such as the Baader-Meinhof gang in Germany, and the Red Brigades in Italy. Considering this record, I fear that individuals who see similarities between our struggle and the terror campaign of the PLO are ignoring or twisting the facts.

BY HARSHLY CRITICIZING the PLO, I do not mean to suggest that black leaders have no business concerning themselves with Middle Eastern problems, nor am I urging that blacks should shun the PLO so as to ingratiate themselves with American Jews. Rather, I am saying that if black Americans are to play any constructive or conciliatory role in shaping American policy in the Middle East, we must do so in a manner totally consistent with the moral and spiritual tradition of nonviolence. We must therefore reject hasty and expedient moves; we must reject such as any formal or organizational relationship with the PLO. Any links with the PLO, no matter how limited, would give legitimacy and tacit approval to the rule of the gun.

Dr. King, in his letter from the Birmingham jail, included a story to illustrate the rewards of perseverance in the nonviolent tradition. He wrote about a 72-year-old black woman who walked a long distance every day during a bus boycott. Frequently she was jeered by hostile whites; she was tired and physically weak, but she refused to use the buses. Someone asked her why she continued to support the nonviolent protest. Her response, I believe, will always be precious: "My feets is tired," she said, "but my soul is at rest."

By shunning and condemning the terrorism of the PLO, we to can be assured that our souls will be at rest, as we preserve our tradition of nonviolence.

Tight-Money Policies Hit:

Job Programs Called Essential To Ease Impact of Housing Lag

PREDICTIONS THAT THE RECESSION already under way in the housing industry will slide to a "soft landing" won't be fulfilled unless the Administration and Congress put more emphasis on curbing the unemployment rise now shaping up.

AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry Schechter issued that warning, stressing that if the current trend is allowed to run its course, "depression conditions" like those that sent construction unemployment to over 20 percent and as high as 40 percent in skills primarily related to housing in 1974-75 are almost certain to recur in the months ahead. Schechter cited the record level of household debt—installment-type obligations and mortgage debt—as a major factor in the prospective rise of unemployment.

Noting that 23 percent of disposable income is now committed to household debt obligations, Schechter said many families "have to devote 40 or 50 percent of their income" to meeting contractual debt repayment.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor Press Conference, Schechter said housing production, which is already running about 12 percent behind last year, will probably continue to decline if the high-interest-rate and tight-money policies are continued as the recession deepens. "We are going to see the effects of the declining demand, in large part because of those high interest rates," he asserted.

Schechter declared that there must be much greater emphasis on stimulating the housing market and the industry than is now being made. He said home-ownership assistance programs already on the books should be expanded, and there is "a great deal of authorized funds unused" that can be used for that purpose.

The Administration and Congress must "get off the dime with respect to holding down the budget to help the country as a whole through the coming recession," he declared.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE CLAMOR FOR TAX CUTS in the wake of California's Proposition 13 raised fears in many communities throughout the nation that public services would suffer as a result.

One of the innocent victims could be the free public library, a popular and vital institution in a democratic society.

As it turned out, many states did enact tax cuts in 1979 in response to the taxpayer mood. But they did so because state treasuries were swelled mainly by inflation-increased revenues.

While the axe has been stayed for the time being, the threat remains to such local services as the free library.

Recognizing the danger to public library funding at the local level, Senators Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.) and Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) have introduced a study bill, the National Library Act. The bill would lay the framework for new federal library legislation and focus issues for debate at the White House Conference on Library & Information Services this November.

The bill would provide for:

- Creation of a National Library Agency which would "ensure that an adequate level of library service is made available to all communities, to all individuals, without regard to their educational attainment, individual ability or economc condition." The agency would be denied any direct federal control over local libraries.
- Financial assistance to public libraries for operating expenses on a matching federal-state-local basis or on an alternative basis where the state and locality cannot match the funds.
- Federal funding to build new libraries and convert other buildings for library use.
- Federal grant money to states to initiate programs for library training, job information services, English language instruction, services for the handicapped, library use by publicly supported institutions, outreach programs, and other services for the disadvantaged, as well as technical and reference services.
- Federal funding of interlibrary cooperation programs and interstate informational networks.
- Special training programs for librarians to help them utilize the special programs to meet community needs.

The Javits-Kennedy proposal aims to ensure continuity in funding support for public libraries unable to support themselves. That this is a worthwhile expense is confirmed by considering the contributions to society by public libraries.
ment agencies.

LIBRARIES CAN PROMOTE upward mobility for lower income socio-economic groups. Many libraries have initiated effective experimental programs that coordinate job information for out-of-work people in the community. The information provided to the library user ranges from "help wanted" listings to career information centers.

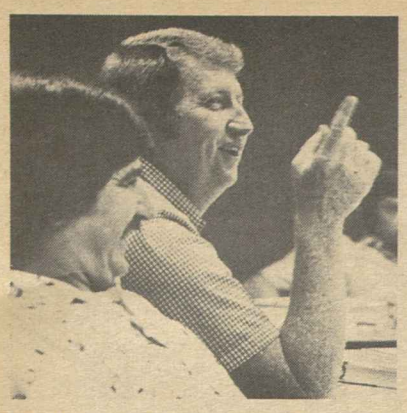
One possible use of the information networks proposed in the new legislation is to pool statistical data on the demand for salary ranges and training needed for particular occupations and send it via computer to local libraries. Such a system could greatly reduce the cost of similar programs now funded by state and federal governments. Because of the informal atmosphere of libraries, the experimental programs have shown that people are more willing to use the library job information centers than official offices of government agencies.

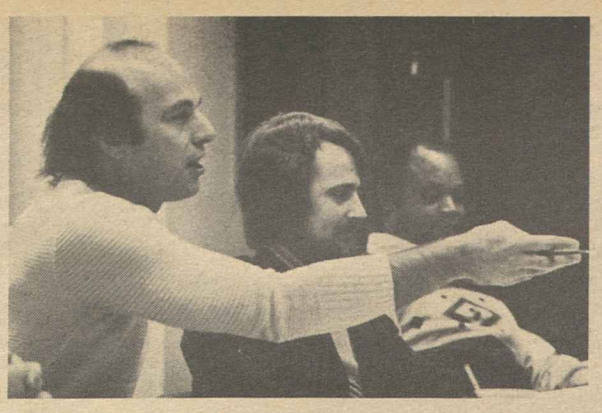
Some community libraries already provide services for the disabled and handicapped, services that are threatened by funding reductions. These include talking books, cassettes and Braille books and periodicals for the blind, phone-in information and book delivery service to the disabled.

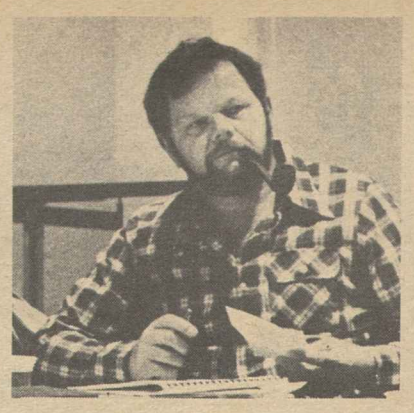
Public libraries have the potential to serve the nation in a variety of ways, and they function at the level that has proven the most effective—the community level. The proposed National Library Act would help communities threatened by tax deficits to maintain what could be their most valuable resource—the free public library.



DEPRESSION CONDITIONS could hit the housing industry with unemployment in the construction crafts running as high as 40 percent in the worsening recession, AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Director Henry Schechter, center, warned. He was questioned on Labor News Conference by Michael Posner, left, of Reuters news agency, and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and aired on Mutual radio.









Students at the George Meany Center are expected to learn as much from one another as they do from lecturers.



Studies Center Marks 10th Year

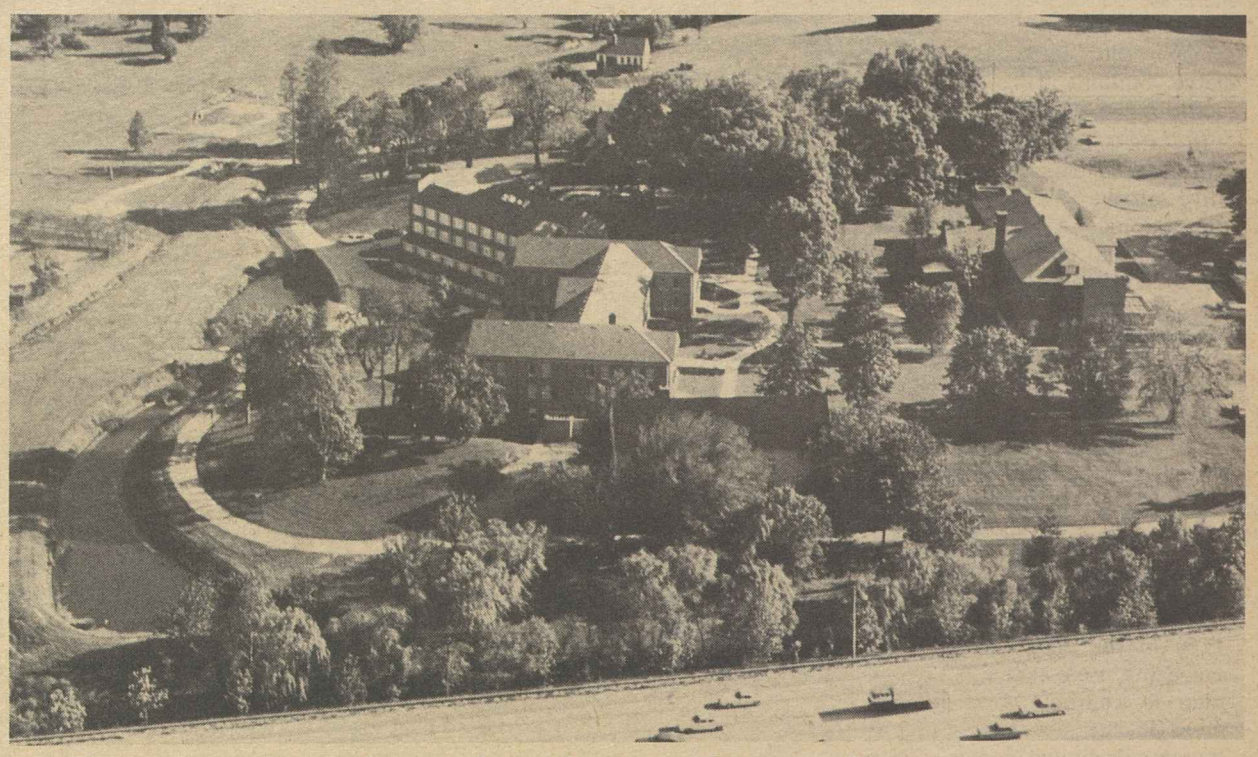
The AFL-CIO's George Meany Center for Labor Studies was launched 10 years ago from basement offices in a Washington apartment building, and has served nearly 15,000 union officers and staff members during its first decade.

For the past five years, it has had its own 47-acre campus in suburban Silver Spring, Md., complete with residence facilities for up to 141 students, eight classrooms, a theater that also serves the community, and a cafeteria.

Its student body is made up of people who work full time for their unions. Their average age is 41 and the center's Executive Director Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., says they are expected to learn as much from one another as they do from lecturers.

Last January, the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD) moved its labor studies program to the center from Front Royal, Va., and the George Meany Center in turn sponsors institutes at state universities in various parts of the nation.

During the last academic year, AFL-CIO unions conducted 64 training programs of their own at the center.



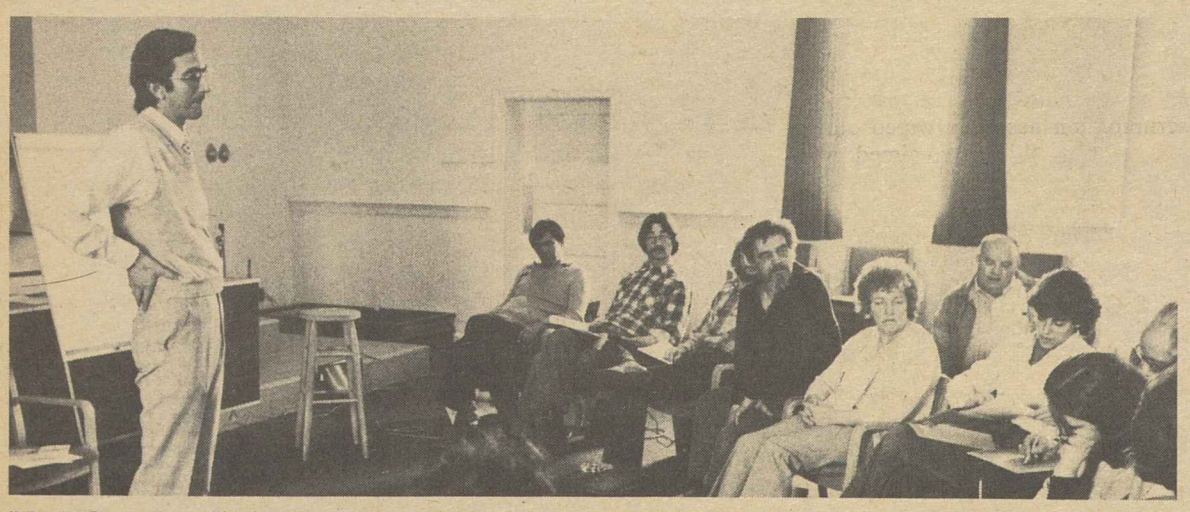
The 47-acre campus has ample space for outdoor recreation and parking.



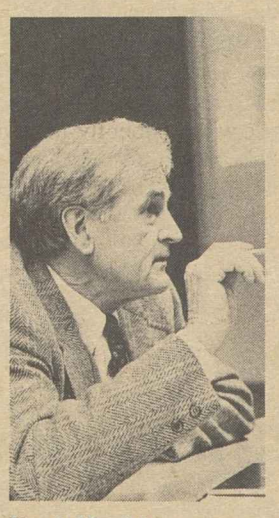
George Meany dedicated the campus in 1974. The board room was packed for the occasion.



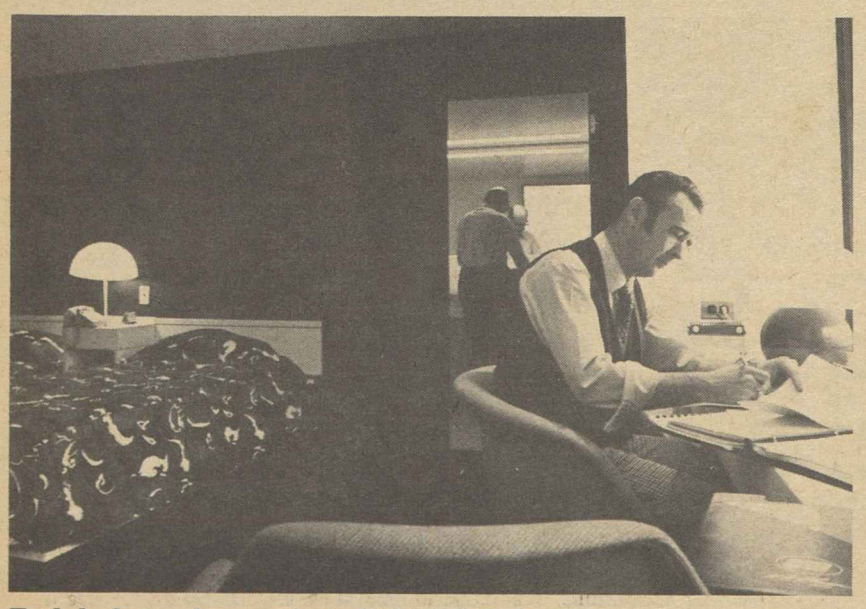
Wednesday nights members of performing arts unions entertain in the campus theater.



Most classes are limited to 25 students or less.



Fred Hoehler



Each bedroom has a private bath and study center.



Meany explains a painting of his at the center to Walter Davis, AFL-CIO education director.

Worldwide Concerns:

U.S. Unions Expand Role in Secretariats

The level of American trade-union participation in international trade secretariats has increased dramatically since the end of World War II, an article in the American Federationist points out.

ITSs, as they are commonly called, link workers around the world on the basis of their industry, craft or occupation. Today, there are 16 such secretariats uniting workers in such industries as transportation, public services, commerce, building trades, and manufacturing.

In the Federationist article, James N. Ellenberger, a representative of the AFL-CIO Dept. of International Affairs, notes that more than 50 unions affiliated with the federation belong to at least one ITS. The Food & Commercial Workers, for example, is affiliated with three secretariats—the International Union of Food & Allied Workers' Association, the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical & Technical Employees, and the International Textile, Garment & Leather Workers Federation.

Ellenberger, who outlines the history and development of the ITSs in the AFL-CIO monthly magazine, says that U.S. unions plan to continue their involvement in the secretariats and to increase it in the future. Citing one example, he notes that affiliation in the International Federation of Building & Woodworkers has increased by 48 percent since 1973, and the number of American affiliates in that secretariat has increased from 7 to 11.

The ITSs have a worldwide membership of unions representing more than 53 million workers, including nearly 10 million from Canada and the United States. Their growth in recent years has been partly due to the growth of multinational corporations but they are themselves the product of a rich history in which they have emerged from ideological blocs, dissolved during world wars, and re-emerged in differing structures.

A major period of growth and development for the secretariat movement occurred between the 1920s and the outbreak of World War II. While they take positions on political issues, the ITSs' primary role has been economic. The issues of hours, wages, security, sanitation and safety, international competition, and the collusion of capital have provided a rallying point for unions representing workers of different social, political, economic, and cultural backgrounds.

Originating in Europe, the ITSs were predominantly European in focus. With the exception of the International Secretariat for Food & Drink Trades, they have excluded from membership Communist-dominated unions.

World War II and the Nazi occupation destroyed virtually all of the ITSs, but by the end of 1945 the secretariats began to re-emerge. At the 67th Congress of the AFL in 1948, the Ladies' Garment Workers, which had been an early member of its secretariat urged that all affiliates join the ITSs.

Meanwhile, the secretariats embarked on a rebuilding effort that was to broaden their scope and appeal. No longer were they to be "European clubs," although a measure of that attitude remained; they were to be truly international in fact as well as in name. National trade union centers in the democratic world began to actively encourage their affiliates to take an interest and play a role in the secretariat movement.

The 1957 convention of the newly created AFL-CIO, for instance, urged its affiliates to join and participate in the ITSs so that American trade unionists could act in concert with trade unionists in similar employment in other lands to advance their common interests.

Ellenberger notes that the role of the secretariats, then as now, was to facilitate the exchange of information; coordinate and offer financial or moral aid to affiliates when faced with economic or political difficulties; assist workers employed in countries other than their own; organize and lend technical and material assistance to unions in less developed countries; provide liaison and contact with intergovernmental agencies like the International Labor Organization, the World Health Organization and other United Nations agencies, and counteract the activities and political efforts of Communist-controlled unions.

In recent years, the activities of multinational corporations have drawn a response from the ITSs. While the secretariats are not multinational in the same sense as General Motors or Du Pont and cannot engage in international bargaining with the global giants, there are some things the ITSs can do to deal with transnational enterprises, whether state-owned or private.

"Such action," Ellenberger points out, "can involve rather simple efforts such as supportive messages to a union abroad and protests to the management at home, to more sophisticated action in such areas as public relations campaigns to boycott certain products, raising funds for workers on strike and even engaging in sympathy job actions."

As they continue to be strengthened by increased participation, exchange of information, and reliance by their members, the ITSs will serve as a focal point for the legitimate demands and aspirations of working people in both developed and developing countries, Ellenberger sums up.

"The task will frequently involve difficult decisions and uncomfortable moments," he notes. "But the fact remains that the international trade secretariats embody some of the fundamental desires and yearnings of workers and their unions for more cooperation and unity across national boundaries."



UNION MUSICIANS provide a lunch hour concert for New Yorkers at Grace Plaza, one in a series of free summertime performances. The programs are financed by the Music Performance Trust Funds, created by agreements between the Musicians and the recording industry.

$14 Million Due Victims Of Age Bias

The Labor Dept. reported that a record $14 million was found due to 4,111 older workers discriminated against because of their age during the 1978 fiscal year.

The department said that a total of $4.8 million in lost income was restored to those who suffered age discrimination in employment during the period. The amount, also a record, was paid to 1,363 workers and job applicants.

The findings highlighted the department's annual report to Congress on its administration of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967. The statute prohibits discrimination because of age in hiring, job retention, compensation and other terms, conditions or privileges of employment.

Last Jan. 1, the upper age limit of protected individuals was raised from 65 to 70 years of age. In July, the enforcement and administration responsibility under the law was transferred from the Labor Dept. to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Noting the transfer, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall said in a covering statement accompanying the report: "While it cannot be said that age discrimination has been wiped out, many of the objectives aimed at minimizing this form of discrimination have been achieved as a result of 11 years of enforcement."

The report estimated that 27 million persons are covered by the statute—seven of every 10 persons aged 40 to 70 in the labor force.

New U.S. Pay Hikes To Cover 3.4 Million

(Continued from Page 1)

assume their fair share of the burden of sacrifice compels us to accept the 7 percent as equitable under the circumstances."

He said the leadership of the AFL-CIO "played a major role in developing lines of communication with the President and assisting AFGE in discussions on this topic." He added that AFGE hoped Carter's decision "will mark the beginning of a new positive tone in his relations with federal employees and the unions that represent them."

William H. McClennan, president of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., also expressed gratification at the President's decision. He said that even though the 7 percent increase is not comparability, "some equality with the private sector has been achieved—at least as far as applying the wage guidelines is concerned." The PED, McClennan said, 'will be working with other federal union leaders to ensure that the comparability process works as it is supposed to work under the comparability law."

Not all of the federal white collar workforce will be held to the 7 percent wage hike. Some 20,000 workers in the lowest pay categories—GS-1 and GS-2—will be eligible for higher raises because their current pay falls below the $4 per hour minimum for the Administration's wage-price guideline program. The GS-1 workers will receive a 9.89 percent increase, while the GS-2 workers will get 9.51 percent. High-level, white-collar workers whose pay has reached the ceiling of $47,500 will not receive any increase.

Federal blue-collar workers are under a different pay system. Pay rates less than the amount statistically determined for established pay areas must be set by Congress. Last year, Congress followed President Carter's example for white-collar workers by capping federal blue-collar workers' pay increases at 5.5 percent. It is expected that legislation will now be introduced to provide for a 7 percent increase for blue collar workers.

Maryland-D.C. Labor To Shift Headquarters

Delegates to the Maryland-District of Columbia AFL-CIO's biennial convention authorized the relocation of the state federation's headquarters from Baltimore to Annapolis.

A primary reason for the shift is to bring operations of the central body closer to the Maryland state legislature, President Dominic N. Fornaro said. He noted that state labor officials have had to spend more time in the state capital in recent years because of the legislature's continually expanding sessions.

Relocation of the headquarters offices and staff will be made when suitable facilities are found, Fornaro said. The state federation has been based in Baltimore since 1957.

The 350 delegates to the three-day convention in Washington also voted to increase monthly per capita payments to 26 cents from 23 cents. Local councils will continue to retain 60 percent of the per capita revenue for political education programs, Fornaro said.

Key resolutions adopted by the convention called for improved voting rights for citizens of the District of Columbia, full federal funding for construction of the Washington area subway system, support for the boycott of J. P. Stevens products and an "early endorsement" of Sen. Charles M. Mathias, Jr. (R-Md.). Mathias, who was re-elected with labor support in 1974, has a COPE voting record of 97 right and 32 wrong.

The convention also outlined legislative goals for the next session of the Maryland legislature, including efforts to expand unemployment and workers' compensation benefits and strengthen the state's occupational safety and health program.

Major convention speakers included Maryland Gov. Harry R. Hughes, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, Senators Paul S. Sarbanes (D-Md.) and Mathias, Rep. Michael D. Barnes (D-Md.) and John Perkins, associate director of COPE.

No elections were held at this year's convention since officers of the state federation are in the middle of their four-year terms.

Labor Studies Center Schedule for September

The George Meany Center for Labor Studies will begin a new academic year Sept. 16 with a one-week institute on Grievance Arbitration: Preparation and Presentation.

Five AFL-CIO unions will use the Silver Spring, Md. campus for their own staff training programs during September. The schedule:

Professional Air Traffic Controllers, Sept. 9-14 and Sept. 23-28; Carpenters, Sept. 9-15; Communications Workers, Sept. 9-28; Food & Commercial Workers, Sept. 16-21; Service Employees, Sept. 23-28.

The American Institute for Free Labor Development will have 41 Latin American trade unionists in classes at the center all month.

The center's new catalogue describing the 44 institutes, workshops and programs offered during the 1979-1980 school year is available, on request, to any officer or staff member of AFL-CIO affiliates. Address the request to George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903.

Labor Day Broadcast:

Meany Predicts New Gains For Unions in Next Decade

(Continued from Page 1)

land discussed the state of the nation's economic health over NBC while AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall outlined the federation's program for energy independence on the Mutual network.

Meany noted that as in other periods of the labor movement. workers in the service sector are being told by anti-union spokesmen that they don't need unions, that their employers are different, and that the labor movement is "dead."

"Well, they know better," he said. "They know that the only way they can get a fair shake in today's world is to be strong and united."

Unions have demonstrated a high degree of resilience in the face of recent massive employer attacks, Meany declared.

"That is why professionals of all kinds are turning to established unions or establishing their own unions. That is why academics have recently been re-evaluating some of their theories about the labor movement and finding 'facts' —facts workers long knew," he said.

Recent studies point out that large numbers of unorganized workers want to be represented by unions, that workers' basic concerns—decent pay and working conditions — remain unchanged, and that organized workers believe their unions are representing their interests in those areas, Meany noted.

Kirkland, warning that a serious recession appears unavoidable, said it is not too late to take action to prevent the national disaster that might well follow if widespread unemployment is added to the nation's other major economic problems, runaway inflation and the continuing energy crisis.

"The AFL-CIO is convinced that inflation can be stopped," he said. "Recession can at least be restrained or offset. Energy independence can be achieved. All three of these problems are closely intertwined. They have to be dealt with together."

Rather than the tight-money, high-unemployment policies currently being urged on the Carter Administration, Congress should act within the framework of the Humphrey-Hawkins full employment law to expand job-creating employment and training programs, improve unemployment compensation, and establish a standby public-works program, Kirkland said.

"We are not talking about make-work jobs, dead-end jobs that are only thinly disguised welfare schemes." he declared. "We are talking about real jobs, jobs that America needs to have done."

In discussing solutions to the country's energy crisis, Hall said that the federation agrees with the thrust of the Administration's six-point program—especially the call for conservation, a crash program to develop alternate sources of energy, an Energy Mobilization Board, an Energy Security Fund, a limit on oil imports, and a windfall profits tax on the oil companies.

But, said Hall, the chairman of the AFL-CIO Economic Policy Committee, President Carter should go further to break the stranglehold that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has on the economy.

"We want a government agency to be the importer of all oil into the United States," he said. "If the United States government sat across the bargaining table from the OPEC nations, doing all the purchasing, America could 'shop' for the best price, then allocate it to best meet the needs and interests of all segments of society—instead of simply boosting profits of the oil companies."

Hall also expressed labor's strong disagreement with the President's decision to decontrol the price of domestic oil, saying that it does nothing to solve the energy crisis.



LABOR DAY MESSAGE is delivered by AFL-CIO President George Meany during a taping session prior to its nationwide airing on the CBS radio network.

'Wholesale Revamping' Proposed To Remedy Wage-Price Guidelines

Minor "tinkering" with the current wage-and-price guidelines won't meet the serious deficiencies of President Carter's anti-inflation program, the AFL-CIO advised the government agency responsible for administering the standards.

"It would not address the problem of inflation in the necessities of life—food, housing, energy, and medical care. It would not redress the injustice of the wage policies that cut workers' real income," the federation asserted.

Instead, the Administration's economic policies need "a wholesale revamping to deal with the real problems of inflation and establish equity for workers."

In its formal response to the Council on Wage & Price Stability's request for public comment on the Administration's proposed wage-and-price guidelines for the year beginning on Oct. 1, the AFL-CIO stressed that fairness and equity for workers must lie at the core of the program.

"We believe that an energetic and restructured effort is needed to combat inflation in this country," the federation declared. "The focus of this effort must be on prices. with particular emphasis on essential living costs. This would represent a sharp departure from the current program's focus on holding down wages on the notion that if wages are restrained, prices will naturally follow suit."

The government's proposed "modifications" of the existing pay and price standards were announced on Aug. 7. and published in the Aug. 10 Federal Register. COWPS said it would publish "interim standards" by mid-September, and complete its program by Oct. 1.

Due to the heavy dose of inflation this year, "there is considerable sentiment in favor of relaxing" the pay standard for 1980, the council said at the time it announced its proposed changes last month. "The sentiments in favor of increasing the pay standard reflect the view that after a year of double-digit inflation, a 7 percent second-year level would be unreasonable."

In the period from October 1978, when the guidelines first were announced, through July 1979, consumer prices rose at an annual rate of 12.2 percent. Over the same span, hourly earnings of production workers in the private sector rose at an average annual rate of 7.5 percent.

Real spendable earnings—take-home pay minus taxes and the impact of inflation—over the 9-month period dropped at an annual rate of 4.1 percent.

In its detailed comments, the federation said it opposed the COWPS proposal to move to a two-year guidelines program, and urged that it be kept on a one-year basis.

Moving to a two-year price standard "would reward companies that have been unable to use up their first-year allowances by adding the deficiency onto the second-year allowances, thus aggravating the second-year inflation rate," the AFL-CIO said.

Instead of the present "price deceleration" standard, in which companies are called upon to reduce price hikes by halt a percentage point below their annual average price increase rate for 1976-77, the AFL-CIO proposed an alternative approach.

"Because of the artificialities of the price deceleration standard and the excessive generosity of the profit margin exception, a more straightforward approach, in which cost increases actually incurred are used explicitly in the computation of allowable price increases, should be used."

The federation also proposed a tripartite committee of consumers, business and non-governmental public representatives to exercise oversight over the price program. The program "has tended to be dominated by particular academic viewpoints" in the past, it said.

On the wage side, the federation said the guidelines should be based upon specific principles rather than upon some specific number chosen at random. The pay standard should be designed within the broad concept that wage increases ought to be based upon changes in the consumer price index, plus changes in the long-term rate of increase in federation asserted.

In addition, the AFL-CIO said, workers whose wages have fallen behind the general standard of cost of living and productivity should be allowed a special catch-up increase. Many workers have been bound by long-term contracts that failed to anticipate the current inflation, it pointed out.

Labor Day Highlighted By White House Picnic

Union members observed Labor Day across the country in a traditional show of solidarity at picnics, block parties, religious services, and rallies, as well as backyard cookouts and other summer-ending activities with their families.

Possibly the biggest backyard event was the picnic on the south lawn of the White House that President Carter threw for some 1,200 labor representatives and union officials.

In New York, more than 60,000 persons were entertained at a union-sponsored street fair by union performers, skilled craftsmen and artisans.

In Clinton, Iowa, the focus was on bread-and-butter trade unionism as about 3,000 persons joined in a rally and march demonstrating support for the city's 750 Grain Millers who have been on strike since Aug. 1.

In addressing the White House gathering, Carter praised the role of the labor movement and its leadership in battles for economic and social progress.

"The working people of our country, the labor movement, the trade unions have always been in the forefront when there was a dynamic struggle to make our nation greater in time of peace, especially in time of war," Carter stressed.

He cited the joint efforts of the labor and civil rights movements in assisting minorities and in the struggle to protect basic freedoms.

"One of the great things about the trade union movement that has made you great are the things that you were not obliged to do," he observed. "I have been impressed with your unselfishness, the fact that many times you would take a stand or espouse a cause or fight a battle when there is not any direct benefit in it for you, but there is a benefit for others who are not quite so secure or quite so organized or quite so prosperous."

The President cited immediate challenges the nation faces in meeting the energy crisis, ratification of the strategic arms limitations treaty and the fight for a national health insurance program.

He noted the support of labor on those vital issues and praised the advice he has received from Federation President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland.

The New York street fair was a part of the ongoing Bread and Roses cultural arts projects of District 1199, the Hospital & Health Care Division of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union.

A highlight of the fair was the entertainment provided by members of performing arts unions, including casts from Broadway plays and musicians in jazz, folk, country and disco bands. Working skills also were demonstrated by union bakers, garment workers, film projectionists, building trades craftsmen, transport workers and fur workers.

The rally in the Midwest for striking Grain Millers drew trade unionists from all parts of Iowa. The program, sponsored by the Iowa AFL-CIO, included an interdenominational religious service, followed by mass picketing at the Clinton Corn Processing plant where strikebreakers have been attempting to keep operations running. The company has threatened to replace the 750 members of Grain Millers Local 6 with non-union workers.

Typical of the numerous religious services throughout the country was the 27th annual Labor Day Mass at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Washington. Following the mass, a wreath-laying ceremony was held at the statue of Cardinal Gibbons in which President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. gave the principal address.

Crafts Conduct First Institute On Organizing

The first organizing institute of the Building & Construction Trades Dept. was held recently at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies for 23 representatives of 13 unions.

The four-day program on organizing techniques was developed by Tom Owens, the department's organizing director, with the aid of Russell Allen, deputy director of the center, and Harry Millstone, senior staff associate.

The institute was developed as a pilot for a series of training sessions planned for next year as part of the department's new organizing program.

The organizing program is already functioning under the sponsorship of local Building Trades Councils in Los Angeles, Baltimore, the District of Columbia and Arizona. Additional drives are being considered for several other areas.

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Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

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Public Unions Press Fight For Effective Government

Joblessness Climbs to 6 Percent

Unemployment rose three-tenths of 1 percent to 6 percent in August as the ongoing economic downturn began to make itself felt in the job market.

The increase showed "the first statistically significant" rise in overall unemployment since July 1978 when the rate recorded a one-month rise of three-tenths of 1 percent to 6.1 percent, BLS Commissioner Janet L. Norwood told the congressional Joint Economic Committee.

Much of the increase in joblessness last month was due to a sharp jump of 200,000 in the number of worker layoffs.

Unemployment among adult women rose substantially, from 5.5 to 5.9 percent, and for teenagers, from 15.3 to 16.5 percent, while the adult male unemployment rate rose slightly, from 4.1 to 4.2 percent. Black unemployment remained at a high level, rising two-tenths of 1 percent to 11 percent.

The monthly BLS survey of employment and unemployment showed a continuing rise in the employment of service workers and a slight decline in employment in construction, manufacturing, transportation and utilities.

"The three-tenths of 1 percent increase in unemployment in August may augur further jumps over the next few months as the recession worsens," observed AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald. "The effects of the recession on employment show up for the first time this month. There is every indication that it will worsen over the next six months."

Total employment fell by 310,000 to 96.9 million in August as the number of unemployed workers who had been laid off from their last job shot up. The civilian labor force, at 103 million, was unchanged over the month. The number of unemployed workers totaled 6,149,000.

Commissioner Norwood told the congressional panel that both the factory workweek and factory employment fell in August, and she observed that aggregate hours in manufacturing were down nearly 4 percent since March. Payroll jobs in the automobile industry have declined by nearly 200,000 since May, partly because of model changeovers but also because of weakening sales and scheduled production cutbacks at some plants, she said.

Postal Bill Blocks Cuts In Service

Postal workers scored a major victory when the House voted 350-14 approval of legislation aimed at averting cutbacks in mail service or the alternative of sharply higher postage rates.

The bill, which now goes to the Senate, also would streamline multiple layers of top management of the U.S. Postal Service and again make the postmaster general a presidential appointee subject to Senate confirmation.

Another provision of the House bill would stretch out from the present 16 years to 20 years the scheduled rate increases for publications of non-profit organizations, including unions.

While the legislation moves a notch back from the largely autonomous postal operations contemplated by a 1970 law, the bill leaves intact the collective bargaining procedure that has separated the postal service from direct government departments.

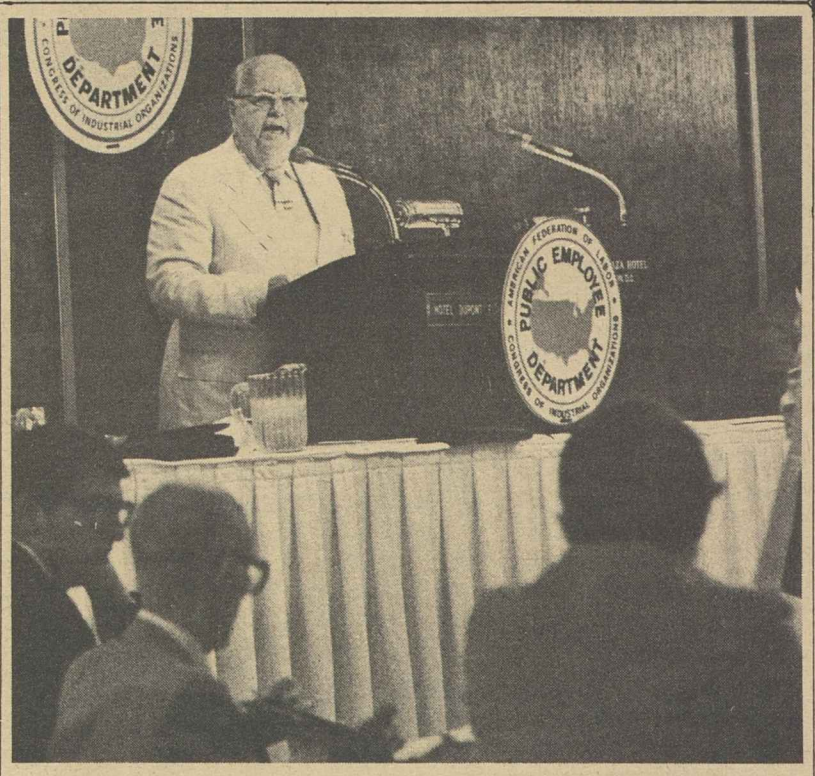
Postal workers, unlike direct federal employees, are able to bargain over wages as well as other working conditions.

The Administration opposed the House bill, but in effect conceded that it could not be stopped in the House and did not actively lobby against its passage.

The House bill would raise the annual federal subsidy, averting a scheduled phaseout of federal support.

This operating subsidy, which is intended to compensate for the

(Continued on Page 7)



PUBLIC SECTOR unions must work for tax justice and more effective government as well as better conditions for their members, Public Employee Dept. President William H. McClennan said in his keynote address to the department's convention.

Goals Set To Counter Right Wing

By David L. Perlman

Thirty-three public sector unions joined in shaping a program designed to revive confidence in government and in the value of government services at the same time the unions are pressing militantly to advance the interests of the workers they represent.

Both goals are essential, the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. stressed.

PED President William H. McClennan told delegates to the department's fifth anniversary convention that more than jobs are endangered by reckless tax-slashing and budget-cutting.

Government itself could become a "basket case" if the extremists get their way, he warned in his keynote address. "I'm not prepared to turn America over to that miserable crowd."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland pledged that public sector unions will have "the full support and assistance" of the federation in both areas.

He told the delegates that the right-wing drive for a constitutional convention to enact a balanced budget amendment was halted this year because the labor movements in key states "sounded the alarm, exposed the scheme for what it was, and rallied public opinion against it."

As for the intensity of the right-wing attacks on public-sector unions, Kirkland suggested that they are leading targets "because they happen to be the biggest, fastest-moving part of the labor movement—standing roughly where the transportation unions stood at the turn of the century and the industrial unions in the '30s and '40s."

(Continued on Page 2)

AFL-CIO Testimony:

SALT Support Tied To Parity, Security

By James M. Shevis

The AFL-CIO reiterated its support for the pending strategic arms limitation treaty (SALT II) in the Senate, stressing the need to maintain weapons parity while striving for a long-range solution to the military buildup by the world's two superpowers.

Federation Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that he views the arms control treaty as "a way station on the road to some real test" of the will and resolve of the Soviet Union and the United States to start turning around the present arms buildup curve.

"The curve is still going up, and that concerns me deeply," Kirkland told the panel chaired by Sen. Frank Church (D-Ida.). Accompanying Kirkland were Legislative Director Kenneth Young and Tom Kahn, assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany.

"We would welcome a treaty that would require and warrant drastic dismantling on our part as well as that of the USSR," Kirkland declared. "And we would not mourn, grieve over, nor regard as wasted money the expenditures negated by that happy event.

"Limits to be attained by dismantling only—across the board—ought to be the goal rather than, as in the present treaty, limits well above levels currently in place in critical categories of weaponry, establishing virtual 'goals and timetables' for the further escalation of an already staggering array of instruments of doom."

In the meantime, as the AFL-CIO Executive Council pointed out in a policy statement last month, steps should be taken to remedy the emerging strategic imbalance between the two nations and move toward genuine strategic arms control, Kirkland said.

He agreed with Church that if parity is not maintained during the period of the treaty, it is unrealistic to believe that substantial reduc-

(Continued on Page 8)

Bank Interest Rates Reach All-Time High

Chase Manhattan Bank of New York jumped its prime lending rate to a record 13 percent as short-term interest rates continued to soar and prices spiraled throughout the economy.

August wholesale prices jumped a seasonally adjusted 1.2 percent over the month, the sharpest increase since last January, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. The higher interest rates, with their rippling effect on all sectors of the economy, promised to raise living costs even higher.

The new prime rate at Chase, the highest level of any major bank in the nation's history, came less than a week after the institution lifted the rate by half a percentage point to 12.75 percent.

Chicago's Continental Illinois National Bank & Trust Co., meanwhile, raised its prime rate from 12.5 to 12.75 percent.

The prime rate is the base interest rate for unsecured loans to banks' most credit-worthy corporate borrowers. It is seen generally as an indicator of trends in all other interest rates.

The August increase in prices of producer finished goods—those eventually sold to retailers—pushed wholesale price levels up 11.1 percent from what they were 12 months earlier, BLS said.

Most of the upward price push came from certain food products and energy-related elements. The surge in food prices left some analysts puzzled. Since late spring, the

(Continued on Page 2)

House Votes Reduction In Benefits for Disabled

The House voted 235-162 to limit future social security disability benefits, taking a backward step that the AFL-CIO had fought as "unfair" to America's workers and "unnecessary" to the financial soundness of the social security system.

As sent to the Senate, the bill would not affect persons already receiving disability benefits. But it would result in lower benefits for a large portion of workers who become totally disabled in future years.

New benefit ceilings in the House bill would especially penalize young workers with families. And a change in the formula for computing benefits would mean that virtually everyone who becomes incapacitated before the age of 47 would be paid less than under present law.

The House-passed bill also includes non-controversial provisions intended to encourage disabled persons to try to return to work. But they were linked to the disability cuts, and the bill came before the House under a no-amendment pro-

(Continued on Page 2)



LABOR OFFICIALS from North and South America explored mutual concerns at the Inter-American Textile, Leather & Garment Workers Federation executive council meeting in Miami. The sessions were hosted by the Ladies' Garment Workers and the Clothing & Textile Workers. From left, are President Enrique Miko of the Argentine garment workers' union, ILGWU President Sol C. Chaikin, ILGWU Local 415-475 Manager Michael Ruano, and ILGWU Vice President Edward Schneider. Miko commended the ILGWU for efforts on his behalf while he was imprisoned by the Argentine government.

Soviet Arrests Prompt IAM to Cancel Trip

The Machinists cancelled a scheduled visit of an IAM delegation to the Soviet Union as a protest of the USSR's arrest last month of three members of a Soviet workers' group seeking trade union freedom.

IAM President William W. Winpisinger, citing "systematic violations of human rights by the government of the USSR," said the union would not permit the presence of its delegation "to dignify the fiction that workers have the rights of free association and organization in the USSR."

In a letter to the president of the central committee of the Heavy Engineering Workers' Union, Winpisinger said the IAM originally had agreed to send the delegation in the hope of furthering the process of East-West detente.

But the arrest of members of the executive committee of the Free Interprofessional Association of Workers (SMOT) forced the change in plans, he said.

"Under the circumstances, we cannot pretend that a visit of a free trade union delegation to your country is an ordinary event without political significance," Winpisinger observed.

The three SMOT leaders arrested by the KBG were Vladimir Borisov, a machinist and electrician; Albina Yakoreva, who is the mother of an infant, and Nikolai Nikitin, a truck driver.

Winpisinger's letter blasted "the horror of the KGB's abuse of psychiatry."

"The definition of protest as a mental illness and the physical and mental torture of political prisoners in Soviet psychiatric prison hospitals such as the Serbsky Institute are now quite well known in the West," he said.

He noted also that the arrest of the SMOT leaders followed the suppression of an earlier attempt to form a free trade union organization in the USSR. In February 1978, a group of 110 Soviet workers, led by Vladimir Klebanov, announced the formation of the Free Trade Union Association of Workers. Their grievances included firing for revealing misuse of union funds and bribery, safety violations, and other poor working conditions.

Klebanov was subjected to numerous reprisals and then fired after 16 years of service, diagnosed as a psychopathic personality suffering from chronic paranoia, and sentenced to four and one-half years in psychiatric prison hospitals.

Bank Rates Set Record, Prices Soar

(Continued from Page 1)

Agriculture Dept. has been predicting further moderation in food prices as pressure from the farm level eased.

The August advance in wholesale prices about matched the 1.1 percent increase in July.

The bad news on food prices resulted mainly from higher prices for fresh and dried fruits and vegetables, BLS said. Prices were also up sharply for milled rice, whole black pepper, flour base mixes and doughs, roasted coffee, bakery products, dairy products, vegetable oil end products, and refined sugar in consumer-size packages.

On the other hand, a number of food items began to show some decrease in price, particularly animal feeds and animal fats and oils, grain, livestock, green coffee, and cocoa beans.

Gasoline prices in August rose 6.1 percent, kerosene 3.5 percent, fuel oil 6 percent, and commercial jet fuel 12.2 percent. Over the year, prices for these products were up 45.7 percent, 58.5 percent, 60.8 percent, and 46.7 percent, respectively.

At the intermediate goods level, prices also rose by 1.2 percent. But at the crude goods level, prices were up only one-tenth of 1 percent, the smallest increase since April. Neither level is considered as important, however, as that of producer prices of finished goods.

OSHA Names Director Of Health Standards

Bailus Walker, environmental health administrator for the District of Columbia since 1972, has been named director of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration's health standards program.

Walker suceeds Grover Wrenn, who earlier this year was appointed director of OSHA's federal compliance and state programs.

Counter Right-Wing Attack:

Public Employees Press Fight For Effective Government

(Continued from Page 1)

Public worker unions had few enemies when they were "not very big, not very militant and not very effective," Kirkland noted. "The more nearly helpless a union is, the more likely it is to be held up as an example of what a responsible, public-spirited union ought to be."

Kirkland warned that the nation's economic downturn will strain already stretched resources of cities and states. He told the delegates that the AFL-CIO's anti-recession program includes standby public works programs and counter-cyclical aid "to help state and local governments to maintain existing services and offset the effects of recession."

The convention adopted a broad range of resolutions, but gave special emphasis to a policy statement dealing with proposals for mandatory social security coverage for all public-sector workers.

The convention firmly opposed any attempt by Congress to bring all federal, postal, state and local government employees under the social security system.

Federal and postal workers, the resolution said, see such coverage as a threat to their own civil service retirement system. In state and local governments, it urged, the choice of retirement systems should be negotiated or determined by state legislation. But the PED will support federal legislation that would prohibit abandonment of social security coverage by state or local governments whose employees are already covered.

In other areas, the department:

- Kept high on its legislative agenda the goal of Hatch Act reform, protesting political restrictions that make "second-class citizens" out of millions of federal and postal workers.
- Endorsed legislation to bring state and local employees under the National Relations Act. And as a minimum step, Congress should set collective bargaining standards for state and local governments, it said.
- Reiterated support for legislation sought by various groups of public workers, such as a reduction in the 72-hour workweek of firefighters employed by the federal government, the right to negotiate union security and to strike in the postal service, full pay comparability for federal workers without arbitrary "caps," and opposition to residence requirements for local employees.

Both a convention resolution and a speech by Assistant Sec. of Labor Eula Bingham called for mandatory protection of all public employees under the Occupational Safety & Health Act.

Bingham, who heads the OSHA program, stressed that public employees are engaged in "the whole spectrum of occupations" and work in shipyards and power plants and in jobs exposed to toxic chemicals.

Several resolutions pointed up the need for tax reform at all levels of government and noted the danger that, as in California, attempts to ease homeowner burdens can end up chiefly helping owners of commercial and industrial properties.

McClennan told the delegates that a large part of the so-called tax revolt stems from the unfairness of the tax structure.

But while pressing for tax reforms, public sector unions "have to be prepared to convince the average fair-minded American that there's no way the necessary services provided by government can be financed without an adequate supply of tax dollars."

Public employees, he said, have a special role to play in helping government become "a more effective, and perhaps a more popular, instrument of service to the people."

The Public Employee Dept., he urged, should be "breaking new ground" and considering "bold plans" for the 1980s.

McClennan said he has directed the PED staff to draw up a plan for a national "think tank" conference that would solicit "the best ideas" of a broad range of people in all fields and from all segments of society.

McClennan, who is president of the Fire Fighters and has headed the PED since its establishment, was elected to a new two-year term. Also re-elected by acclamation was Treasurer Kenneth T. Blaylock, who is president of the American Federation of Government Employees.

At a luncheon, the department gave its annual public service award to Rep. William Clay (D-Mo.), who has led the fight for Hatch Act reform and has been a strong supporter of public employee legislation. The luncheon speaker was Kathleen O'Reilly, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America, who lashed out at the "ripoff" of America by the big oil companies.

House Banking Committee Chairman Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.) told the convention that a greatly expanded mass transit program, including revival of abandoned electric rail and trolley lines, is essential to conserve energy and could help "lick recession by providing needed jobs."

Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) gave a strong endorsement to a convention resolution urging the Senate to re-establish a separate Post Office & Civil Service Committee, and Jonathan Rowe of the Citizens for Tax Justice spoke of the coalition effort which the PED supports.

House Votes Reduction In Benefits for Disabled

(Continued from Page 1)

cedure. The AFL-CIO and other groups fighting the benefit cutbacks had urged the House to defeat the bill and then pass the desirable features as separate legislation.

President Carter had asked Congress to eliminate or reduce a wide array of social security protections in order to hold down budget costs. But his proposals aroused a storm of opposition, and more than 100 organizations formed a Save Our Security coalition to fight the proposals.

The House Ways & Means Committee earlier this year sidetracked all of the Administration's cutback proposals except for the disability insurance changes.

Ironically, the rise in disability claims that had led to criticism of the program as overly generous had already been reversed, and trustees of the Social Security system reported in April that the disability trust fund is running a surplus and new awards have dropped to the lowest rate in two decades. An AFL-CIO Executive Council statement cited deficiencies in the program and said it should be improved rather than cut back.

Under present law, a worker who is totally disabled is entitled to a basic benefit that is calculated as if he were 65 and retiring under the regular social security pension. Thus, in computing average earnings on which benefits are based, a disabled worker can drop out his five years of lowest earnings.

The House-passed bill would eliminate the dropout option entirely for workers disabled before the age of 27 and reduce the number of dropout years for workers who become disabled between the ages of 27 and 47. Further "savings" would be achieved through wage-related limits on total family payments.

In a letter to House members before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said the labor movement considers the social security program to be "a social contract between citizens and the government."

The House-passed bill, which the AFL-CIO will seek to block or change in the Senate, "breaks faith with the American people," Young said.

3 More Packers Accept Pattern in Meat Industry

Three more packinghouse firms have settled with the Food & Commercial Workers, bringing to seven the number of companies that have signed new three-year contracts with the union.

Some 4,000 UFCW members continued their two-week strike at two processing plants of Oscar Mayer & Co., however. The walkout at Madison, Wis., and Davenport, Iowa, which began Sept. 1, centers on the issues of job security and local bargaining. Mayer wants to negotiate separate agreements at the two plants.

Meanwhile, Armour & Co., Cudahy Co., and Swift & Co. joined the list of major interstate meat packers to come to terms with the union. Early in August, four other meatpacking firms—Hormel, Wilson, Morrell, and Hy Grade—reached agreement with UFCW negotiators. Approximately 40,000 workers are covered by the pacts.

The contracts generally parallel the pattern settlement with John Morrell & Co., calling for 60 cents in hourly wages over the term of the agreement plus semiannual cost-of-living adjustments of one cent for every rise of three-tenths of a point in the consumer price index. Substantial improvements also were achieved in fringes.

Jesse Prosten, a UFCW vice president and head of the union's packinghouse division, said the new agreement "does a good job of protecting our members."

Energy Conservation:

Mass Transit Needs Called Top Priority

Los Angeles—The expansion of mass transit services, coupled with the reduction or elimination of fares, must be a top priority in solving the nation's energy and economic woes, delegates to the Amalgamated Transit Union's 45th biennial convention were told.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told the 500 convention delegates "a vast expansion and upgrading of our railroad systems and an equal expansion of local mass transit systems, including federal assistance to lower or eliminate fares, is the most effective energy conservation measure America can undertake."

Such programs, he said, also "would serve as job-creating, anti-recession measures that would benefit workers in a wide range of manufacturing and service industries."

He noted organized labor is urging Congress to adopt an 85 percent tax on the excess profits of the oil industry to help pay for the expansion of transit services.

B. R. Stokes, executive vice president of the American Public Transit Association, told the delegates that the transit industry is at the threshold of the most critical period of its history.

"Our nation's petroleum crisis must be solved," he said. "And transit must be a key part of that solution."

In addition to easing the nation's energy problems, he said, mass transit can play the pivotal role in achieving the nation's goals of cleaner air, revitalization of inner cities, urban development and mobility for all citizens.

Stokes noted the steady increase in transit ridership over the past two years to the present daily ridership of 8 billion passengers. He predicted that the figures would double by the late 1980s if labor and management rise to the challenge presented to them.

Los Angeles Mayor Thomas Bradley urged the delegates "to strive to your fullest and improve upon your already outstanding record of productivity to help solve the problems facing the country, and to continue meaningful dialogue with transit management in meeting the present challenge."

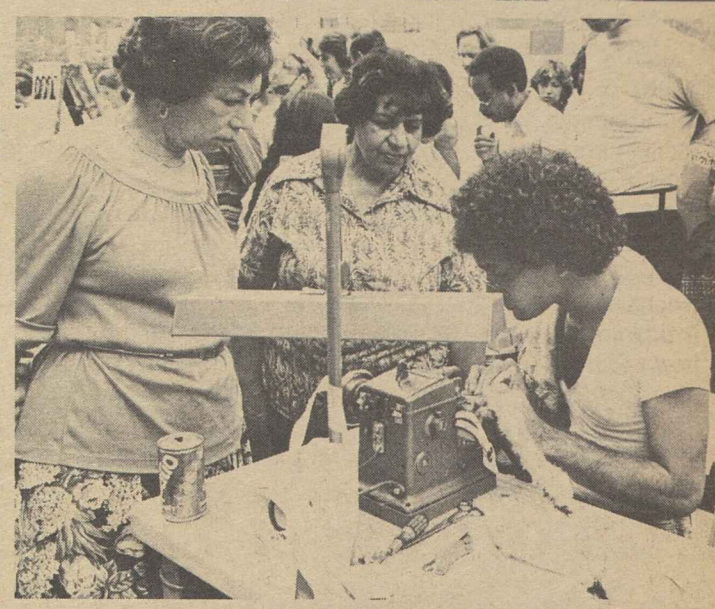
A note of caution was sounded by other convention speakers, who stressed that the tide of conservatism sweeping the country runs contrary to labor's goals of expanded services and more jobs.

William Robertson, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles AFL-CIO detailed the "disastrous effects on public workers and public services in the aftermath of Proposition 13."

John Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California AFL-CIO, said "the times and circumstances demand a general resolve and a coordinated general effort to overcome the closely related problems of energy and inflation. And we in organized labor have to develop effective political action programs to insure our success in the face of the anti-public worker, anti-union positions adopted by right-wing conservatives throughout the country."







THOUSANDS OF NEW YORKERS celebrated Labor Day at a street fair where they were treated to a variety of entertainment by union performers, as well as taking in demonstrations by skilled union craftsmen. The seven-hour gala was sponsored by District 1199's cultural affairs project in cooperation with the New York City AFL-CIO. District 1199 is the hospital and health care division of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union.

Teacher Strikes Focus On Salaries, Conditions

Thousands of frustrated teachers turned to the picket lines across the nation as they sought to obtain better salaries and working conditions.

Units of the American Federation of Teachers walked out in San Francisco, Detroit, and in smaller cities while members of other AFT units elsewhere continued their strikes.

Meanwhile, in Oklahoma City, members of AFT Local 2309 returned to the classroom on Sept. 10 after a legal tangle developed. Teacher strikes are barred by state law in Oklahoma, and when the city's 2,200 teachers went on strike, the school board moved to decertify the unit.

The AFT unit challenged the board's action in court, but the court upheld the board. The union appealed to the state Supreme Court, which sent the case back to the lower court, saying that the unit had not been treated fairly.

In San Francisco and Detroit, as in Oklahoma City, the major strike issue was money. AFT Local 231 members in Detroit struck after rejecting a three-year contract offer by the school board. The main issue was a cost-of-living allowance.

Mary Ellen Riordan, president of the Detroit Teachers Federation, said the local's 10,500 members would not return to work without a new contract. She estimated that 99 percent of the local's members stayed away from the classrooms.

Thus far in the current school year, there have been 119 teacher strikes compared to 85 teacher strikes for the same back-to-school period last year, the unaffiliated National Education Association estimated. Of these 119 strikes, only 15 involved AFT units.

AFT members still are on strike in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana's fourth largest school system; in Bethel Park, Pa., a Pittsburgh suburb; Woodbridge and Perth Amboy, N.J.; Niles, Ill., and in Millers Place, Suffolk County, N.Y.

Job Count Revision Backed by Levitan

A labor proposal to include "discouraged workers" in the government's count of unemployment had the support of the chairman of the National Commission on Employment & Unemployment Statistics, even though it was rejected by a 5-4 vote of the panel.

Chairman Sar A. Levitan, director of George Washington University's Center for Social Policy Studies, joined AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, Mitchell Sviridoff of the Ford Foundation and Bernard Anderson of the Rockefeller Foundation in supporting the proposal.

The term refers to workers who have given up an active search for a job because they don't think work is available. They are not now counted as unemployed.

Iowa Labor Installs New Leadership

Waterloo, Iowa—The Iowa State AFL-CIO's 24th convention confirmed a new leadership team to fill vacancies created by the retirement of President Hugh D. Clark on June 1.

Delegates chose Sec.-Treas. James J. Wengert, a member of the Food & Commercial Workers, to succeed Clark, and Mark L. Smith of the Teachers to fill the vacancy created by Wengert's succession to the presidency. Wengert had been secretary-treasurer for 13 years. He and Smith served as interim officers following Clark's retirement.

Elected to fill a vacancy on the executive council was Leo Ruth, a member of the Aluminum Workers.

Election procedures for the six district vice presidents were changed by a constitutional amendment under which local union votes will be allocated according to the districts their members officially reside in. Previously, a statewide local could put all of its votes into one district.

Another resolution at the four-day convention asked affiliated local unions to consider the possibility of launching a full-fledged public relations campaign. A proposal to this effect will be on the agenda at next year's convention.

The federation endorsed Sen. John Culver (D-Iowa) in his 1980 re-election drive. Culver, the target of a right-wing campaign to deny him another term, in an address to the delegates described the New Right as "anti-labor, anti-government, anti-poor people, anti-civil rights, pro-big business, pro-big military, regardless of what hardship any of these policies may bring to rank-and-file people."

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, reviewing the accomplishments of the Carter Administration, said that when its labor record is put in perspective, it will be viewed as one of the best labor records "since the New Deal."

Sharp Rent Increases Cited by Price Monitors

Recent rent increases recorded by AFL-CIO Price Watch Volunteers are being investigated by the Council on Wage & Price Stability for possible violation of the Carter Administration's voluntary guidelines.

COWPS Director R. Robert Russell, in a letter to Community Services Director Leo Perlis, said the council has a number of rent cases under scrutiny, particularly cases involving larger landlords.

Perlis is overseeing the federation's Price Watch effort, which is focusing on the rising costs of basic necessities, including food, health care and fuel, as well as housing costs.

In response to a report from Perlis, Russell agreed that rental costs are having a severe economic impact on family budgets.

"We are sensitive to the fact that rent payments represent a relatively large portion of many household budgets and the repeated and substantial rent increases do impose onerous burdens on many Americans," Russell said.

He said that because of a limited staff, COWPS cannot effectively monitor the millions of rental rates across the country. He suggested that renters can, at times, fight to reverse excessive rate hikes through their tenant associations. He noted, however, that COWPS has been successful in winning some rental hike rollbacks.

In alerting COWPS to the Price Watch findings, Perlis said that sharp rent increases had been uncovered by monitors even in communities that have rent controls in effect.

A majority of rent increases compiled in June by the Price Watch staff was in the 10 percent range. But the report also cited boosts as high as 30, 50, 80 and 125 percent.

The following is a sampling of the higher rent increases:

In Clairton, Pa., monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment rose May 1 from $240 to $320.

In Dallas, a one-bedroom apartment increased from $175 to $225 a month.

In St. Paul, Minn., the rate for a two-bedroom apartment was raised from $110 to $200 a month.

In Detroit, a two-bedroom apartment that rented for $190 a month was increased to $225.

In Windom, Minn., monthly rent for a three-bedroom place was raised from $100 to $225 a month.

In Florence, Ala., the rate on a three-bedroom unit was increased to $165 a month from $135.

Price 'Compliance' Stretched by Times

By jacking up the price of its daily newspaper 20 percent on Sept. 3, the New York Times Co. may be stretching the meaning of the word "compliance," AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis suggested in a letter to Carter Administration inflation adviser Alfred E. Kahn.

Perlis noted that he had alerted Kahn of a possible price guideline violation when the Times raised its daily delivery rate in the Bronx, N.Y., in May by 12 percent.

In response, the Times pointed out it had earlier pledged its support of the Carter anti-inflation effort and that it remained in compliance with wage and price standards. But late last month, the Times announced it was raising its local price from 20 to 25 cents and from 25 to 30 cents for area 50 miles outside of the city.

"That, of course, is a 20 percent increase," Perlis said.

The Budget Battle

FISCAL 1980 BUDGET PLANS, which were outlined in the first budget resolution last spring, will be set out in detail in the second budget resolution, which Congress must approve this month.

While the federal budget process is complicated and difficult to follow, it rules the lives of millions of Americans either directly through federal programs or indirectly through the impact of federal spending on the U.S. economy.

The second resolution now before Congress has become a high-stakes struggle between lawmakers trying to adjust the budget to cope with the oncoming recession and others attempting to cut the federal budget at any cost.

The current debate will focus on a "reconciliation" provision in the budget resolution as reported by the Senate Budget Committee, which would require other Senate committees to cut spending by a total of $4 billion in order to hold the federal deficit at the level approved in the first budget resolution.

The Budget Committee move would reverse spending decisions already made by other committees and would slash spending further for human services programs, such as housing, nutrition, public service employment and veterans' benefits.

These programs, now facing large and growing workloads, experienced cuts in real spending levels under the first budget resolution. If approved, the "reconciliation" provision would effectively give the Budget Committee authority to set spending levels rather than the appropriations and various authorizing committees which now share the responsibility.

The AFL-CIO is opposed to the "reconciliation" provision and will support efforts to strip it from the second budget resolution on the Senate floor to maintain the integrity of the budget process and minimal funding levels for human services.

—AFL-CIO Legislative Alert.

The Agri-Business Drain

THE RECLAMATION REFORM ACT of 1979 effectively eradicates the family farm goal of the 1902 Federal Reclamation Act and would continue taxpayer subsidization of large agribusiness corporations and encourage unfettered growth of landholding monopolies.

The labor-backed 1902 Reclamation Act was designed to foster family farms on western lands and guard against land monopoly and its subsidy, principally by limiting federally subsidized water from reclamation projects to resident farmers on 160-acre tracts. Unfortunately, lax enforcement permitted the growth of huge agricultural landholding monopolies which have reaped millions of dollars in windfall federal subsidies to the detriment of small family farm development.

At a time when the small farms throughout the nation face escalating production costs, continued subsidization of large corporate landholdings adversely affects the competitive ability of family-sized farms who do not have the advantage of low-cost irrigation. For these and other reasons, we believe the proposed legislation, as reported, is contrary to national agricultural policy as well as rightful taxpayer concerns about the fiscal and social propriety of such federal subsidy programs.

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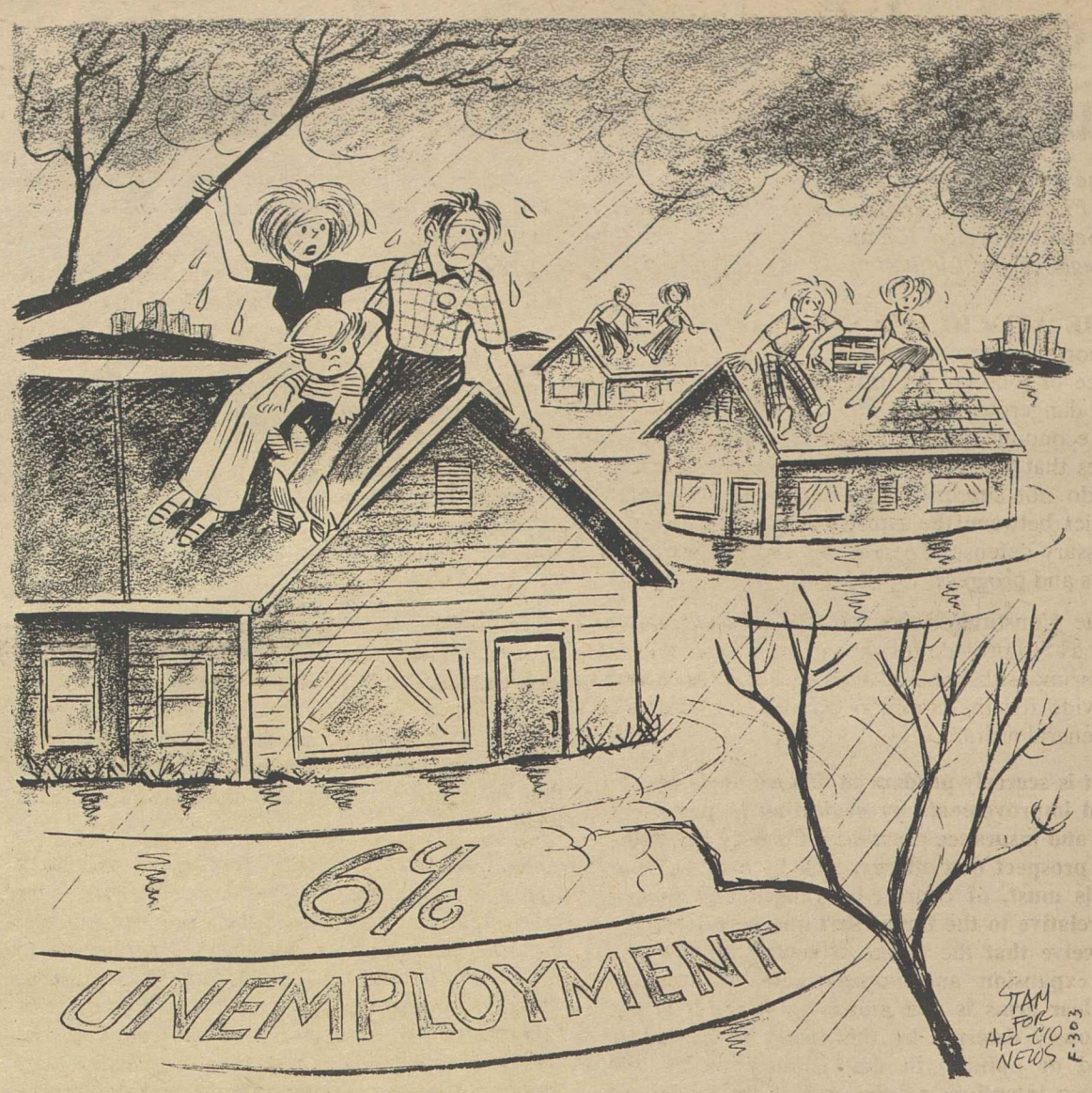
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Recession Watch



Lessons of Experience Ignored:

Fed's High-Interest Policies Multiply the Inflation Malady

By Gus Tyler

THE FRENCH WOULD HAVE a great time with our Federal Reserve Board. "Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose," they say. Which means the more things change, the more they remain the same.

The newest chairman of the Fed is Paul Volker who filled the vacancy for William Miller when Miller went to the Cabinet to replace Michael Blumenthal. The first thing the new chairman did was to raise interest rates just as his predecessor did and just as Miller's predecessor, Dr. Arthur Burns, did before him.

As things have gone, we might just as well have held on to Burns, because those who put on his shoes also followed in his footsteps. They have all decided to apply the same medicine to the same ailment, although both experience and logic have repeatedly proven that the remedy multiplies the malady.

The sickness is inflation. The prescribed cure is to raise the interest rates. The logic is that raising interest rates will discourage borrowing and, in that way, slow down investment and buying. By this "cooling process," the fever of inflation will be lowered.

This medicine has been in use for 10 years now—first put into practice by the Nixon Administration in 1969. Each time the economy did shrink under this process, but even when unemployment went up prices did not drop.

The Feds are failing because they ignore four crucial facts:

First, a higher interest rate automatically boosts the price of everything. If an increase in petroleum prices is registered in an increase in other prices that involve petroleum use, then how much more must an increase in the cost of money (interest rates) affect the price of everything else in the economy?

Second, when inflation is running at 13 percent —as it is today—to raise interest rates to 10 or even 12 percent will not appreciably slow down borrowing. If everything is going up 13 percent, 10 or 12 percent money is cheap. "A negative interest rate" is what economists call it.

Third, if high interest rates should cool the economy by slowing down production, that would not, in itself, lower prices. Indeed, in major industries prices would rise, rather than fall. Idle plant capacity is a costly overhead when factories slow down: the result is higher unit costs of production and, consequently, higher market prices.

Fourth and finally, if the economy is really pushed into a depression—a serious one—in order to check inflation, it would take a nine-point drop in production to reduce inflation by one point. In plain talk, to bring our present 13 percent inflation down to 7 percent would mean a 54 percent cut in production, bringing our jobless rate up to about 60 percent.

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Public Employees Bypassed on Safety

If we could ever bring the Occupational Safety & Health Act to the floor of Congress for amendment without having its opponents cripple the law, the first thing I would recommend would be to strengthen those sections of the law dealing with coverage of public employees.

Congress enacted a very strong worker protection law in 1970. But federal employees receive virtually none of the protective provisions offered to the private sector; state and local government worker coverage is left to the states. In 28 states, there is no safety and health coverage.

It is up to all of us to let the American people know the facts. We should be telling the public that city refuse workers who stay on the job for 20 years have a one-in-seven chance of having a limb amputated.

At Hill Air Force Base in Utah, civilian employees have been exposed to dangerous levels of toxic chemicals. The AFGE local at the base identified 109 former employees who had suffered from cancer.

Public employees must no longer be second-class citizens in regard to their right to a safe and healthful work environment.

—Assistant Sec. of Labor Eula Bingham to AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. convention.

AFL-CIO Testimony:

Goal of Arms Parity, Security Linked to Support for SALT II

The following is excerped from the testimony of AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT II).

THE AFL-CIO HAS CONSISTENTLY supported a strong national defense, not as a source of jobs but as insurance of freedom in a very dangerous world and of continued social and economic progress and of the democratic values that we prize, including free trade unions. We do not subscribe to the notion of inherent conflict between the equally vital imperatives of necessary defense expenditures and domestic programs and progress.

The Constitution defines the duty of government as "to provide for the common defense" *and* "to promote the general welfare." It does not say "provide for the common defense" *or* "promote the general welfare."

It is scarcely prudent to finance one's household improvements by neglecting to pay one's fire and insurance premiums. Such a folly holds the prospect that all may well be lost. Defense goals must, of course, be gauged and judged as relative to the threat that one perceives. We perceive that the threat presented by the rate of expansion and improvement of strategic nuclear arms is real and is growing. It is not seriously deterred by this treaty or by public need or opinion in that country or by any benign intentions on the part of the leaders of that power, present or future.

We believe that the security of our nation and of its allies, which is the real issue here, can be enhanced by either or both of two methods—stronger defenses or genuine, significant and mutual arms reduction agreements with our potential adversaries. We certainly prefer the latter course, but we cannot assume it, and SALT II, by its terms, does not assure us that it is yet more than a hope. We do, however, support the proposition that that hope should be kept alive long enough at least to test it once more, rather than to abandon it now by rejecting the treaty.

But that test should be an urgent, real and searching one, and we should be fully prepared to live with the conclusion revealed by its success or failure. Nor should we, meanwhile, permit that process to anchor us further behind the defense posture that we ought to be in if the result is failure.

We would welcome a treaty that would require and warrant drastic arms dismantling on our part as well as the USSR. And we would not mourn, grieve over, nor regard as wasted money the expenditures negated by that happy event. Limits to be attained by dismantling only, across the board, should in fact be the goal rather than the present treaty limits, which are well above levels currently in place in critical categories of weaponry, establishing virtual "goals and timetables" for the further escalation of an already staggering array of instruments of doom.

WE MUST, in the meanwhile, do what is necessary to pursue parity—as well as security from the threat that will emerge under the terms of the treaty before you—rather than engage, through unilateral restraint or attrition by neglect, in premature, "pre-emptive compliance" with a treaty that does not yet exist and may never come to pass.

We are conscious that despite the Administration's assurances of prudent intent, there are many voices in and outside the Congress that will ardently press for the consent of the Senate to SALT II, but that will, after the fact, just as ardently oppose the measures necessary to maintain parity and security under the terms of the treaty. Such a posture, it seems to me, is far more dangerous to peace and stability and destructive of the arms control process if it should prevail than is any criticism of the treaty itself.

That is why we have conditioned our support of SALT II on a strong expression in the instrument of advice and consent of the principle that parity requires that we continue to modernize and develop our forces, and a further strong expression of a proposition that says, in effect, that we shall not continue to pursue the beguiling phantom of a process that produces nothing of consequence but dangerous illusions.

Those are the broad considerations that underlie the statement of policy on SALT II recently adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, which has been previously provided to the committee and which is our essential statement.

Volunteer Effort:

Marketplace Monitors Stem Price Surge on Key Food Items

THE AFL-CIO'S price monitoring effort has helped hold down price increases on certain basic-necessity food items that union volunteers have been watching closely to assess the effectiveness of the voluntary price guidelines, John McManus, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, said on Labor News Conference.

McManus said the reports of monitors showed a clear difference between price changes on the checklist items in five major food chains and those on the same items in a random sample among smaller stores in some 20 communities.

"We believe that the food chains have purposely held down their prices on the 27 items" monitored in the AFL-CIO's Price Watch program launched six months ago, McManus said. He said the major chains knew that their prices were being watched and the differences demonstrated that "where somebody is looking over the manager's shoulder, he's going to be careful about raising prices."

McManus said that a 180-degree turn in governmental philosophy would be needed to bring down the price spiral.

"If the commercial enterprises and the for-profit boys understood that it was the intent of the Administration to really look into some of the rip-offs that are taking place, I think you would get a different response from corporations, from businesses that are saying 'the public be damned,' " he said.

"That intent is not now clear. There is a muddled, confused and inept Administration policy."

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview, McManus said the Price Watch program has drawn the cooperation and participation of organizations that have no connection with the labor movement. He said that under the Administration's guidelines program "there is no place for people to go at the federal level to complain" and that the AFL-CIO program gives them a chance to take part in the only nationwide effort to try to assure compliance with the guidelines.

McManus said that his department has been sending complaints that it receives from consumers to Chairman Alfred Kahn of the Council on Wage & Price Stability.

"This Administration has provided no outlet whatsoever for the consumer to register a complaint," he said. "So people write us."

The letters of complaint come from all over the nation, and cite specific examples, he noted. "We get some replies, but they are not satisfactory, because there is really no program," he said.

The federation's long-standing position is that mandatory controls that apply to all forms of prices and income would be the only fair, equitable and effective way to fight inflation, McManus stressed. It is unfair and unrealistic, he said, to expect a union contract to be held at some fixed percentage "when the same corporation that is a party to that collective bargaining agreement has no controls whatsoever on its profits."

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

AMERICA IS GETTING OLDER. Today, 75 percent of the population reaches age 65, while only 40 percent could expect to attain that age at the turn of the century.

People in the age-55-and-over population will increase more than 19 percent between 1980 and the year 2000. The fastest growing group within that category will be people age 80 and above. Their numbers will increase from 5.1 million in 1980 to nearly 8 million by the year 2000—a rise of about 60 percent.

While the number of older Americans are growing, prevailing attitudes toward and prejudices about aging and the aged threaten to waste valuable human resources.

A recent report by the Academy for Educational Development presents a much-needed perspective on the topic of aging in America. "Older Americans—An Untapped Resource" was recently issued by AED's National Committee on Careers for Older Americans, a panel chaired by Arthur Flemming. The 74-year-old Flemming is a former Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare and now chairs the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

The AED panel points to common misconceptions or assumptions about older people that tend to discourage their taking a more active role in society.

Many people tend to think of senior citizens as mentally and/or physically impaired, with little or nothing to contribute—a liability to an employer and a burden to the community at large. And older people often are viewed as being set in their ways—after all, "you can't teach an old dog new tricks."

However, the report stresses that today people not only live longer, but they can expect to retain their physical vigor and mental health longer. It states that "while older people differ in capacities, most are in good to excellent health and are mentally alert."

Most older Americans have the capability of learning new things, says the panel. In terms of education, steadily growing numbers of older Americans have a high school, college or post-graduate education. As a group, they represent a large pool of skills and accumulated experience that too often is ignored.

The report calls attention to a 1974 Louis Harris survey indicating that many of these able older citizens are anxious to use their knowledge and skills. The poll found that:

- Of people over age 65 and not working in any capacity, 2.2 million feel they have specific skills which no one will give them a chance to use.
- Some 3 million are interested in learning new skills and 4 million would like to work and be paid for it.
- Meanwhile, 4.5 million people over age 65 are working as volunteers and another 2.1 million would like to do volunteer work but have not done so.

JACOB CLAYMAN, retiring president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., stressed that, ideally, people should have the opportunity to continue working if they so choose just as they should have the option to retire in some degree of comfort.

Clayman, a panel member, noted that in time of high unemployment, "it's very difficult to restructure the workforce" to expand job opportunities for older people.

Stressing volunteer activity as "the most fruitful area of serious research and education," he noted that the labor movement has been in the forefront of attempts to get retired older people involved in political and social programs.

"The work ethic is deeply imbedded in the American system and it does not die when the person retires," said Clayman. "As best we can, knowing it will be difficult in some ways, we need to pursue and satisfy that need of older persons."

The "graying of America" will continue. It will be a challenge to the major institutions in this society to eradicate age discrimination. And it will test American ingenuity to put the talent and experience of older citizens to work on needed tasks.



PRICE RISES have moderated on a number of key food items that are checked regularly by AFL-CIO Price Watch volunteers, John McManus, center, reported on Labor News Conference. McManus, assistant director of the federation's Dept. of Community Services, was interviewed by Drew Von Bergen, left, of United Press International and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. The public affairs program is broadcast weekly on the Mutual radio network.

Rollcall on Disability Insurance Limit

The House voted 235–162 for a labor-opposed bill to limit benefits under the Social Security Disability Insurance program for workers who become totally disabled in the future.

As the AFL-CIO sees it, 127 Democrats and 108 Republicans cast wrong votes (W) for the bill. The 126 Democrats and 36 Republicans who opposed it were right (R).

Numerals show congressional districts. Other symbols: PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) A
3. Nichols (D) W
4. Bevill (D) W
5. Flippo (D) W
6. Buchanan (R) R
7. Shelby (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) A

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Stump (D) W
4. Rudd (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) W
2. Bethune (R) R
3. Hammerschmidt (R) R
4. Anthony (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) A
3. Matsui (D) R
4. Fazio (D) W
5. Burton, John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) A
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) A
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Royer (R) W
12. McCloskey (R) W
13. Mineta (D) R
14. Shumway (R) W
15. Coelho (D) W
16. Panetta (D) W
17. Pashayan (R) R
18. Thomas (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) W
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) R
22. Moorhead (R) R
23. Beilenson (D) W
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) A
26. Rousselot (R) A
27. Dornan (R) R
28. Dixon (D) R
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D) R
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Grisham (R) W
34. Lungren (R) W
35. Lloyd (D) W
36. Brown (D) A
37. Lewis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) A
39. Dannemeyer (R) W
40. Badham (R) R
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) R

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) W
3. Kogovsek (D) R
4. Johnson (R) W
5. Kramer (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) A
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) W
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Ratchford (D) R
6. Moffett (D) A

DELAWARE
AL Evans (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Hutto (D) R
2. Fuqua (D) A
3. Bennett (D) W
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) R
7. Gibbons (D) W
8. Ireland (D) W
9. Nelson (D) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Mica (D) R
12. Stack (D) R
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) W

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Fowler (D) W
6. Gingrich (R) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Evans (D) W
9. Jenkins (D) W
10. Barnard (D) A

HAWAII
1. Heftel (D) W
2. Akaka (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) A
2. Hansen (R) A

ILLINOIS
1. Stewart (D) R
2. Murphy (D) PW
3. Russo (D) W
4. Derwinski (R) R
5. Fary (D) R
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) R
8. Rostenkowski (D) W
9. Yates (D) R
10. Mikva (D) W
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane, Philip (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Corcoran (R) W
16. Anderson (R) W
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) W
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) W
22. Crane, Dan (R) W
23. Price (D) W
24. Simon (D) W

INDIANA
1. Benjamin (D) W
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Quayle (R) W
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) W
7. Myers (R) R
8. Deckard (R) R
9. Hamilton (D) W
10. Sharp (D) W
11. Jacobs (D) W

IOWA
1. Leach (R) W
2. Tauke (R) W
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) A
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) W

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Jeffries (R) W
3. Winn (R) W
4. Glickman (D) W
5. Whittaker (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) W
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) W
4. Snyder (R) R
5. Carter (R) PR
6. Hopkins (R) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Livingston (R) PW
2. Boggs (D) R
3. Treen (R) A
4. Leach (D) W
5. Huckaby (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) W
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) W
2. Snowe (R) W

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Mikulski (D) R
4. Holt (R) A
5. Spellman (D) A
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) PR
8. Barnes (D) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) W
3. Early (D) W
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Shannon (D) W
6. Mavroules (D) R
7. Markey (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) Speaker
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Donnelly (D) W
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) A
2. Pursell (R) W
3. Wolpe (D) R
4. Stockman (R) W
5. Sawyer (R) W
6. Carr (D) R
7. Kildee (D) R
8. Traxler (D) R
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Albosta (D) W
11. Davis (R) W
12. Bonior (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) W
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Erdahl (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Vento (D) R
5. Sabo (D) W
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Stangeland (R) W
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) R
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Hinson (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Young (D) A
3. Gephardt (D) W
4. Skelton (D) W
5. Bolling (D) W
6. Coleman (R) W
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Volkmer (D) W
10. Burlison (D) W

MONTANA
1. Williams (D) W
2. Marlenee (R) R

NEBRASKA
1. Bereuter (R) W
2. Cavanaugh (D) R
3. Smith (R) R

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) A

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) W
2. Hughes (D) W
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) W
5. Fenwick (R) W
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Hollenbeck (R) R
10. Rodino (D) R
11. Minish (D) R
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Courter (R) W
14. Guarini (D) R
15. Patten (D) R

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) R
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Carney (R) W
2. Downey (D) W
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) R
9. Ferraro (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) R
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) W
18. Green (R) W
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Weiss (D) R
21. Garcia (D) R
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (D) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) W
28. Stratton (D) W
29. Solomon (R) W
30. McEwen (R) A
31. Michell (R) R
32. Hanley (D) W
33. Lee (R) W
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) W
36. LaFalce (D) W
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Lundine (D) W

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Whitley (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) W
6. Preyer (D) W
7. Rose (D) W
8. Hefner (D) W
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Gudger (D) W

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Luken (D) W
3. Hall (D) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) R
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) W
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Pease (D) W
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) R
16. Regula (R) W
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Applegate (D) R
19. Williams (R) PW
20. Oakar (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Synar (D) W
3. Watkins (D) W
4. Steed (D) W
5. Edwards (R) W
6. English (D) W

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) W
2. Ullman (D) W
3. Duncan (D) W
4. Weaver (D) A

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Myers (D) R
2. Gray (D) R
3. Lederer (D) R
4. Dougherty (R) R
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Kostmayer (D) R
9. Shuster (R) W
10. McDade (R) R
11. Flood (D) A
12. Murtha (D) A
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) W
15. Ritter (R) W
16. Walker (R) R
17. Ertel (D) W
18. Walgren (D) W
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Bailey (D) R
22. Murphy (D) W
23. Clinger (R) PR
24. Marks (R) R
25. Atkinson (D) R

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) A
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) R
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) W
4. Campbell (R) A
5. Holland (D) A
6. Jenrette (D) W

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Daschle (D) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) R
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Bouquard (D) W
4. Gore (D) W
5. Boner (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) W
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Hall (D) W
2. Wilson (D) W
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) A
5. Mattox (D) W
6. Gramm (D) R
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) W
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Leath (D) W
12. Wright (D) W
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Wyatt (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Stenholm (D) W
18. Leland (D) R
19. Hance (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) R
21. Loeffler (R) W
22. Paul (R) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Frost (D) R

UTAH
1. McKay (D) R
2. Marriott (R) R

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Trible (R) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) R
10. Fisher (D) W

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) W
2. Swift (D) W
3. Bonker (D) W
4. McCormack (D) W
5. Foley (D) W
6. Dicks (D) W
7. Lowry (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) R
4. Rahall (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) W
2. Kastenmeier (D) A
3. Baldus (D) W
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Petri (R) W
7. Obey (D) R
8. Roth (R) W
9. Sensenbrenner (R) W

WYOMING
AL Cheney (R) W

To Counter Right-Wing Foes:

Painters Vote Funds To Spur Organizing

By Rex Hardesty

Chicago—A call to fight back against labor's enemies with a vigorous effort in organizing—and increased funding to pay for it—highlighted the opening of the 24th convention of the Painters.

President S. Frank Raftery reported to the convention that the union had assisted its local unions and district councils with almost $1 million in funds for organizing drives in the five years since the last convention. To continue that initiative, the convention voted a two-step increase in per capita payments to the international and, in a separate action, allocated 49 percent of all Painters' revenue to organizing.

The current per capita payment of $3.75 will be increased to $4.75 next Jan. 1, with another $1 increase two years later, or $5.75 on Jan. 1, 1982. The convention also voted a minimum dues structure of $7 for most units and a minimum initiation fee.

Raftery sounded a theme of meeting the "hardened attitude of management" in a series of battles over the "right-to-work" initiative in Missouri, attempts to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act, and the 1977-78 fight for labor law reform.

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, and Robert A. Georgine, president of the Building & Construction Trades Dept. spoke in similar terms. Kistler emphasized the need for continuing use of such weapons as strikes, boycotts and legislative-political action.

Georgine pointed out that labor starts about 10 years behind, since it was 1969 when U.S. Steel President Roger Blough and the Business Roundtable charted the fight against worker protection laws that has shown up in the attempt to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act.

Raftery reported to the convention on a union that "has struggled mightily to hold its own" at around 200,000 members and said no working person would much regret seeing the end of the 1970s, a decade of intermittent recession and constantly high interest rates.

"We thought we won the 1976 elections," Raftery said, "and thought we had occupants in the White House and Congress who would rally beside us. But today we have no proof that we won."

He cited as major disappointments the nation's lack of a cohesive energy policy, still no adequate response on national health insurance and the continuation of "discredited, illegal wage controls coupled with the highest interest rates in history." The convention voted to increase its political education funds in its Political Action Together (PAT) program to 10 cents per member per month and urged widespread dues checkoff of voluntary political contributions, with a recommended one cent per hour worked.

Within the union, Raftery reported that the number of Painters already trained under its job safety program has now reached 8,000 "and we will never hold back in our commitment to make health and safety the top priority of our entire membership."

The numerous crafts within the union's jurisdiction—including paintmakers, floorcoverers, glaziers and sign painters—and their changing technologies make it particularly critical to attain union goals in both job safety and organizing, Raftery said. He credited much of the union's retention of membership to continued emphasis on national maintenance agreements, which provide community employers a ready workforce on an as-needed basis.

Another convention speaker, AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. President William H. McClennan, traced the similarities between an employer like J. P. Stevens and an open shop contractor. True to the axiom that "there's a sucker born every minute," McClennan said, "a lot of management consultants have taken over the principle and gotten rich applying it to anti-union employers who will pay thousands of dollars to consultants to avoid a 2-cent-an-hour wage increase."

The proliferation of union-busting consultants, McClennan said, is common to both the public and the private sector.'

L.A. County Coalition Wins Gains for 67,000

Los Angeles—A coalition of public employee unions won across-the-board wage increases totaling 15 percent in a new agreement covering 67,000 Los Angeles County workers.

The contracts, retroactive to July 1, were approved by substantial margins by union members in the 50 bargaining units employed by the county.

The economic package provides for a 6 percent wage increase dating back to July 1, 2 percent next Jan. 1, and 7 percent more on the first anniversary of the contracts.

The county has also agreed to pay 2.5 percent more in each of the two years to the employees' retirement program, provide dental plan coverage for workers' dependents and increased gasoline allowances.

Unions involved in the coalition include various bargaining units of the Service Employees, State, County & Municipal Employees, Operating Engineers, Fire Fighters and the California Association of Professional Employees, a unit of the Marine Engineers. Also participating in the negotiations was an unaffiliated unit representing county sheriffs's deputies.

The union coalition pointed out that the agreement provides substantially more than the "final offer" of a 2 percent wage boost that county management had laid out earlier in the bargaining. That hard-line position by management caused the unions to set an Aug. 1 strike deadline.

But a deadlock was broken, the coalition noted, through the efforts of Los Angeles County AFL-CIO Executive Sec. William Robertson and three key members of the county's board of supervisors—Chairman Kenneth Hahn and members Ed Edelman and Yvonne Burke.

The agreements also provide for a maintenance - of - membership clause to improve union security.



JOBS OF 2,650 WORKERS would be wiped out if the Federal Trade Commission goes through with a plan to break up three major breakfast cereal companies, President Robert R. Harbrant of the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. warned a special House hearing on Capitol Hill. Also addressing the hearing chaired by Rep. Howard Wolpe (D-Mich.) was Executive Vice President Robert Willis, second from left, of the Grain Millers.

Antitrust Order Termed Threat To 2,650 Cereal Industry Jobs

The American Federation of Grain Millers charged that 2,650 jobs would be wiped out and existing union contracts negated under a proposed Federal Trade Commission divestiture plan against three major breakfast cereal companies.

In attempting to break up various plant operations of Kellogg Co., General Mills, Inc., and General Foods Corp., the FTC showed "complete disregard and lack of concern for the welfare of employees who will lose their jobs" if the shortsighted antitrust remedy is carried out, the union charged.

After being denied an opportunity to intervene in the FTC action, the Grain Millers brought their case to Washington by picketing the commission headquarters and airing their case at a special hearing on Capitol Hill.

Under the FTC proposal, five new firms would be created by a reorganization of the three corporations—three from Kellogg's assets, one from General Mills' assets and one from General Foods' assets.

The FTC action would affect five plants around the country whose employees are represented by the union.

A joint statement issued by the Grain Millers and the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. warned that the new companies created under the FTC proposal would be under no obligation to rehire present employees. Furthermore, if one of the new firms decided to rehire less than 50 percent of its present workforce, there would be no obligation to recognize the union as the bargaining agent.

The statement pointed out that the union is not protesting the authority of the FTC to take legitimate antitrust action against the cereal companies, but it is opposed to the commission's involvement in an area where it has no jurisdiction—the National Labor Relations Act.

According to an independent impact study on the workforces at the three major firms, the Grain Millers said that some 2,650 workers would lose their jobs, including 1,400 at Kellogg, 650 at General Mills and 600 at General Foods.

The union pointed out that workers of Federal Glass Co. in Columbus, Ohio, lost their jobs under earlier FTC action "of promoting competition." There, the union noted, "a factory that employed 1,500 people has been shut down and many of these employees are drawing welfare today."

Yet in rejecting the union's motion to intervene in the FTC cereal firm divestiture action, the commission said that "these cases make it clear that employees have no overriding right to perpetual employment on the same or any other terms" and that questions raised by the union were "wholly irrelevant."

Addressing a House hearing chaired by Rep. Howard Wolpe (D-Mich.), President Robert F. Harbrant of the Food & Beverage Trades Dept. said that FTC's Bureau of Competition has shown a total lack of concern for the livelihood of 2,650 workers who would be affected by the commission's action.

He said the bureau's failure to conduct a job-loss impact study in the case is a sin of ommission that "is unforgivable, unthinkable and unbelievable."

Steelworkers to Press Safety as Political Issue

Continuing attempts in Congress to gut occupational safety and health programs must be repelled with all the "political clout" that the Steelworkers can muster, USWA President Lloyd McBride told 1,500 delegates to the union's fifth annual safety conference in Washington.

He noted that the Occupational Safety & Health Administration and the Mine Safety & Health Administration—two key instruments for improving conditions for USWA members—have come under "brutal and relentless attack" by certain factions in Congress and that some "real erosion" has taken place.

He cited in particular House and Senate action giving employers with 10 or fewer workers and those with 10 or fewer workers in establishments with an injury incidence rate of less than seven per 100 employees an exemption from OSHA inspections.

McBride also noted that Congress voted to eliminate the MSHA standard requiring mine operators to provide a 40-hour training program for sand, gravel and stone miners.

To reverse this erosion, McBride called on the delegates during their visits with senators and congressmen to make the USWA's position clear: "We will not tolerate any backing away from the concept of a safe and healthy workplace in America."

McBride also renewed the USWA's call for a comprehensive OSHA standard giving workers who deal with toxic chemicals the right to know exactly what hazards they face.

"This," he stressed, "is a top priority for us."

Another key objective of the USWA, McBride noted, is enactment of mandatory standards for benefits on occupational disease under a federal workers' compensation act.

House Approves Postal Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

public interest role of the postal service, was pegged at $920 million a year by the 1970 law and is scheduled to drop by 10 percent for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, and 10 percent a year additional through Fiscal 1984.

The House-passed bill would raise the subsidy to $1.1 billion for the 1980 fiscal year and to $1.3 billion by Fiscal 1982.

An amendment proposed by Rep. James A. Courter (R-N.J.) would have kept the subsidy at the present $920 million level, without a further increase. It was rejected, 242-145.

The bill would abolish the Board of Governors, which now appoints the postmaster general, and would give the Postal Rate Commission final authority over rates and mail classifications.

House Post Office & Civil Service Committee Chairman James M. Hanley (D-N.Y.) said the legislation "represents a commitment to maintain a national postal system with convenient local post offices, six-day home mail delivery and reasonable rates."

'Thorough Overhaul' Asked:

Standards Pressed For Jobless Benefits

New York—Ladies' Garment Workers President Sol C. Chaikin and other union witnesses urged a national commission to press for federal unemployment compensation standards that would make the system more effective and more equitable.

Despite the system's shortcomings, Chaikin stressed, unemployment benefits have sustained buying power and kept recessions from tipping into devastating depressions. But after 40 years, he said, the "peculiar" federal-state unemployment compensation system is overdue for "a thorough overhauling."

The New York hearings were part of a series being held by the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation, which is headed by former Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Wilbur J. Cohen.

Raymond R. Corbett, president of the New York State AFL-CIO, told the panel that his state's program is both inadequate and "on the brink of insolvency" because of the law's low tax rate and the experience rating system that exempts many employers from a substantial part of the cost.

Chaikin, whose testimony covered labor's principal proposals for improvements in the program, said there never was any valid reason for separate unemployment compensation laws in each of the 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

The disparities in benefits, eligibility and tax obligations, he said, "foster unhealthy competition between states, hinder the development of more adequate benefits for workers and create entirely unnecessary confusion."

Until the program is fully federalized, Chaikin urged, Congress should enact a "comprehensive set of federal minimum standards for the states to follow."

The wage base on which employers pay unemployment insurance taxes is now an inadequate $6,000, and should be raised in stages to the social security wage base, Chaikin urged. That currently is wages up to $22,900 a year.

As for experience ratings that vary the effective tax according to the employment stability record of each employer, they serve no valid purpose and add to inequities, Chaikin said.

He reiterated labor's position that states should be required to pay benefits equal to two-thirds of the individual's lost wages, with a maximum benefit equal to three-fourths of the average wage in the state. He also urged that dependent benefits, now given in 11 states, be made a federal standard.

On benefit duration, Chaikin urged a standard of 26 weeks of entitlement for any worker who qualifies for benefits, with extended benefits triggered by local as well as state or national unemployment levels. The one-week waiting period before benefits are paid should be eliminated, he urged.

Chaikin endorsed an interim recommendation by the commission for repeal of a scheduled requirement that unemployment benefits be reduced by the amount of any pension received.

A person who is involuntarily retired, he said, shouldn't be further penalized. Likewise, he said, states should no longer be allowed to reduce benefits by the amount of severance or dismissal pay given a worker. And unemployment insurance payments should be fully tax-exempt, he urged.

AFL-CIO Economist John L. Zalusky and other witnesses expressed concern at the hearings at suggestions that have been made for compulsory work-sharing, coupled with some form of partial compensation for short time.

The problems of developing a fair and adequately compensated system are substantial, Zalusky stressed, and "contain the prospect of dividing older workers with seniority rights against the younger, minority and women members of the workforce."

The commission also heard from officials of Actors' Equity and the Screen Actors Guild on the special problems performers face with the diverse and often inadequate qualifications and benefit standards of the various states.



SALT II RATIFICATION is supported by the AFL-CIO provided the Senate stipulate that parity must exist during the term of the arms control treaty and that the U.S. and USSR move toward genuine reduction of nuclear arms in a successor treaty, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Seated with him are AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young and Tom Kahn, assistant to President George Meany.

Lower Tariffs Opposed For Freight Cars

A proposal to suspend the tariff on imports of railroad freight cars would cost the United States needed jobs in a time of recession and thwart the development of an important industry, the AFL-CIO testified at House hearings.

AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Ray Denison joined with representatives of railroad unions in protesting a bill that would waive the freight car tariff until mid-1981.

Denison rejected the argument that the tariff should be lifted because of a shortage of railroad cars. The existing 18 percent tariff has not prevented imports from rising, Denison noted. But in fact, he said, the United States already has underutilized railroad repair facilities that have the potential for freight car production.

If U.S. facilities are allowed to deteriorate, Denison warned, a temporary suspension of the tariff would almost certainly become permanent, and in a time of recession the United States would be abandoning both jobs and production.

Denison noted that the tariff on freight cars was not reduced in the recent round of multilateral trade negotiations between the United States and its trading partners. Therefore, the United States would be putting into effect a unilateral tariff cut without any reciprocity "for an emergency that does not exist."

Joining in the testimony before a House Ways & Means were unions represented by the Railway Labor Executives Associations.

Arms Parity, Security Tied to SALT Support

(Continued from Page 1)

tions in nuclear weapons could be achieved under any future strategic arms agreement.

In its resolution of advice and consent to the ratification of SALT II, Kirkland observed, the Senate should stipulate that "parity requires that we continue to modernize and develop our forces" and, further, "that we shall not continue to pursue the beguiling phantom of a process that produces nothing of consequence but dangerous illusions."

Asked whether the reported presence of Soviet combat troops in Cuba should be linked in any way with the SALT debate, Kirkland said that the stationing of the Russian soldiers calls into question two important considerations of arms control negotiations with the USSR.

"That is the question of intentions and the question of our prudence in relying on their observance of any agreements that we make. There are abundant reasons in recent history to have those questions in our minds," he said.

"I suspect that the existence of those questions has far more to do with what misgivings there may be in the public mind about arms control negotiations than anything else—any appraisal of the particular balance of forces in the treaty, the general suspicion and lack of confidence in the Soviet Union as a negotiating partner.

"But I still believe that it (SALT II) should be tested and explored to its limits," Kirkland added.

Regarding U.S. capabilities to monitor the treaty, Kirkland said he tended to agree with the Administration that existing verification techniques probably are adequate.

"I've been generally impressed with our ability to monitor," he said. "I believe that during the term of the treaty the levels permitted are so staggering in real weaponry—warheads, particularly—that a modest infraction is of no great consequence.

"To cheat and produce another 100 or 150 warheads, when you are up to the 9,000 or 10,000 level, those are not earth-shaking consequences as affecting the real utility of these forces." As the number of weapons and launchers allowed is lowered under future agreements, however, the issue of verification increases in importance, he said.

Senate Votes To Ease Entry Of Refugees

The Senate unanimously passed and sent to the House a labor-supported bill that will ease the admission of refugees into the United States and grant them the same permanent residence rights accorded other immigrants.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged the House Judiciary Committee to clear the measure for early action by the House. The AFL-CIO considers it "humanitarian legislation of great importance," Young wrote Committee Chairman Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (D-N.J.).

Fears that it would lead to an "unmanageable number of refugees" are unwarranted, Young said.

While the legislation would raise the ceiling on refugees from 17,400 to 50,000 a year, "this does not represent an actual increase" over recent years, Young noted. The United States has regularly lifted its quota in emergency situations, such as the plight of the Indochinese refugees. Further, the legislation provides for consultation with Congress on admission of refugees in emergency situations.

"The American labor movement has a deep and abiding commitment to aid refugees from discrimination and oppression," Young wrote.

Study Finds Unions Spur Increase in Productivity

A paper issued by the National Bureau of Economic Research suggests that unionization of a workplace leads to "relatively robust" productivity increases in the operation of the enterprise.

Prepared by Kim B. Clark of the Harvard Business School, the paper examines the effect of unions on productivity using data from the U.S. cement industry. The results indicate that unionized establishments are 6 to 8 percent more productive than their non-union counterparts.

The study involved plants operating under a collective bargaining agreement between the Cement Employers Association and the Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers.

"For managers, the introduction of a trade union affects the viability of previous methods and procedures," the paper observes. "In the face of a rise in the price of labor, and union interest in the production process, management has an incentive to increase the effort obtained from a given level of labor input, and to address aspects of the production process which may have been neglected.

"The upshot is that collective bargaining may encourage management to take steps to improve productivity."

AFL-CIO Convention Call Cites Tasks Facing Labor

Delegates to the AFL-CIO's 13th constitutional convention will be called on to deal with "grave and pressing problems" that face the labor movement and the nation, President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said.

The official AFL-CIO convention call cited continuing double-digit inflation and rising unemployment as the recession worsens.

It noted the sparse record of Congress on labor's legislative agenda—the inaction on energy measures, tax justice, job creation, labor law reform, health care legislation and Hatch Act changes.

"Corporate America and its right-wing allies continue an unrelenting attack on the labor movement" and on all social progress, Meany and Kirkland warned. They summoned delegates to chart programs "that will best serve our movement and the nation."

Approximately 1,200 delegates representing 13.6 million workers are expected at the convention, which opens Nov. 15 at the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C.

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IUD Mobilized to Counter Right-Wing Foes of Labor

New Clamp On Credit Splits 'Fed'

Businesses and consumers can expect to pay more to borrow money or buy goods and services following the Federal Reserve Board's split decision to raise its key discount rate.

The central bank approved, by an unusual 4 to 3 vote, an increase from 10.5 percent to a record 11 percent in the interest rate it charges member banks when they borrow from the federal government. The boost, aimed at tightening credit by making money scarcer, is almost certain to produce higher short-term interest rates as well as higher prices.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said the Fed's latest escalation in the discount rate indicates a "disregard for the perils of the recession that has already begun.

"Unemployment has started to rise, and the goods-producing industries—mining, construction, and manufacturing — have turned down," he observed.

"It's time to relax the monetary screws on the economy, not further tighten them. Rather than pushing the economy into a deeper recession, the FRB should adopt policies to pull the economy out of the growing recession."

Earlier this month, the Labor Dept. announced a sizable three-tenths of 1 percent increase to 6 percent in the nation's jobless rate. Another recessionary sign surfaced this week in a Commerce Dept. report showing that personal income increased only $8.4 billion in August as industrial layoffs trimmed payrolls. Wages and salaries in manufacturing industries fell $1.7 billion.

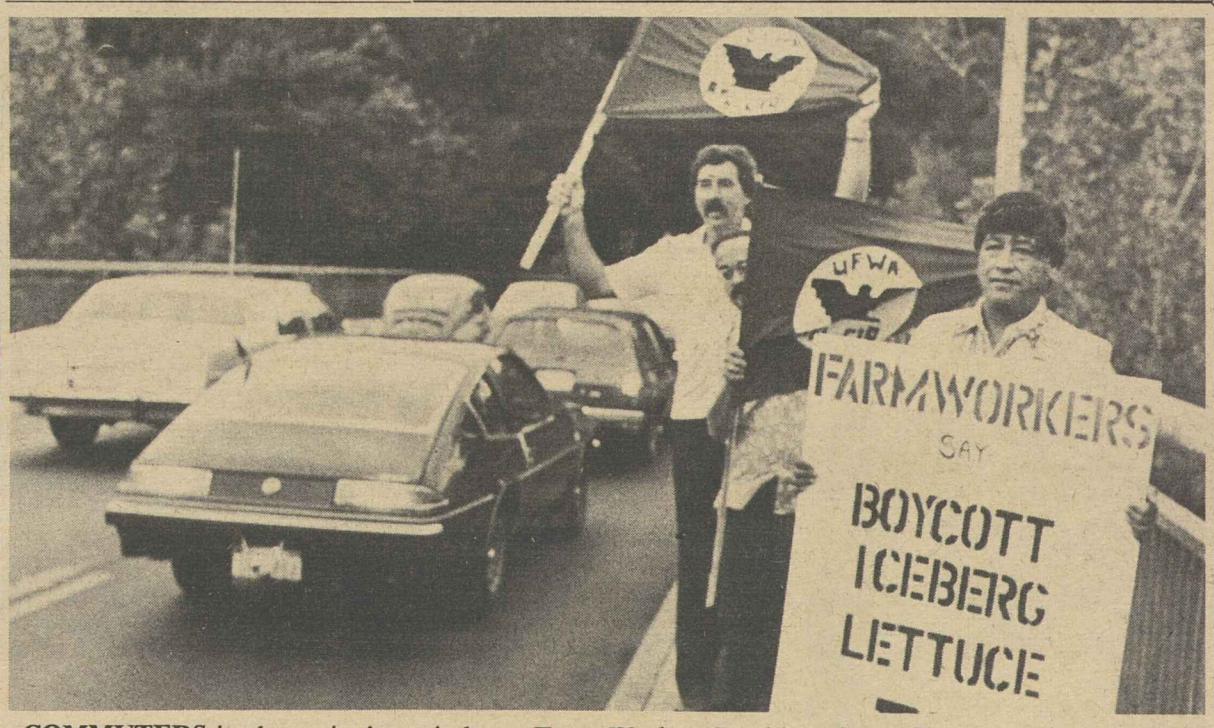
The boost in the discount rate took effect immediately. It is the second rise in the rate since FRB Chairman Paul Volcker joined the board early last month. The Fed lifted the rate to 10.5 percent from 10 percent on Aug. 18. The rate has almost doubled over the past two years.

Even before the Fed hyped the rate a second time, commercial banks across the country were moving to raise the cost of money.

Within 48 hours after the central bank raised the discount rate to 11 percent, two leading New York banks, Chase Manhattan and Chemical, increased their prime, or minimum, interest rates on business loans to 13.25 percent.

Analysts said that other major

(Continued on Page 8)



COMMUTERS in the nation's capital saw Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez, at right, leading a UFW "billboard" campaign to gain consumer support for the boycott of non-union iceberg lettuce. UFW teams were at four bridges that link Washington, D.C., and its Virginia suburbs.

Convention Picks New Leadership

By Saul Miller

San Francisco — The AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. will move into the 1980s with new leadership and a commitment to overcome the problems that dominated the "disappointing decade of the 1970s."

Its outgoing president, Jacob Clayman, a veteran of the labor struggles of the past 40 years, warned that one key to the 1980s is whether the "responsible leaders of American business" will speak out for good-faith collective bargaining. "Their failure to do so," Clayman said in his report to the IUD's 13th convention, "inevitably suggests at worst an active participation, and at best a passive tolerance in an effort to weaken or even destroy the American labor movement."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland reinforced the warning in a speech to the convention stressing that the many-faceted attack on the trade union movement is aimed at the "place of workers in society" and democracy itself.

The campaign initiated against the labor law reform bill has fueled the attack on Davis-Bacon prevailing wage laws, the drive to spread "right-to-work" laws, the union-busting tactics in the public sector, the rise of the "new-style professional strikebreakers" called management consultants and the unrelenting opposition to occupational health and safety laws, Kirkland said.

He pledged a "unified, persistent, determined effort" by the labor movement to fight for its programs, to strengthen the movement "in all its parts" and to turn back the attacks.

(Continued on Page 3)

Cotton Garment Pact:

75,000 Win Gains In Clothing Accord

New York—Some 75,000 members of the Clothing & Textile Workers have ratified a new three-year agreement with cotton garment manufacturers that provides substantial wage increases plus vital guarantees protecting health and pension benefits.

ACTWU President Murray H. Finley and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman, who served as the union's chief negotiators, described the settlement as an "outstanding" contract. Wages over the term of the agreement will increase by 90 cents an hour, while the overall increase in wages and fringe benefits was estimated at 33 percent.

The new contract also calls for increased employer contributions to health and welfare funds beginning this year. The combined insurance and pension package will be increased from the present 12.5 percent contribution to 17.75 percent by the end of the agreement.

"We have no way of knowing what lies ahead," Finley said, "but I think we've won the increases and protection we need to face the problems and uncertainties of the next three years."

Besides a general wage increase, workers will receive cost-of-living adjustments if the consumer price index rises above 8.8 percent between June 1979 and June 1980. The adjustment will be 4.35 cents for each 1 percent in the CPI over 8.8 percent, with a maximum of 10 cents an hour.

For the June 1980-June 1981 period, the adjustment will be 4.65 cents for each 1 percent rise in the CPI over 6.9 percent. The "cap" again is 10 percent.

"With the wage increase, cost-of-living, and insurance and pension protection, our members have greater protection against inflation than ever before," Sheinkman said.

ACTWU negotiators scored an important breakthrough in winning a fourth week of vacation for workers with 20 years of service beginning in 1982. A 10th paid holiday also was negotiated, effective in 1981.

(Continued on Page 2)

Budget Issues Tie Up Action By Congress

Congress continued to struggle with legislation setting binding budget ceilings for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, with key decisions still to be made on whether needed funds will be available to combat an economic downturn and rising unemployment.

Both the House and Senate defeated Republican proposals to couple more than $20 billion in tax cuts with massive reductions in domestic spending to offset most of the added deficit. But on other issues, the two bodies of Congress went off in different directions.

The Senate voted, 78-19, for a multibillion-dollar increase in military spending for the coming fiscal year. By a closer 55-42 margin, it made a non-binding commitment for even larger increases in each of the next two years.

(Continued on Page 8)

Back-to-Work Order Issued in Rail Dispute

President Carter named an energy board to intervene in the strike against the Rock Island Railroad, a major carrier of midwestern grain shipments. The move touched off processes under the Railway Labor Act that would require members of two striking unions to return to work for 60 days.

Some 1,800 members of the Railway & Airline Clerks and 2,500 members of the United Transportation Union are affected by the order. The unions had been trying to win retroactivity from Rock Island in line with agreements reached with other major carriers last year.

In announcing the appointment of a presidential fact-finding board —and the accompanying 60-day back-to-work order—Carter cited "a severe economic impact on farmers" and said he acted "because the normal process of bargaining has broken down."

When BRAC struck Aug. 28, President Fred J. Kroll pointed out that the Rock Island had already been granted the 7 percent rate increase that other carriers were given after they signed a new contract. The Rock Island has been undergoing reorganization under federal bankruptcy law, but Kroll stressed that the line "is perfectly able to meet its financial obligations" because of a recent $57 million property sale in addition to the rate increase "which Rock Island chose to pocket as extra income."

The UTU members struck a day later because they, too, have been denied the retroactivity, although they did receive a pay increase when the last contracts were negotiated with the carrier.

Grain Strikers Reach Accords with 4 Firms

Minneapolis—Settlement of the 11 week-old strike of Grain Millers against eight terminal elevator companies in the twin ports of Duluth and Superior was expected as tentative agreements were reached with half of them.

The first breakthrough came when Local 118 reached an agreement with the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association (GTA) the largest of the firms, that set the pattern for the others.

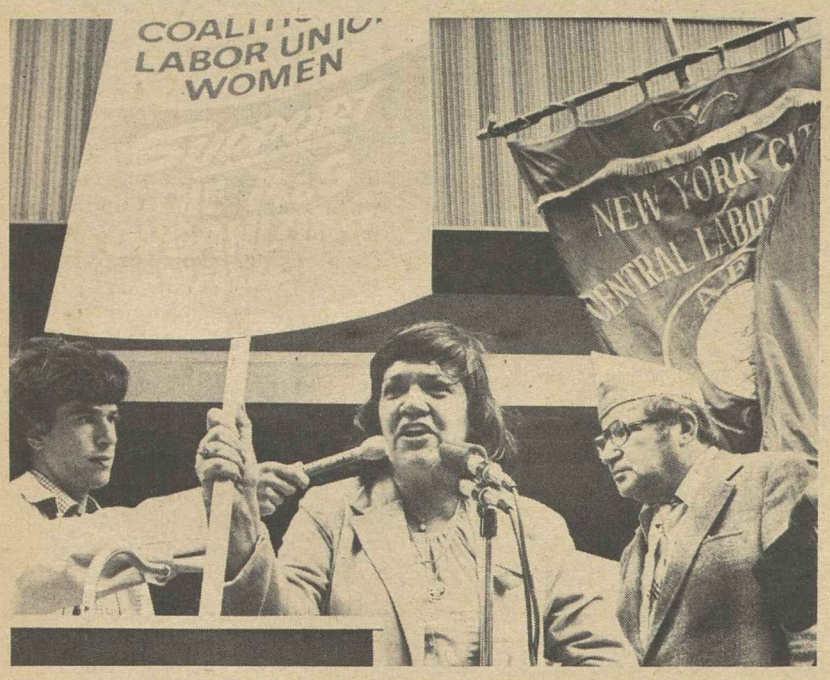
Then, 15 continuous hours of bargaining resulted in another tentative settlement Sept. 19 with Cargill, Inc. That was followed by announcements of acceptance by ConAgra and Continental Grain.

After a break of only six hours, negotiations got under way again, this time with Archer Daniel Midland, which was expected to result in a similar agreement. The bargaining was taking place with the assistance of federal mediators.

The other companies involved are General Mills, International Multifood Corp., and Peavey.

(Continued on Page 3)





DELEGATES to the Coalition of Labor Union Women's convention join in rally to support an organizing campaign for employees of the Abraham & Straus department stores in Brooklyn by the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union. As workers from the store expressed their appreciation for CLUW backing in the drive, representatives of the coalition pledged their solidarity with the cause. Addressing the rally is CLUW President Joyce Miller, with President Bill Michaelson of RWDSU's United Storeworkers Local at her right.

Through Labor's Strength:

Union Women Press Job Equality Goals

New York—"Women will not achieve equality in the workplace without the collective strength of unions behind them," declared President Joyce D. Miller in her keynote address to the biennial convention of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

The two-day convention and the workshops that preceded it drew more than 1,100 delegates, alternates and observers from every major union plus 60 visitors from all parts of the world. Workshop issues ranged from equal pay for work of equal value to health hazards in the workplace.

Miller, who is a vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, pointed out that despite recent gains "we still have a long way to go to achieve our goals." Only six million out of 40 million women in the workplace are covered by collective bargaining agreements, she stressed.

Urging a renewed commitment to unorganized workers, Miller praised CLUW members for participating in a rally the previous day to support an organizing drive by the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union at the Abraham & Straus department store in Brooklyn.

"Of the 4,000 workers in that store, more than 80 percent are women," she said. "A&S employees earn $20-to-$30 less a week than their organized counterparts at other stores in the New York area. They need the benefits and protection that a union card can bring.

"Women today," she noted, "still earn only 57 percent of what men earn. Women are segregated into low-paying stereotyped jobs and cannot escape the wage ghetto imposed by both economic forces and long-standing patterns of discrimination."

Describing the issue of equal pay for work of equal value as a "Catch 22 situation," Miller said that "first, women are denied better-paying jobs: second, after being assigned to traditionally female jobs, women are paid less than men performing jobs that require no greater skill, effort and responsibility.

"We believe that correcting discrimination in wage rates will have a major constructive impact on the economic well-being of all workers, men and women alike."

Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, expressed the federation's continuing support for CLUW's work. "Your central concerns," he said, "are shared by the entire labor movement."

Praising CLUW's approach to the challenges facing workers, he said, "We need to make our unions bigger, more effective, more militant and more dynamic. We need to make union members out of dues payers."

Delegates reaffirmed CLUW's commitment to eliminating wage discrimination against women who perform jobs similar to those of men. The resolution calls for re-evaluating women's jobs according to their "real worth" and urges unions to adopt the concept of equal pay for work of comparable worth in all contract negotiations.

In other action, convention delegates:

- Pledged stepped-up efforts to win ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in three more states and urged continuation of the boycott of unratified states.
- Renewed CLUW's commitment to affirmative action programs and called on the labor movement to implement and expand such programs, including representation at all levels within unions to reflect the membership of women members.
- Called for strengthening federal job safety and health protection and urged industry to "fix the workplace and not the worker," a reference to exclusionary hiring and promotion practices that affect women.
- Urged passage of a national health security bill to provide for universal coverage, comprehensive services and effective cost controls.
- Renewed CLUW's commitment to obtaining federally funded child-care programs.
- Called for changes in the social security system to provide equitable protection for all women.

Delegates also adopted a resolution establishing "CLUW Associates," a support group enabling individuals and organizations otherwise ineligible for membership to join CLUW and thus support its goals and purposes. Individual membership is $10 per year; organizational membership is $100 or more per year. The national membership fee for CLUW remains $10 per year for working members and $5 for retirees.

All incumbent officers were re-elected by acclamation. Besides Miller, they are Executive Vice President Addie Wyatt of the Food & Commercial Workers, Treas. Gloria Johnson of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Corresponding Sec. Odessa Komer of the Auto Workers, Recording Sec. Patsy Fryman of the Communications Workers, Vice Presidents Georgia McGhee of the State, County & Municipal Workers, and Clara Day of the Teamsters.

A constitutional amendment to increase the number of vice presidents from two to four was adopted. Elected to fill the new posts were Patricia Halpin of the Teachers and Gwen Newton of the Office & Professional Employees.

Rail Supervisors Subject To Article XX Sanctions

AFL-CIO President George Meany has notified all affiliates that the American Railway Supervisors Association has been found to be in non-compliance with the decision of an impartial umpire under the AFL-CIO's internal disputes procedures and is therefore subject to sanctions under the federation's constitution.

The finding was reached by a subcommittee of the AFL-CIO Executive Council consisting of Vice Presidents William W. Winpisinger and John H. Lyons. The findings followed the refusal of the union "to withdraw from a raid at the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Co." The decision of the impartial unpire had found this action to be a violation of Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution.

Meany said that effective Sept. 5, 1979, the Railway Supervisors would be subject to the following provisions of Sec. 15 of Article XX:

"1. The non-complying affiliate shall not be entitled to file any complaint or appear in a complaining capacity in any proceeding under this article until such non-compliance is remedied or excused as provided in Sec. 16;

"2. The federation shall, upon request, supply every appropriate assistance and aid to any organization resisting the action determined to be in violation of this article;

"3. The federation shall appropriately publicize the fact that the affiliate is not in compliance with the constitution;

"4. No affiliate shall support or render assistance to the action determined to be in violation of this article."

In addition to the Railway Supervisors, the following unions are currently in non-compliance with an impartial umpire's decision: International Typographical Union, Graphic Arts International Union, American Radio Association.

75,000 Win Major Gains in Garment Pact

(Continued from Page 1)

Pensions were increased so that effective Jan. 1, 1982, the normal retirement benefit will be $5.75 per month per year of service. The minimum pension then would be $115 per month.

The contract also empowers the trustees of the retirement fund to "revise the employer rate of contribution necessary to meet the minimum funding requirements of the retirement fund." Finley and Sheinkman say these provisions bind the employer to meet the necessary costs of the insurance and retirements funds in spite of inflation or reduced contributions because of layoffs, short hours, and reduced work force.

Stage Crews Win Gains in Studio Pacts

Los Angeles — Hollywood stage technicians employed by the major motion picture and television studios will vote Oct. 8 on new three-year contracts calling for substantial wage and fringe-benefit improvements.

The settlement with the Theatrical Stage Employees and several basic craft unions provides for hourly increases of 85 cents in the first year, 90 cents the second, and $1 the third, IATSE International Rep. Joe Bernay said.

The pacts also call for the employers to add 19 cents an hour to the pension fund the first year, another 6 cents the second, and 5 cents the third. In addition, the agreement calls for new dental and eye-care plans for both active and retired members. An additional paid holiday also was written into the contract.

Some 24,000 workers are covered by the agreement, including 20,000 IATSE members. The other workers are members of the Laborers, Service Employees, Plumbers, Plasterers, Hotel & Restaurant Employees, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the unaffiliated Teamsters.

Unions Back Energy Protest

Labor groups pressing to reverse the surging rise in energy prices are giving strong support to a nationwide demonstration set for Oct. 17.

The prime sponsors of the day of protest—the Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition and the Progressive Alliance—are organizing rallies, marches, petition drives and teach-ins to gain support for a consumer-conscious energy programs.

AFL-CIO affiliates backing the Oct. 17 protest include the Industrial Union Dept.; the Clothing & Textile Workers; the Food & Commercial Workers; the Machinists; the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers; the Operating Engineers; the Service Employees; the Sheet Metal Workers; the State, County & Municipal Employees; the Steelworkers, and the Woodworkers.

Stronger FDA Powers Urged On Cosmetics

The AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. asked Congress to give the Food & Drug Administration stronger powers to protect consumers against hazardous substances in cosmetics.

Robert F. Harbrant, department president, said at House hearings that the FDA is almost powerless to protect consumers against potential harmful cosmetics until after a product has been marketed and the damage has been done.

Under the Food, Drug & Cosmetic Act, he noted, only cosmetic products require the government to bear the burden of proof that a product is unsafe. For food additives, color additives, drugs and medical devices, the industry must show proof of safety before a product is marketed.

The department has been working with its affiliated Barbers & Beauticians and with the Occupational Safety & Health Administration to identify potential health hazards. But there remains no adequate protection for consumers, Harbrant noted. He urged that the FDA be given authority to require cosmetic manufacturers to register their products, list all ingredients, and carry out pre-market testing.

Samuel, Chatak Elected:

IUD Mobilized to Counter Right-Wing Foes of Labor

(Continued from Page 1)

Clayman's report to the 600 delegates representing 56 affiliates with a membership of about six million marked the opening sessions highlighted by the election of Howard D. Samuel as IUD president and Elmer Chatak as secretary-treasurer. Clayman had earlier announced his intention to retire; he has held both posts for the past two years.

Samuel has been serving as Deputy Under Secretary of Labor for international affairs in the Carter administration. He had previously served as a vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers and had functioned as director of the Sidney Hillman Foundation.

Chatak has held a number of positions with the Steelworkers and is presently director of organizing.

Clayman told the delegates that the right wing is asserting itself effectively and that the stakes in the 1980 elections are growing higher as the threat mounts of reactionary control of key Senate committees.

He emphasized that the major issues of the eighties will include the campaign to implement the full employment promise of the Humphrey-Hawkins Act and to stem the great loss of jobs and economic strength to growing imports and the export of U.S. technology.

Clayman's report reviewed the IUD's activities over the past two years emphasizing the successful participation in organizing campaigns and the 60 percent winning mark in National Labor Relations Board elections.

He pointed to the continuing effectiveness of the department's coordinated bargaining program in the face of the great number of corporate mergers that have "dramatically altered the face" of bargaining in the country.

He stressed that "each new corporate merger and each new plant in the right-to-work sun belt states poses a threat and a challenge to workers everywhere."

Kirkland reminded the delegates that all Americans are affected and injured by inflation, depression, energy and foreign control of the American economy but that to the AFL-CIO all "major issues are trade union issues." He said that no private institution in the nation can match labor's record "for constructive social and economic legislative effort on behalf of the general welfare."

"The measures that we have advanced to help stabilize the economy, break the inflation spiral, overcome recession and unemployment and restore the nation's energy independence are certainly the most coherent, comprehensive and constructive program in sight today," he declared.

It is because the labor movement "is the only strong, organized force for social and economic justice in this country," he added, that "we find ourselves under attack from many directions." What is under attack is not just the rights of workers and unions, but human rights, he said, "not just the wages of workers but their place in society. Not just one democratic institution, but democracy itself."

Clayman's financial report showed that the IUD had a net worth of $5,273,999 and that in 1978 and 1979 the major expenditures were for organizing, coordinated bargaining and voter registration activities. There are IUD councils in eight states.

Among the innovative programs of the past two years, Clayman reported, was an organizing public relations program in two target areas in the Carolinas with six months of radio spots during shift-change drive time designed to "raise union consciousness, educate and improve the union's image in the target areas."

The IUD research section also is conducting a study of how unions might influence investment decisions of 10 sample companies and a major municipality in terms of the legal, social and economic questions involved.

The report reviewed legislative and legal activities with special attention to occupational health and safety and international trade.

Clayman concluded with thanks to all those at the IUD with whom he has worked and served and said that he was "secure in the knowledge that the IUD and all of American labor will overcome the obstacles of the present era and move ahead to a great and productive future."

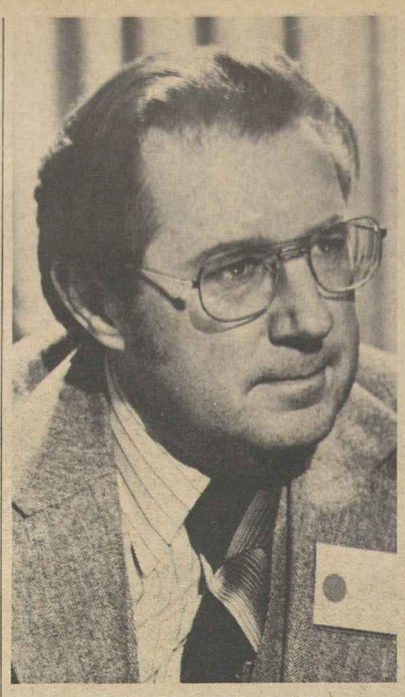
Clayman, 74, was named administrative director of the IUD in 1960 and was elected secretary-treasurer in 1973. He became president of the department in 1977, after I. W. Abel retired as head of both the Steelworkers and the IUD.

At the time of the AFL-CIO merger, Clayman was secretary-treasurer of the Ohio CIO and earlier had been general counsel of the state body. He subsequently served as assistant to the president of the Clothing Workers. Clayman was a founder and first president of the Consumer Federation of America and has received awards from leading public interest organizations.

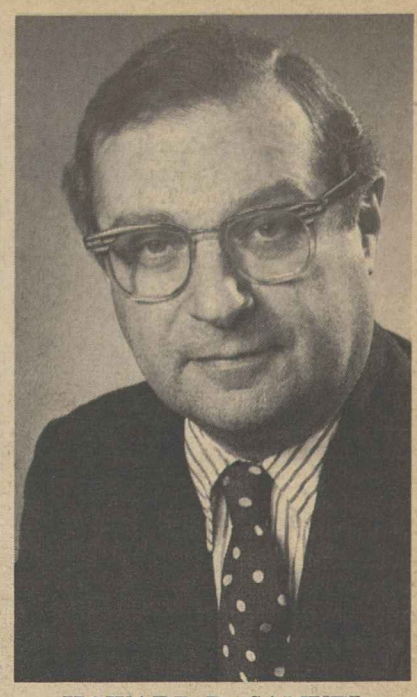
Samuel, 55, is a graduate of Dartmouth College and started as a staff representative with the Clothing Workers in 1949, becoming special assistant to the union's president, Jacob S. Potofsky. He has co-authored two books on Congress and government and served on a number of public and civic groups dealing with education, full employment, immigration and urban affairs.

He will be the fourth president of the IUD which was formed in 1955 at the time of the merger of the AFL-CIO. The late Auto Workers President Walter Reuther served as the first president; he was succeeded by Abel who in turn was succeeded by Clayman.

Chatak, 50, joined the Steelworkers' staff in 1956 after working in glass and steel plants and has served as USWA organizing director since 1968. He has worked with the IUD in coordinated campaigns.



ELMER CHATAK



HOWARD D. SAMUEL

Grain Strikers Reach Accords with 4 Firms

(Continued from Page 1)

The union negotiating committee said it was unanimous in recommending acceptance to the membership. Submission for ratification by the 550 members of the local was made contingent on acceptance of similar agreements by all of the eight companies.

The first breakthrough with GTA, a farmer-owned cooperative, came after the executive board of the Minnesota Farmers Union passed a resolution to the board of directors of GTA in support of the strikers.

While there is no official connection between the Farmers Union and the GTA, the family farm organization was instrumental in founding the cooperative, and a number of Farmers Union members are on the GTA board.

The insistence of each of the eight companies on separate negotiations and separate agreements has put a strain on the small Grain Millers local, with union officials going from one bargaining session to another without rest.

The solidarity of the strikers was demonstrated clearly before the GTA agreement was reached when employees of Continental unanimously rejected a "final offer" by that company and in the refusal of the strikers to act on any settlement until agreements are reached with all eight firms.

Also, the convention of the Minnesota AFL-CIO not only pledged full support for the strike, but took up a collection amounting to over $3,400 for the strikers from the delegates and guests at the convention.

Not only did the strike have all-out support from organized labor and from the Farmers Union, but from large numbers of farmers affected by the strike who were interviewed by the Minneapolis Star and "expressed as much concern for the strike as they did for their own situation."

Terms of the tentative settlement were not announced pending completion of bargaining with the other firms, but they reportedly contain incentive payments in addition to wage and benefit increases.

Teachers Win Gains In Strike Settlements

While major teacher strikes in San Francisco and Detroit appeared far from resolution, settlements in smaller school districts were reached which gave members of the American Federation of Teachers substantial contract improvements.

In Woodbridge, N.J., where some AFT teachers were jailed during the union's walkout, a new agreement will give members an average raise of 9 percent annually over the next two years. A dental plan and a drug-prescription plan will go into effect in the second year. The pact covers 95 teachers.

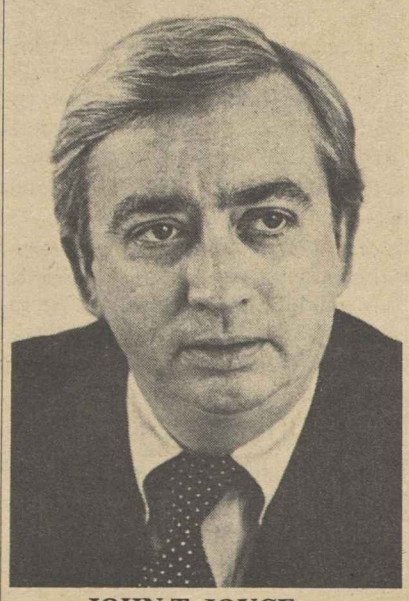
At the Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind near Pittsburgh, some 100 teachers will receive $1,300 annual raises in each of the next three years. Paraprofessional workers will get $1,000-a-year raises.

About 140 AFT teachers in Miller Place, Suffolk County, N.Y., will receive raises totaling 22 percent over the life of a new three-year contract. The contract also contains an improved dental plan and allows for greater preparation time for teachers in kindergarten through the sixth grade.

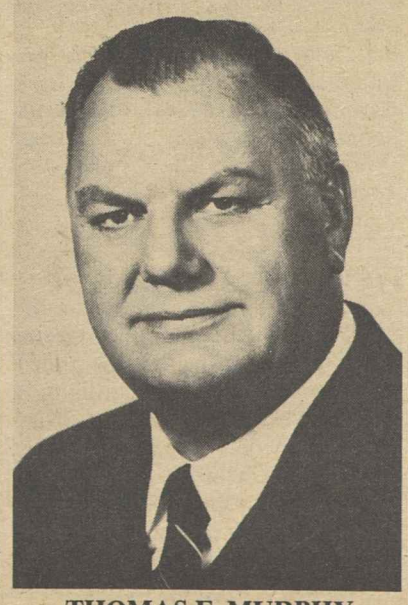
The lay faculty at Mater Christi School in Queens, N.Y., won a contract that will provide 60 members of the AFT unit there a 13 percent pay increase over two years.

Meanwhile, in Detroit, talks aimed at ending the two-week strike of the Detroit Teachers Federation broke down again following a judge's rejection of a request for an injunction by the board of education. Over 10,000 union teachers are striking for salary improvements.

In San Francisco, authorities planned to open elementary schools staffed by supervisors and substitute teachers but did not plan to open junior and senior high schools.



JOHN T. JOYCE



THOMAS F. MURPHY

Murphy to Step Down As Head of Bricklayers

San Diego—President Thomas F. Murphy of the Bricklayers announced at the union's general board meeting here that he will resign his post by the end of the year to become an official of a union-industry institute.

Under the Bricklayers constitution, Murphy will be succeeded by Sec. John T. Joyce, the union's second-ranking officer.

Murphy, 68, a third-generation bricklayer, has been on the international's staff since 1940—the past 13 years as president. After serving as a special deputy for the union in New York for eight years, Murphy moved to the union's Washington, D.C., headquarters in 1948 as treasurer and a member of the executive board. He became secretary in 1960 and president in 1966.

Joyce, 43, has been secretary of the Bricklayers since 1971, after serving as treasurer for five years.

Joyce told the union's board he will appoint Treas. Edward M. Belluci as secretary and L. Gerald Carlisle, director of collective bargaining and research since 1972, as treasurer. James F. Richardson will continue as the union's first vice president.

Two years remain in the current terms of the union's officers, with elections for four-year terms due to come up at the 1981 convention.

Joyce comes out of Bricklayers Local 21 in Chicago. He was with the Cook County Masonry Institute for two years before becoming administrator of Local 21's pension fund in 1962. He also served as administrator of the local's health and welfare and apprenticeship and training funds prior to assuming the post of international treasurer in 1966.

Secretary-designate Bellucci had been president and financial secretary of Local 6 in New Haven, Conn., for a number of years before becoming treasurer in 1971.

Carlisle, a former financial secretary and business agent of Local 1 in Tacoma, Wash., had served as a special deputy of the international before becoming collective bargaining and research director seven years ago. He also had been secretary-treasurer of the Washington-Oregon Conference of Bricklayers.

Murphy, who will become chairman of the Masonry Industry Committee later this year, also serves on the executive councils of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept., Union Label & Service Trades Dept. and the Maritime Trades Dept.

No Longer Weak

FOR MANY YEARS, government workers and their unions played a rather small part in labor-management issues. There was a widespread view, shared even by many public employees themselves, that government jobs were so much more secure and rewarding than those in the private sector and that civil service rules and procedures gave such effective safeguards against unfair treatment that collective bargaining, as practiced in private industry, was not only unnecessary but inappropriate.

If that view needed reinforcing, the weapons were provided by the Congress and by state governors and legislators through the exclusion of public employees from the protection of the National Labor Relations Act and other state measures guaranteeing rights to workers. It is ironic that so many public officials and legislatures, themselves elected through democratic processes, jumped at the chance to pass laws repressing democracy in the public workplace.

The passing years have brought some changes. The myth of job security has been exploded by painful experience. So has the myth that civil service laws and rules can substitute for collective bargaining and for effective grievance procedures. And so has the myth that public officials are somehow more reasonable and less inclined to abuse power than are corporate officials in the private economy.

In this year of 1979, there is no group of workers in America more certain of the need for unions than public employees. And for that reason, public employee unions are under as constant and unremitting attack by anti-union forces as any other sector of the labor movement.

AS LONG AS your unions were not very big, not very militant and not very effective, you had few enemies. The more nearly helpless a union is, the more likely it is to be held up as an example of what a responsible, public spirited union ought to be.

And because your unions are no longer weak or ineffective, because your members are demanding the same kind of voice in the decisions that affect their working conditions that their fellow citizens in the private sector have, you are being attacked as enemies of the public interest and a threat to the republic.

Your goals have not changed, and neither has the kind of people you represent. What has changed is your ability to achieve those goals and to represent your members effectively and forcefully. And that is why your strikes and conflicts with management are receiving such a disproportionate share of attention by the news media.

That is why your unions are singled out for attack by all sorts of phony committees and paper coalitions whose goal is not and never has been to protect the public interest, but solely to weaken and, if possible, destroy the idea of trade unionism itself however and wherever they can.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to the Public Employee Dept. convention.

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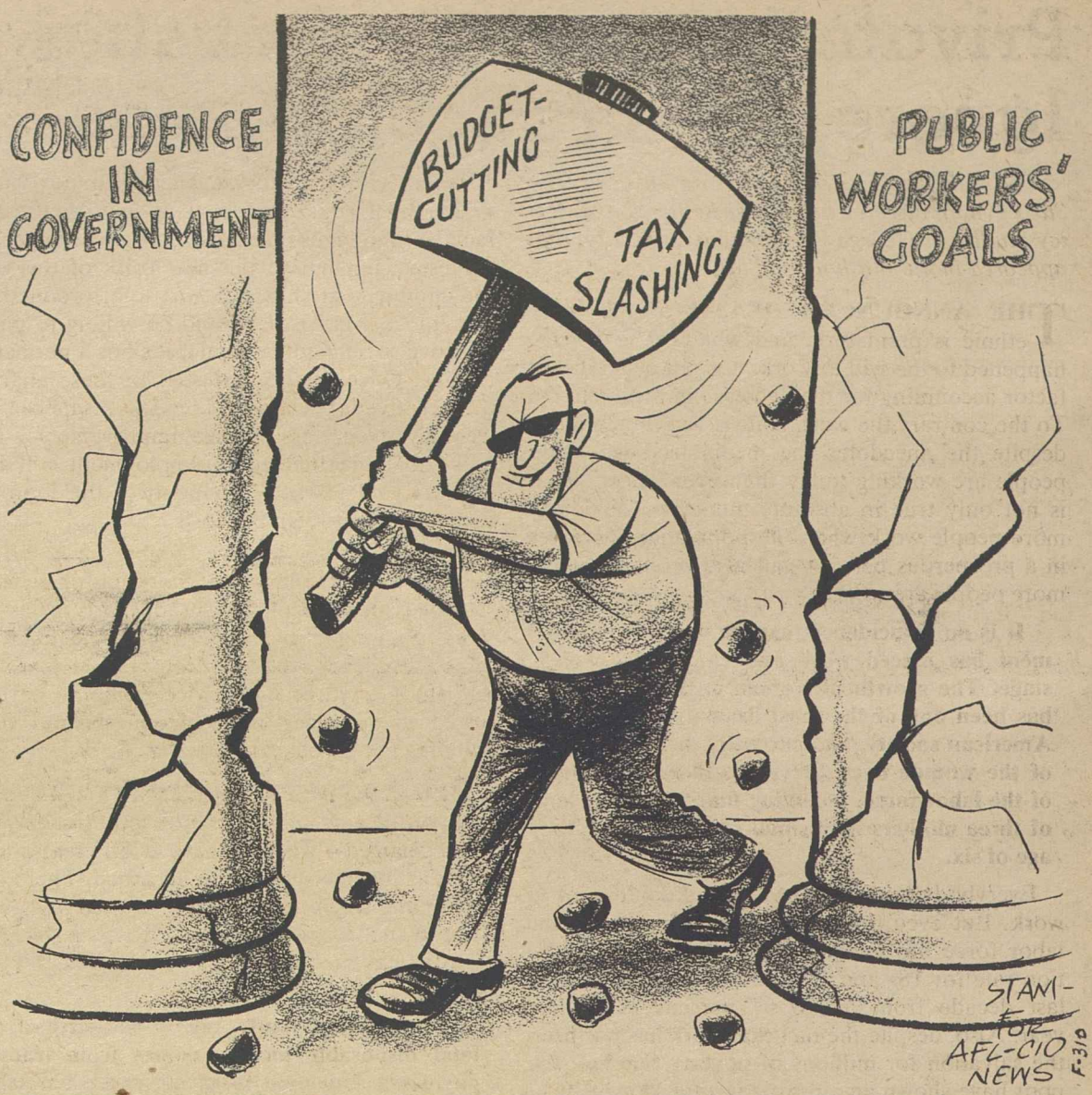
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Hatchetman



Dallas Offers Example:

Letting Business Run Schools Could Make Them Bankrupt

By Gus Tyler

THE PUSH IS ON to turn our public schools over to private hands. The negative argument says that the public schools are a failure; the positive argument is that business people are better managers.

Before we rush into a decision, however, it might do well to examine both these premises.

There is little doubt that public confidence about schools is low. A recent poll conducted about schools is low. A recent poll conducted by Gallup and the Charles F. Kettering Foundation found that only 8 percent of the country would give the public schools a grade of A. (In 1974, about 18 percent awarded an A to the system.)

What is the alternative for parents who are unhappy with the public schools? "Rightly or wrongly," says Stanley Salett of the National Committee for Citizens in Education, "private schools have the reputation for having standards and expecting more." So, many parents opt for the private institution.

Yet, a comparison between public and private schools is much less than objective. Private schools may pick and choose their students. If a child does not behave or does not measure up, the school may drop the student. Obviously, if the private schools can select the best and brightest for their student body, they will show a better average. But what does society do with the rest of the young population?

Arrangements to put the poorly behaved and the poorly prepared into private schools would clearly lower averages, so that the "private" system would come to resemble the "public" system.

As to the superior ability of business people to manage everything including the schools, it might be relevant to consider what happened in Dallas. In this Texas "city," the financial affairs of the school system—certainly the most proper domain for people whose middle name is "money"—were turned over to private hands.

The entrepreneurs, set up as a foundation, proposed plans to raise money for the Dallas Independent School District. They would put together and market educational devices and, in return, get "contributions" for their efforts. The contributions would be tax free and the income would go to defraying the expenses of the school district.

The foundation was also to manage district-owned land with the apparent objective of providing added revenue.

Along the way, the foundation began to expand its functions. It extended loans to employees of the foundation; it extended business loans. To raise funds for its own operations, it borrowed and used its scholarship funds for collateral.

And then it proposed to go real big: to build a 51-story office building and 521-room hotel on school-owned land at a cost of $113 million to finance a new administration building.

And then it all went poof. And now the school district is suing to get back $700,000 on rentals collected by the foundation but not turned over to the schools. One top level administrator has been indicted. The Dallas district is in deep trouble.

Job Injury Benefit System Drifting

Workers' compensation, still exclusively a state system, is indeed adrift.

The impetus provided by the 1972 report of the National Commission on State Workmen's Compensation Laws toward improvement of state programs has slowed to a halt.

Much of the progress in the states since 1972 can be accounted for by the threat of federal standards. Hence, the drift and even retrogression now occurring can be expected to continue and grow worse until there is implementation, not simply consideration, of minimum standards legislation.

Because the vast majority of states have failed to act responsibly and because more than seven years have passed since the commission made its recommendations, there is a desperate need for federal standards now. Workers must not continue to suffer uncompensated injury or disease.

There are those who say more study is needed. But it seems the more the question is studied, the less movement there is. Study is simply an excuse for inaction.

—AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman to International Association of Industrial Accident Boards & Commissions.

Work Ethic Runs Deep:

Private Productivity Statistics Ignore Nation's Social Gains

The following is excerpted from an article by Sar Levitan, director of the Center for Social Policy Studies at George Washington University, that appeared in the Washington Star.

THE ANNOUNCED DEATH of the work ethnic is premature, and whatever may have happened to the will to work, it is not a significant factor accounting for the decrease in productivity. To the contrary the work ethic is very much alive, despite the anecdotes the media feed us. More people are working today than ever before. That is not only true in absolute numbers—obviously more people work when the population increases in a prosperous period—but also proportionately more people are working.

It is no coincidence that the women's movement has placed work and careers in center stage. The growth of women in the workforce has been one of the most dramatic changes in American society, and currently more than half of the women over 20 years old are members of the labor force, including more than one out of three mothers with small children under the age of six.

Everybody knows that teenagers don't want to work. But even their rate of participation in the labor force has increased. The overall participation rate for 18- and 19-year-olds rose within the last decade from 58 to 67 percent as of last year. Also, despite the fact that work has not been the salvation for millions of poverty families, the poor have shown an almost amazing propensity—given the circumstances and the meager rewards—to work.

The American devotion to work—to keeping a job and getting paid—runs deep. If Americans have given up on the work ethic, then someone has failed to tell the U.S. labor force, and it cannot explain the recent declines in productivity.

The basic concepts that go into defining productivity must be examined. Today, we not only want increased productivity per worker, but we also want clean air and water and safe work and living environments. All this costs money and requires more capital to produce the same tons of steel or tons of coal per worker. From a statistical point of view, the private productivity of the steel mill or coal mine will not grow as fast. But from a social point of view, has real productivity fallen? We now not only have the metal or the coal, but we also have safer air and clearer water and fewer work related health and safety problems. The official numbers only look at private productivity and it is social productivity that really matters.

About 15 years ago, we decided to move in the direction of equal employment opportunities for females and minorities. Until the workplace becomes acclimated to the new rules of the game the employment shift can hurt total productivity. But this is a price we should be willing to pay to improve social equity. Again, it's not a permanent change. Once we get adjusted to these changes, the negative aspects would tend to disappear, and we may even possibly see improvements. It is naive to think that equal employment will be a costless goal for society. But over the long run, benefits far outweigh the costs.

While a greater relative number of Americans want to work, the nature of work has changed. In fact, it is because of past productivity gains that work no longer means hard physical labor for most Americans. Increased output per workhour and the growth of the service economy have allowed us to place more people behind desks shuffling papers or performing services.

BECAUSE OF PRODUCTIVITY GAINS, the rules of the game, including the incentive to work, have changed—we now have a different society as far as income support is concerned. There once was a time when people either worked or starved. That is no longer the case. Total government transfer payments now surpass $240 billion per year and they are rising.

To put it differently, nearly one-sixth of our total disposable income comes from transfer payments. Unemployment insurance has taken some of the sting out of being without a job. At the same time, almost 60 percent of American families have more than one wage earner. Again, this reduces some of the sting of job loss.

All these changes have had some side effects of reducing discipline in the workforce. Productivity experts don't talk about this phenomenon because we don't know how to qualify it.

What does all this suggest? The poor productivity track record of the 1970s has more to do with the fact that we ran a slow-growth economy than the demise of either the work ethic or Yankee ingenuity. Productivity is not necessarily on a permanent downhill slide. America remains—despite the recent data—a very highly productive society.

We should continue to look beyond private productivity figures, and instead concentrate on social productivity. A crisis mentality will not help us form realistic policies aimed at improving our productivity in the workplace.

Energy, Economy, Arms Treaty:

Time Runs Short for Congress To Address Pressing Issues

CONGRESS HAS DONE fairly well in many areas, but it still has to deal with such complex "must" issues as energy, inflation, recession and the SALT II treaty before its 1979 session ends, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said.

"This country can't afford to just sit back and wait until next year," Young stressed, pointing out that inflation is running unchecked, unemployment is on the rise, and many see severe energy problems developing this winter—particularly short supplies and escalating prices of heating oil. He said the anti-recession effort is directly tied into the SALT II issue because of the effect it will have on defense and arms spending.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Young said the continuing high rate of inflation and the economy's slide into recession have eased the pressures on Capitol Hill for a balanced budget. "You can't balance a budget in a vacuum," he said, noting that inflation has driven up government costs across the board, while rising unemployment has increased service and program needs. At the same time, the "growing recession" is going to cut government revenues, he added.

It's a combination that plays havoc with the budget, Young asserted. "It does no good in terms of economic policy to pick an artificial number" and then try to trade off, for example, the need to increase defense spending for cuts in such programs as unemployment, job-creation and welfare, he said.

Young scored the renewed talk among conservatives about cutbacks of mandated increases of the federal minimum wage. "Cutting back on the minimum wage at this time is unconscionable," Young charged. He said that idea will not gain much support either in Congress or the Administration when "the minimum wage is still below $3 an hour and inflation is skyrocketing."

Reporters questioning Young were Philip Shabecoff of the New York Times and Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs interview is broadcast weekly over the Mutual Broadcasting System.



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

IMAGINE HOW YOU'D FEEL today if you were told the life insurance policy on which you've been paying premiums for 20 or 30 years may pay the beneficiary less than the insurance company agreed to.

If you can imagine that, you can imagine how 87 million workers insured by the social security system would feel if they understood that Congress might reduce benefits they had earned. The House already has approved—and the Senate soon will be considering—a cut in some of the program's benefits.

The members of the House who voted for the cuts termed their efforts a "modest reform" that would save more than $1 billion by 1984. Those who opposed the measure saw it as a dangerous precedent for future assaults on the social security system and, in the words of Rep. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.), "a tragic example of moral irresponsibility in the name of fiscal austerity."

The cuts would come in the disability insurance component of the system. Two key amendments were approved by the House:

● Total benefits to the family of a disabled worker would be limited to 80 percent of the worker's gross earnings before disability—gross earnings not at the time of disability, but averaged over a lifetime of work. This "cap" is necessary, some of its supporters reasoned during House debate, because allowing any higher benefits might be a "disincentive" to a disabled worker from rehabilitating himself and going out and getting a job.

● Benefits for younger disabled workers would be calculated on a new formula that would disallow their right to drop out five years of low or no earnings in computing the average wage on which benefits are based. Because the early working years generally are at relatively low pay, this means younger workers usually would receive lower benefits than older workers.

These cuts and others, as well as some changes in the disability program rules which won near-universal endorsement, were proposed in the Carter Administration's 1980 budget request to Congress. Underlying the call for belt-tightening was concern that program costs had been on the rise for a decade, and there was a popular belief that the entire social security system was in danger of going broke.

In reality, however, both concerns were ill-founded by the time the House acted.

While the number of disability insurance program participants nearly doubled between 1965 and 1975, for a variety of reasons, the numbers then began to drop. There were 552,000 disability awards in 1976, 456,000 in 1978 and the growth rate of the number of beneficiaries on the rolls today is the lowest since the beginning of the program.

And while once there had been an overblown but legitimate cause for concern over the financial health of the entire social security system, 1977 amendments to the program put it on a sound financial basis for about 50 years to come, according to a report by fund trustees.

While the House voted the disability cutbacks in a mood of fiscal austerity, it is to be hoped the Senate will approach the issue more humanely.

The "modest reform" of the disability program, in the end, can hardly be considered modest by those affected. It could result in an average cut in disability benefits for future program participants of about 15 percent.

Rep. Mario Biaggi (D-N.Y.) warned his colleagues that a 30-year-old worker with a spouse and two children who became disabled while earning $15,000 a year would receive monthly benefits of $730 under the new plan, as opposed to the $858 currently paid.

The average monthly payment today, Pepper said during the floor debate, is only $327.66. Responding to the claim that such largesse tempts disabled workers to stay home and wait for a check in the mail rather than go out and find a job, Pepper declared:

"It is to take leave of common sense to suggest that a sum of $80 per week will discourage individuals from returning to work."



CONGRESSIONAL ACTION is needed on a number of complex issues before the end of the 1979 session, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young, center, said on Labor News Conference. He was interviewed by Dale McFeatters, left, of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Philip Shabecoff of the New York Times. The program is broadcast weekly on Mutual radio.



OLD FRIENDS gave a warm welcome to Vice President Mondale as he returned to his home state to address the Minnesota AFL-CIO convention. Here, he is greeted by State AFL-CIO President David K. Roe.

Reliance on Oil Imports Held Threat to Security

Minneapolis—Vice President Walter Mondale warned the 22nd convention of the Minnesota AFL-CIO that reliance on imported oil threatens America's independent foreign policy. He quoted AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland's comment that "the issue here is freedom."

The 827 delegates responded to Mondale's plea for a comprehensive legislated program to develop domestic energy resources and for funds to help low-income persons meet rapidly rising gasoline and heating fuel costs by endorsing a strong windfall profits tax on oil corporations.

Mondale noted that the windfall profits tax would fund a proposed Energy Security Corporation to spur development of alternative energy sources that would create 390,000 jobs a year over the next decade, bolster conservation measures such as expanded mass transit systems, and provide subsidies for the elderly and low income people confronted with a "heat or eat" crisis this winter.

In related action during the four-day convention, delegates passed resolutions calling for a crash program to develop domestic energy, supporting the Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition, and endorsing the AFL-CIO's comprehensive energy program which includes controls on domestic oil prices, a government-run corporation to drill, refine and market oil to provide objective information on costs, a ban on oil companies owning competitive energy supplies, and nationalization of the U.S. oil industry if it continues to ignore the national interest.

Re-elected without opposition to another four-year term was President David K. Roe. Sec.-Treas. Dan Gustafson was elected to his first full four-year term while Bernard Brommer was elected executive vice president, succeeding Leonard LaShomb who retired after 14 years in office. Also elected to four-year terms were 25 district vice presidents.

A convention tribute to the late Hubert H. Humphrey included remarks by friends and political allies who touched on Humphrey's contributions to labor, the community and the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party in Minnesota.

The president of the Minnesota Farmers Union, Cy Carpenter, in an address to the delegates stressed that family farmers and organized labor share key legislative objectives and cited the close cooperation between his group and the Minnesota AFL-CIO. Carpenter said that although critics complain about the high cost of labor and the high cost of food, "I don't make any apologies for a decent price for food and for a decent wage for laborers who buy the food."

Factory Profit Margins Register Sharp Increase

Profit margins in the manufacturing sector of the economy took a sharp jump in the second quarter of 1979, the Federal Trade Commission reported.

After-tax profit margins for manufacturers averaged 6.1 cents per dollar of sales between April and June—an increase of 0.5 cents per dollar from the first-quarter level and an increase of 0.2 cents per dollar from the same period a year earlier.

The rate of return reflects a substantial increase in after-tax earnings, which increased from $22.6 billion in the first quarter of 1979 to $26.8 billion in the second quarter. Sales increased from $406.2 billion to $436.2 billion.

The government also reported that cash dividends paid rose from $7.1 billion in the first quarter to $8.2 billion in the second quarter.

The after-tax annual rate of return on stockholders' equity was 19.6 percent in the second quarter of 1979, up from 15.7 percent in the first quarter and 16.6 percent in the second quarter of 1978, the FTC reported.

The profits of all non-durable goods manufacturers except rubber makers rose during the second quarter. Rubber industry profits were held back due to the Rubber Workers' strike. Profits in the petroleum industry soared from $3.9 billion in the first quarter to $5.2 billion in the second quarter.

Total durable goods profits increased from $11.5 billion to $13.3 billion over the quarter, with all categories but transportation equipment showing increases.

New Department Created:

Painters Expand Program To Combat Health Hazards

Chicago—A review of the hazards painters face on the job and an expanded program to counteract them marked the windup of the Painters' 24th convention.

The delegates heard presentations from three occupational safety and health specialists and voted to create a new Health & Safety Dept. in the union, continuing the work begun five years ago when one-fourth of the first 2,000 painters tested were found to have some form of respiratory condition.

President S. Frank Raftery, Sec.-Treas. Robert J. Petersdorf and seven regional vice presidents won re-election by acclamation. It was the third five-year term to which Raftery has been elected and the first for Petersdorf, a native of Minnesota who was named secretary-treasurer by the executive board in 1975.

One vice president, James B. Cox of Kansas City, was elected to his first term while the other six—Bernard Sniegowski, A. L. Monroe, James H. Wolford, Jack T. Cox, Guy Leber, and W. A. Duval—were re-elected.

In other convention actions, the more than 1,100 delegates adopted a constitutional change to give the executive board authority to establish new "membership categories not presently provided in the constitution."

But the convention voted down another proposal that would have removed the constitutional minimum of pay for apprentices, keeping that figure at 50 percent of journeymen's pay for the apprentice's first year.

The convention's job safety program included the showing of a videotape, part of the Painters' program which has instructed 8,000 members on job hazards peculiar to their industry. Speakers included Dr. Irving J. Selikoff of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, whose research started the union on its job safety program; AFL-CIO Occupational Safety & Health Director George H. R. Taylor and the Dept. of Labor's OSHA director, Eula Bingham.

Dr. Selikoff also used a slide show in tracing the Painters' job safety program, including the early research on taping and spackling compounds in which he identified 10 distinct types used by painters in different parts of the country—and subsequently discovered 9 of the 10 included asbestos.

He announced that at least two major paint manufacturers have appointed toxicologists to attend an international symposium in Stockholm next month, "so I think congratulations are due to you not only from the U.S. labor movement, but really workers throughout the world" who might benefit from the Painters' work in occupational health.

"There's no such thing as turpentine and linseed oil any more," he said. "Paints are chemicals now, and a whole paint-type technology is emerging."

Dr. Bingham defended OSHA against the legislative and public opinion attacks it constantly suffers and said her department last year issued $6.4 million in educational grants, including $125,000 to the Painters.

"You have used this money well, developing educational materials for painters and glaziers, for your job-site monitoring corps and training sessions for thousands of your members," she said. "I would not be surprised if your grant were increased next year."

Taylor traced 20 crippling amendments to OSHA introduced in this Congress alone, and noted that labor failed in a fight to win a $44 million expansion for the OSHA budget. He contrasted that with the $136 million spent during the swine flu "epidemic" of 1976. "Does it ever occur that somehow this nation's leaders have turned topsy turvy their sense of what is important to people?" Taylor asked.

The shortfalls in job safety protection are especially notable in the Painters and their allied trades, Taylor said, "because painters are exposed to toxic materials covering almost as wide a range" as members of all AFL-CIO unions—including asbestos, benzenes, chromates, acids, lead, solvents and alkalis.

"While we applaud the efforts of Sec. of Labor Ray Marshall and Eula Bingham to turn the OSHA program around and give it the direction it has lacked in its early years, there is only so far OSHA can go with no stimulation of a commitment from the President and Congress," Taylor said.

Marshall also addressed the convention, as did AFL-CIO Directors Al Barkan from COPE and Leo Perlis from Community Services.

Raftery summed up the Painters' job safety emphasis at the convention by noting the fact the union's members have a life expectancy 11 years shorter than the U.S. average of 72.

He also stressed that in addition to respiratory ailments, the union's research in cooperation with NIOSH showed that "84 percent experienced such effects from their work as reduced coordination, slowed reactions, loss of peripheral vision and a host of job-related problems."

Civil Rights Coalition Backs Stevens Boycott

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, a coalition of 149 national organizations, announced its support for the consumer boycott of J. P. Stevens & Co.

Stevens is notorious for its flagrant violations of federal labor law. In addition, the civil rights group said, the textile chain has engaged in "massive employment discrimination against blacks and women."

Senate Vote on Limiting Water Rights Giveaway

The Senate supported labor's position on one amendment to a bill that allows large corporate farms to obtain irrigation water from a federally subsidized program intended to help family farmers.

The labor-supported amendment, by Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.), would prohibit large growers from evading all acreage limitations by leasing instead of owning outright excess land. But the key vote, as the AFL-CIO sees it, was this 52-43 vote to table a weak substitute amendment that had been proposed by Sen. Robert Morgan (D-N.C.). That made it possible to vote on and pass the Hatfield amendment.

FOR LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 43

Baucus (Mont.)	Exon (Neb.)	Moynihan (N.Y.)
Bayh (Ind.)	Ford (Ky.)	Muskie (Me.)
Bentsen (Tex.)	Glenn (Ohio)	Nelson (Wis.)
Biden (Del.)	Gravel (Alaska)	Nunn (Ga.)
Bradley (N.J.)	Hart (Colo.)	Pell (R.I.)
Bumpers (Ark.)	Huddleston (Ky.)	Proxmire (Wis.)
Burdick (N.D.)	Jackson (Wash.)	Ribicoff (Conn.)
Cannon (Nev.)	Kennedy (Mass.)	Riegle (Mich.)
Chiles (Fla.)	Leahy (Vt.)	Sarbanes (Md.)
Church (Ida.)	Levin (Mich.)	Stevenson (Ill.)
Cranston (Calif.)	Magnuson (Wash.)	Stone (Fla.)
Culver (Iowa)	Matsunaga (Hawaii)	Tsongas (Mass.)
Durkin (N.H.)	McGovern (S.D.)	Williams (N.J.)
Eagleton (Mo.)	Melcher (Mont.)	Zorinsky (Neb.)
	Metzenbaum (Ohio)	

Republicans 9

Cohen (Me.)	Heinz (Pa.)	Stafford (Vt.)
Durenberger (Minn.)	Packwood (Ore.)	Weicker (Conn.)
Hatfield (Ore.)	Pressler (S.D.)	Young (N.D.)

AGAINST LABOR'S POSITION

Democrats 13

Boren (Okla.)	Heflin (Ala.)	Randolph (W. Va.)
Byrd, H. (Va.)	Hollings (S.C.)	Sasser (Tenn.)
Byrd, R. (W. Va.)	Johnston (La.)	Stennis (Mass.)
DeConcini (Ariz.)	Morgan (N.C.)	Talmadge (Ga.)
	Pryor (Ark.)	

Republicans 30

Armstrong (Colo.)	Hatch (Utah)	McClure (Ida.)
Baker (Tenn.)	Hayakawa (Calif.)	Percy (Ill.)
Boschwitz (Minn.)	Helms (N.C.)	Roth (Del.)
Chafee (R.I.)	Humphrey (N.H.)	Schmitt (N.M.)
Cochran (Miss.)	Javits (N.Y.)	Schweiker (Pa.)
Danforth (Mo.)	Jepsen (Iowa)	Simpson (Wyo.)
Dole (Kan.)	Kassebaum (Kan.)	Thurmond (S.C.)
Domenici (N.M.)	Laxalt (Nev.)	Tower (Tex.)
Garn (Utah)	Lugar (Ind.)	Wallop (Wyo.)
Goldwater (Ariz.)	Mathias (Md.)	Warner (Va.)

Absent: Bellmon (R-Okla.), Inouye (D-Hawaii), Long (D-La.), Stevens (R-Alaska), Stewart (D-Ala.).

Anti-Union Legislation:

British Labor United Against Tory Attack

Blackpool, England—For its 111th Congress, the British Trades Union Congress was in a subdued and somber mood. One year before, it had met in an atmosphere of expectation that James Callaghan's Labor Government would soon get a fresh electoral mandate. But the election was delayed until May 1979, and it brought—in the words of Congress President Tom Jackson, the postal workers' leader — "a reactionary Tory Government" under Mrs. Margaret Thatcher.

The new Government had already made clear its anti-labor stance by proposing restrictive union legislation and setting out a program of massive cuts in welfare and other forms of public expenditure. As a result, the 112 unions in the TUC were united as rarely before in a common attack on Government policies.

New legislation was the first item the unions grouped to resist. Tory Employment Sec. James Prior had published plans to limit those entitled to join a picket line to union members actually involved in the dispute. This could make it illegal even for a union official to stand on the line.

Prior's plans also included restricting industrial action to the employer with whom union members were in dispute, which would make unions subject to damage suits where other employers were affected. If made law, this would rule out the kind of action taken last winter by truck drivers who enforced their claims by picketing depots and warehouses owned by companies that did not employ them.

The TUC delegates unanimously opposed these laws, though a move to break off all discussions with the Government was defeated. Union leaders were empowered by the Congress to meet Prior again in a last bid to change the Government's mind. They hoped to persuade the Government that it was in danger of repeating the mistakes of the early 1970s when another Tory Administration under Edward Heath attempted to revise the labor laws but succeeded only in creating confrontation on a huge scale, which helped bring the Government down in 1974.

The second major issue on which the Congress united was opposition to the Government's economic policies. Although the Thatcher Government has dropped the wage guidelines which Labor had maintained for four years in spite of increasing union dissent, it is trying to come to terms with the world economic recession with methods the unions disapprove even more.

Tax changes in the Government's first budget cut the rates levied on high personal incomes, but replaced the revenue loss by a 15 percent value added tax on most goods and services. And to reduce government borrowing, Tory leaders embarked on a campaign of public expenditure cuts that hit everything from health and welfare services to education and industrial investment.

The TUC flatly opposed all this, charging that it threatened further deflation to an already severely underemployed economy and because it would reduce benefits to all working people and lessen the number of jobs available in the public services.

The thrust of the Government's policy brought support for the Congress campaign from unions that are usually reluctant to get involved in political issues—those with members in government employment. Civil service and other unions of state employees, like the Teachers, have traditionally avoided direct involvement in politics. They do not affiliate to the Labor Party, which the TUC formed more than 70 years ago. But the largest of the 18 trade groups into which TUC unions are divided now represents public employees, with 2.3 million members, and with a Government axe poised over so many of their jobs they have inevitably been drawn into political controversy.

As with the question of labor legislation, the only real division within the Congress was on the tactics of opposition. A proposal to commit the unions to a one-day general strike was narrowly defeated, though it had the support of the two largest unions. But strikes are still likely to be authorized by the TUC general council as part of its campaign this winter.

No other issues seized the attention of the Congress like the unions' disagreements with the Government. But in spite of its political setbacks, the TUC itself continues to grow in popularity and strength. In 1968, its centenary year, Congress unions had a combined membership of 8.7 million. In 1971 it passed 10 million, and this year figures revealed a total membership of 12,128,078.

The 1970s have been the decade of fastest growth in the history of the British labor movement. Though declining industries like textiles, coal, railways and agriculture have seen membership reductions, these have been far more than matched by increases in white-collar, engineering, scientific and public service recruitment. And by far the most rapid area of growth has been among women, up almost 100 percent to 1.6 million in a decade.

Machinists to Appeal Ruling In OPEC Suit

San Francisco—The Machinists will seek reversal of a federal court ruling that rejected the union's anti-trust suit against the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Federal District Judge A. Andrew Hauk ruled in Los Angeles last month that the 13-member nations of the OPEC cartel are not subject to the Sherman Antitrust Act because they are sovereign bodies. The IAM contends that OPEC is a commercial entity doing business in the United States.

In its suit, the union accused OPEC members of conspiring to fix prices on petroleum exports to cause severe hardship for American consumers and damage to the nation's economy.

The IAM said it will pursue the case in the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Attorney James H. Davis, who is handling the IAM case, pointed out that OPEC not only determines the prices that member nations charge for their oil, but also determines production quotas to keep prices inflated.

These activities, Davis said, are "clearly commercial, not sovereign, and therefore bring OPEC's action under the provisions of the Sherman Antitrust Act."



WIDE-RANGING ROLE of organized labor is depicted in a booth sponsored by the Wyoming AFL-CIO, which was displayed at the state fair and a number of county fairs. The booth, built by Carpenter apprentices, stresses apprenticeship and training programs and labor's "buy American" campaign. From left are Lloyd Osborn, state federation coordinator of CETA programs, secretary Deanna Falzone, and T. C. Stogsdill, training director of the Carpenters apprenticeship program.

U.S. Economic, Political Climate Seen Hindering Union Progress

Blackpool, England—The problems of inflation, energy, and unemployment have created an economic and political climate in the United States that is hindering unions in the pursuit of their goals, AFL-CIO Vice President John H. Lyons declared in an address as fraternal delegate to the British Trades Union Congress here.

"The rapid price increases of recent years and the huge jump in recent months have not only created individual hardships, they have created a very unstable economy and have made an ideal platform for anti-worker, anti-consumer, anti-government policies, programs and rhetoric," Lyons told the TUC's 111th congress.

"From this most advantageous platform, the extremists can trumpet that high wages and low productivity are to blame for inflation. Unfortunately, because of the intensity of the situation, their tune is being heard by the more sophisticated observers of the U.S. economic scene.

"Those who recognize that workers are not the culprits of inflation but its victims are more willing to accept concepts that they have historically rejected. Notwithstanding their recognition that workers are not the cause, these proposals are something that can be grasped so, therefore, in desperation they are willing to turn to wage suppression and austere public budgets, both on wages and necessary public programs."

The real cause of inflation in the United States is the soaring cost of energy, Lyons said, a factor that invades every single aspect of American economic life. The AFL-CIO recognizes this, Lyons noted, and has called for a series of actions to solve both the long and short-term aspects of the energy crisis. Labor's proposals would prevent an unfair or improper burden on the worker for as long as it takes to resolve the energy-based causes of inflation, he said.

Lyons noted that the problems of American workers appear substantially like the problems of British workers and, "while our economies and our labor movements are indeed separate and not dependent, it is evident that we have much to learn from each other."

Reviewing some of the events that have led the United States into its third economic recession in a decade, he said the American trade union movement insists that recession and mass unemployment are not the answer to inflation.

"We remain firmly convinced that our national government must accept its proper role in fighting inflation by promoting healthy, balanced economic growth and full employment," Lyons said.

In the area of international affairs, he noted that the AFL-CIO supports the SALT II arms agreement with the proviso that the "strengthening of our forces that is authorized in that document be carried forward."

To do otherwise could never lead to a future realistic arms reduction, Lyons said. "In fact, the opposite could well be achieved and SALT II in such circumstances could well lead to unbridled aggression instead of arms reduction."

The AFL-CIO continues to gauge whatever progress has been made within the International Labor Organization to determine where the best interests of labor lie, and what it might gain were the United States to return to that body, Lyons said.

Meanwhile, he noted, the federation's membership in the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development remains active and "demonstrates a mutuality of interest with our free trade union friends" in the OECD nations.

"And while labor's influence in the OECD forum is yet to be keenly noticed, progress is measurable," he said.

North Dakota Delegates Battle Political Curbs

Minot, N.D.—Delegates to the North Dakota AFL-CIO convention strongly endorsed efforts to rally voters against an anti-labor political funding referendum in the state's 1980 general election.

The measure would allow corporate political action committees to increase campaign funding for all elective offices in the state while sharply curbing the use of union funds in election campaigns.

The so-called election reform bill could have become law on July 1 after the Republican-dominated state legislature overrode a veto by Democratic Gov. Arthur A. Link.

But the state labor federation, working with the Democratic Party, gathered 17,000 signatures on a referral petition in a three-week period to block the effective date of the measure.

State AFL-CIO President James Gerl told the 200 convention delegates that not only would the bill curb union campaign funding, but that numerous voters would be disenfranchised by restricting the use of absentee ballots.

In other action, delegates at the three-day convention voted support for the construction of a northern tier oil pipeline and federal loan guarantees for the construction of a synthetic fuel plant in the state, and voiced strong opposition to a proposal by the Internal Revenue Service to tax workers' fringe benefits.

The convention also voted support for striking Grain Millers and for the union's efforts to block a Federal Trade Commission proposal to break up three major cereal firms that would result in numerous layoffs of union members.

The state federation's top officers were re-elected to new two-year terms, including Gerl, First Vice President Raymond Such, Sec.-Treas. Robert Donegan and three vice presidents. Vice presidents elected to their first terms are William Conchigian and Glenn Olson of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and John Lampl of the Communications Workers.

Major convention speakers included Gov. Link, Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.), AFL-CIO Regional Director L. D. Porter, Regional COPE Director Jack McCoy and Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.

Deadline Nears:

Budget Issues Stall Action by Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

It then approved without further changes a budget resolution that holds a tight line on non-defense spending and could force cutbacks in appropriations for a number of domestic programs.

The Senate did, however, reject, by a 57-41 vote, a labor-opposed amendment by Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.) that would have compelled further heavy reductions in domestic programs to offset the increased military spending.

The House found itself stymied by a temporary inability to muster a majority for any budget proposal.

It refused, on a 221-191 vote, to increase military spending above the amount recommended by its Budget Committee.

On domestic issues, it held to the committee recommendations for a budget that labor considered significantly better than the Senate version.

In a letter to House members, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged its approval as a balanced approach "for preservation of social programs, development of new energy initiatives and real growth in military readiness."

He cited as especially desirable public jobs funding substantially above the Senate's budget resolution, targeted assistance for "those areas of the country which are the first to feel the effects of a recession." and allowances for fuel assistance payments to "inflation-oppressed, low-income people."

But while the conservative coalition was beaten in efforts to cut back the budget, it triumphed on the final passage vote with the help of a segment of liberals who considered the budget inadequate.

The result was a surprise 213-192 defeat of the budget resolution, which for the time being threw a wrench into the congressional budget machinery which has detailed timetables written into law.

On the vote, 146 out of 150 Republicans voted against the budget and were joined by 67 out of 255 Democrats. The Democrats who opposed the budget were about evenly divided between conservatives who thought it too costly and liberals who attacked it as inadequate.

The Budget Committee now faces the task of bringing a new resolution before the House that can muster a majority. A House-Senate conference would then be necessary to reconcile the two measures.

The first stage of the budget procedure took place last spring, when tentative budget "targets" were adopted but were not binding on congressional actions. After this second budget resolution is finally enacted, its ceilings will be binding on Congress unless further revised.

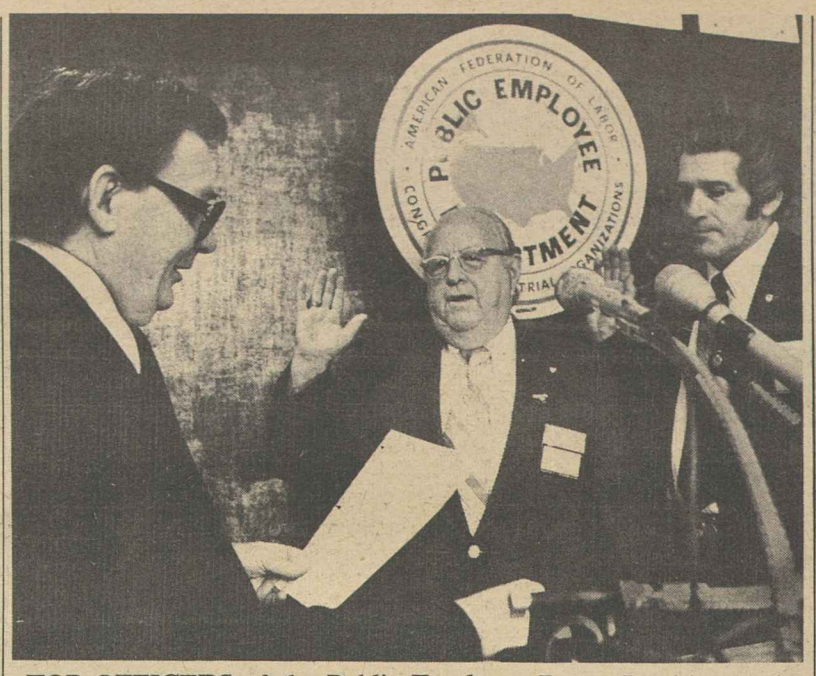
The budget was not the only issue the House could not resolve during a turbulent 12-and-one-half-hour workday on Sept. 19.

It struggled with an attempt to provide a 7 percent pay raise for members of Congress, federal judges and top agency executives. The percentage is the same other federal employees are scheduled to receive on Oct. 1, and is actually substantially less than a 12.9 percent increase that would take effect in the absence of any legislation.

But after adopting the 7 percent raise on a non-record 156-64 vote, a rollcall that put House members on record brought a reversal. The 219-191 vote also had the effect of killing the entire supplemental appropriation bill as well as the pay raise.

Congress did, however, near agreement on another area of controversy.

A House-Senate conference committee broke an impasse and agreed on a bill giving the President standby authority to ration gasoline in the event of a serious shortage. The compromise was being put into final form for submission to the full House and Senate.



TOP OFFICERS of the Public Employee Dept., President William H. McClennan and Treasurer Kenneth T. Blaylock, right, are sworn in by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland after their re-election at the department convention. McClennan is president of the Fire Fighters and Blaylock is president of the Government Employees.

Senate Retains Subsidy For Agribusiness Water

The Senate voted to allow huge agricultural corporations in California and other western states to continue to obtain low-cost irrigation water from a taxpayer-funded reclamation program intended to help family-sized farms.

It passed and sent to the House a labor-opposed bill that would legalize massive violations of the 77-year-old Reclamation Act, which was largely responsible for transforming barren deserts into rich farmland.

The original law limited each farm to 160 acres of subsidized irrigation water, but it has been so widely evaded that the water subsidies are now going to agricultural empires of tens of thousands of acres. A federal court two years ago found this a flagrant violation of law, and the big growers who would have to sell off their excess acreage have been pressing Congress for relief.

The Senate bill would raise the 160-acre limitation to 1,280 acres, and would repeal a requirement that landowners live within 50 miles of the land being irrigated.

Further, it would remove all acreage restrictions in the lush Imperial Valley and in California districts where the water comes from Corps of Engineers projects. The totally exempt localities include such agricultural giants as the 122,000-acre J. G. Boswell Co. holdings; the 68,000 acres controlled by Tenneco, Inc., a major conglomerate, and large farming operations owned by leading oil companies.

Although a federal appellate court had ruled that the acreage limitations also applied to Imperial Valley water projects, the Senate justified the exemption because a Secretary of the Interior during the Hoover Administration had said the acreage limit didn't apply.

The Senate did tighten the committee bill in one area, adopting a labor-supported amendment by Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.). The amendment closed a loophole that would have allowed farm operators to exceed the 1,280-acre limit by leasing rather than owning outright additional land.

But the Senate rejected amendments by Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.) that would have dropped the subsidized water allowance to 640 acres and eliminated the exempt areas. It also turned down a 960-acre compromise by Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.). The Nelson amendment was tabled, 65-18, and the McGovern amendment by 50-28. The bill was passed, 47-23.

In a letter to senators before the vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young had urged that the bill be substantially tightened by restricting "subsidization of large corporate landholdings" and reaffirming the goal of assisting family farms.

'Fed' Squeeze On Credit Held Recessionary

(Continued from Page 1)

banks across the country could raise their prime rates to 13.25 by the end of the week. The prime is the interest rate that banks charge their most credit-worthy corporate customers for unsecured loans.

In its latest credit-tightening move, the FRB said it took the action "against the background of recent increases in other short-term interest rates," such as the round of prime-rate rises, "to bring the discount rate into closer alignment with short-term rates generally, and to discourage excessive borrowing by member banks at the discount window."

While higher interest rates do tend to discourage borrowing and thus may ease inflation, they also contribute to worsening the recession. The FRB's 4 to 3 vote to raise the discount rate reflected a division among members over whether the Fed has already gone as far as it should in carrying out its anti-inflation philosophy and whether the more pressing problem is now the recession.

The White House chose not to comment on the Fed's action, but Rep. Henry Reuss (D-Wis., chairman of the House Banking Committee, described the split vote as more "intriguing" than the increase in the rate.

"For the first time," Reuss said, "Fed members are wondering out loud whether it really makes sense to throw men and women out of work and businesses into bankruptcy" by tightening credit and reducing borrowing.

Jay Foreman On Minimum Wage Panel

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall has appointed Jay H. Foreman of the Food & Commercial Workers to the Minimum Wage Study Commission. The eight-member commission was set up by Congress to make a three-year evaluation of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Foreman is executive assistant to UFCW President William H. Wynn and international vice president of the union. He fills the vacancy left by the resignation of Gerald M. Feder, who served as chairman of the commission.

Commission members have unanimously elected James G. O'Hara as their chairman for the nearly two years remaining in the commission's mandate. O'Hara, now a Washington lawyer, served nine terms as a congressman from Michigan and is a former chairman of the House Democratic Study Group.

The commission is made up of two appointees each designated by four Cabinet members. In addition to Marshall, they are the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce and Health, Education & Welfare.

Sakharov Hearings Will Examine Rights in Soviet Union, East Europe

A number of prominent Soviet dissidents, including recent emigres protesting work conditions in the USSR, will testify at the International Sakharov Hearings that will take place in Washington.

The hearings, which will be held in the Dirksen Senate Office Building from Sept. 26-29, are the first non-governmental sessions on the status of human rights in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to be held in the United States.

The witnesses, who have spent most of their lives in the Soviet Union or elsewhere behind the Iron Curtain, will speak on three major topics: workers' rights in the USSR, freedom of movement inside Russia, and "socialist legality."

Among those testifying will be Andrei Amalrik, the exiled Soviet historian and writer; Mrs. Natalia Solzhenitsyn, the wife of the Soviet dissident and novelist, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, and Victor Fainberg, the official representative in the West of the Free International Association of Workers (SMOT), a group of Russians who tried unsuccessfully last year to form an independent trade union in the USSR. SMOT was brutally crushed by the Soviet authorities.

The Soviet government's attack on SMOT was condemned by the AFL-CIO Executive Council last month in a statement that urged President Carter to press the USSR for the release of the union's leaders and to halt its repression of the organization.

Named after Nobel Peace Prize winner Andrei Sakharov, who was among a group of Soviet dissidents first to suggest the tribunals, the hearings will be conducted by a panel of prominent civic, academic, and human rights leaders. The forum previously convened in Copenhagen in 1975 and for a second time in Rome in 1977.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland will chair the sessions on workers' rights, which will examine working conditions, wages, the role of official trade unions, and related matters in Soviet-bloc countries as well as in the USSR.

Former political prisoners will testify on the use of forced labor in Soviet prisons and labor camps. A former member of the dissident Polish Workers' Defense Committee and recently emigrated East German workers are among other witnesses.

The Sakharov Hearings are supported by an international advisory board whose members include AFL-CIO President George Meany and President Bayard Rustin of the A. Philip Randolph Institute.

An exhibit of "samizdat" literature smuggled out of Soviet-bloc countries by dissidents will go on display in the lobby of the AFL-CIO headquarters building to coincide with the opening of the hearings.

Plan for Trade Court Opposed

The AFL-CIO asked a Senate Judiciary subcommittee to reject a proposal to create a Court of International Trade that would have jurisdiction over import matters.

Such a specialized court would be "inappropriate in today's world of interdependence," AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald testified.

Oswald said the AFL-CIO would support improvements in the existing customs court procedures. But he said labor objects to setting up a special court keyed to the concerns of international traders that would make decisions affecting the domestic economy, such as rulings on trade adjustment assistance and relief for industries injured by imports.

"Business, consumers, workers and communities throughout the nation are affected by trade," Oswald said, and should not have to go outside the regular federal court system to get a hearing.

9/22/79

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Labor, White House Adopt Broad Accord on Economy

AFL-CIO News

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THE NATIONAL ACCORD between labor and the Administration is detailed for the Executive Council by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, who led the months-long negotiations and discussions on the agreement for the federation.

Set Framework For Cooperation

By Saul Miller

A historic "national accord" setting out the basis for American labor's "involvement and cooperation" with the Carter Administration on dealing effectively and equitably with inflation and full employment has been approved by the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

At a special meeting in Washington the council adopted the accord covering general fiscal, anti-recession, pay-price and international economic policies, energy, human environment and other matters and concluded:

"It is our purpose to establish procedures for continuing consultations between American labor leadership and the Administration on these and other issues of vital concern to working people, as workers and citizens."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, who presided at the council meeting in place of ailing President George Meany, told a press conference that the accord is an "American adaptation" of the concept of a social contract between labor and government, an approach "never tried before" in the United States. He stressed that the accord is addressed to basic economic and social issues facing the nation and is not related to political positions or personalities.

The accord was approved by a unanimous vote of the special council meeting. Because it was called on very short notice, Kirkland said, there were 12 vice presidents absent.

The UAW issued a statement supporting the principles of the national accord and anti-inflation policies "based on equal sacrifice by all sectors of our society." President Douglas A. Fraser said the UAW board will be considering the specific proposals that are developed in the weeks ahead.

Reviewing the long period of consultations and negotiations that led to the accord, Kirkland said it provides the framework for a national economic policy that covers voluntary self-restraint on wages, that it is concerned with the broad national interest, not narrow or parochial concerns.

The primary problem is inflation.

(Continued on Page 3)

Tripartite Pay Board Established

By David L. Perlman

Former Sec. of Labor John T. Dunlop will head a new tripartite Pay Advisory Committee that will seek to develop "fair and equitable" wage guidelines with active participation of unions and employers.

Labor will participate in the 15-member advisory panel to the Council on Wage & Price Stability, and President Carter said he hopes the business community will do likewise. Dunlop will be one of the five public members.

The Pay Advisory Committee will plunge immediately into consideration of changes in the existing government wage guidelines and will be asked to submit by Oct. 31, 1979, its recommendations in the following areas:

(Continued on Page 3)

House Clears Canal Treaty Legislation

The House voted final approval to legislation to carry out the terms of the Panama Canal treaties, averting an international crisis just days before the treaties were to take effect.

Two tries were needed to clear a House-Senate conference agreement for the President's signature before the Oct. 1 effective date of the treaties. The labor-supported measure provides for administration of the waterway and its environs by a joint U.S.-Panamanian commission until the year 2000 when Panama is to assume full control, and contains protections for canal workers.

The first attempt to move the

(Continued on Page 6)

August CPI Up 1%:

Price Surge Erodes Workers' Real Pay

By James M. Shevis

American workers absorbed another body blow as inflation at the consumer level eroded their purchasing power for the fourth month in the past five.

Real spendable earnings, or take-home pay adjusted for the impact of inflation since 1967, declined nine-tenths of 1 percent in August, chiefly the result of a sharp 1 percent rise in retail prices, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

In the past 12 months, the government's consumer price index has risen 12 percent. Over the past three months, prices have climbed even faster, increasing at a compound annual rate of 12.7 percent.

The August CPI increase marked the eighth consecutive monthly increase of 1 percent or more in consumer prices, BLS observed. For the third straight month, about two-thirds of the increase was due to higher energy and home ownership costs.

The average price for all types of gasoline was 96.7 cents a gallon, up 3.7 cents from July. During the first eight months of 1979, average gasoline prices have surged by 28.2 cents a gallon.

The average price for a gallon of home heating oil in August was 80 cents. The price has now climbed by 25.5 cents per gallon so far this year, BLS said.

Household costs were up 1.4 percent over the month, the seventh consecutive month of large increases and the biggest monthly jump this year. Rising home ownership costs and heating fuel prices accounted for most of the increase.

Besides heating oil, house prices jumped 1.6 percent and home financing costs rose 3.1 percent. Natural gas and electricity prices also rose substantially in August.

With the exception of grocery prices, which remained unchanged,

(Continued on Page 8)

Congress Tightens Ban On Alaskan Oil Swap

Congress made clear its continued opposition to the export or swap of Alaskan oil as it passed a labor-supported bill that also tightens controls on exports that would weaken the United States or push up prices to consumers.

Oil companies pressed unsuccessfully to ease existing restrictions and allow "excess" Alaskan oil to be shipped to Japan on foreign-flag tankers in exchange for Mexican or Canadian oil purchased by Japan.

Instead, Congress voted even tighter conditions on any such exchange.

As a starter, the President would have to approve the proposed swap as enhancing national security, and the agreement would have to require that at least 75 percent of the oil company "savings" be passed on to consumers in lower prices.

Even then, both the House and Senate would have to pass resolutions specifically approving the transaction. The only exception to the export restrictions would be if

(Continued on Page 3)

Meany to Step Down At Coming Convention

AFL-CIO President George Meany informed the Executive Council that he will not be a candidate for re-election at the federation's next convention, slated to open Nov. 15 in Washington.

Meany, 85, has been president of the AFL-CIO since it was created by merger of the AFL and CIO in 1955. Before that he had been president of the AFL, succeeding the late William Green in 1952 after serving as secretary-treasurer since 1939.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland reported Meany's message at a news conference following the special council meeting, Sept. 28. He said expressions from council members "reflected our deep love and respect for this great man who has meant so much to the trade union movement and to American workers for many years, who has stood on the firing line and taken the attacks and brickbats that come with the normal territory of someone who has the responsibility of advocating and defending the rights of plain people in this society."

In response to a question, Kirkland confirmed that he will be a candidate to succeed Meany at the convention.

Meany recently returned to work at the federation's headquarters after a lengthy illness growing out of a leg injury he suffered last spring. He had intended to preside at the special council meeting but came down with the flu on its eve, Kirkland reported.



AN AWARD OF MERIT was presented to retiring IUD President Jacob Clayman, left, at the department's convention banquet by Labor Sec. Ray Marshall in recognition of Clayman's long years of service on behalf of American workers.

Tighter Law Endorsed On Lobbying Disclosure

Legislation to compel meaningful disclosure of lobbying activities and spending by groups seeking to influence Congress was strongly supported by the AFL-CIO at Senate hearings—even though it will require more detailed reporting by unions.

AFL-CIO Special Counsel Laurence Gold told a Senate Governmental Operations subcommittee that the labor movement's view is that "legitimate lobbying serves a useful and beneficial function" and "need not fear full disclosure."

New legislation is needed, he said, because the 33-year-old law that governs lobbying of Congress is so loophole-ridden that it lends credence to a popular belief that lobbying is "a secretive and shadowy activity harmful to the nation."

Gold noted that the AFL-CIO has actively supported attempts to pass lobbying disclosure legislation in the past two congresses. Differing versions passed by the House and Senate died in the 94th Congress, and in the 95th Congress a strong bill was passed by the House but never got out of committee in the Senate.

"It is time that the impasse be broken," Gold urged. He welcomed the bill introduced by Subcommittee Chairman Lawton Chiles (D-Fla.) as "a real opportunity to achieve success during this Congress." The House Judiciary Committee is now putting into final shape its version of a reform bill.

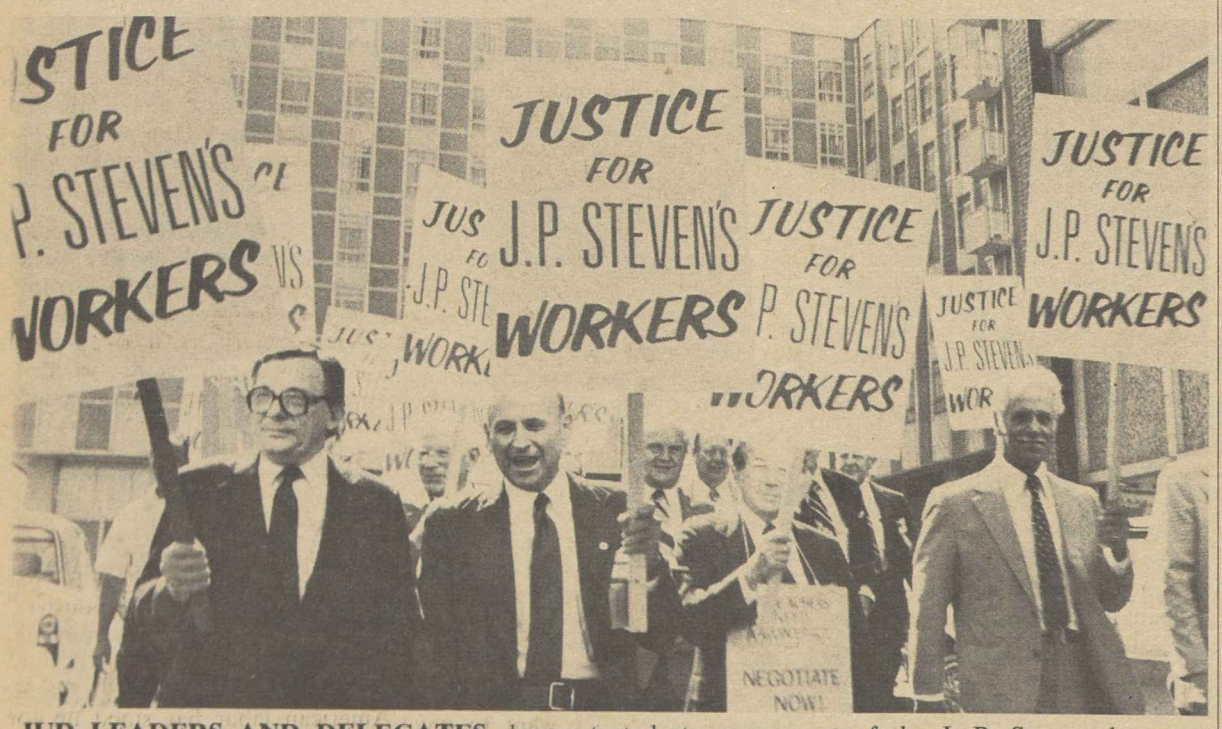
Gold covered these points in his testimony:

- Lobbying is part of the constitutional right to "petition the government for redress of grievance." That right should not be infringed, but "the people and Congress have a right to be informed about the activities of organizations that hire or employ people to influence the legislative process."

- Disclosure of pertinent information should be achieved without "over-regulation" which could "drown useful information in a miasma of unnecessary and meaningless detail" and discourage small groups from seeking legislative action. A lobbying campaign should be more than local, and addressed to more than a home-state senator or home-district congressman to be covered by reporting requirements.

- The AFL-CIO supports requirements for reporting of all but petty expenses for the benefit of any member or employee of Congress.

- An organization engaged in lobbying should be required to identify the issues on which it made a significant lobbying effort. Where its total lobbying costs exceeds $2,500, it should be required to report in more detail, including solicitations of others to lobby on its behalf.



IUD LEADERS AND DELEGATES demonstrated strong support of the J. P. Stevens boycott by marching out of the convention hall in San Francisco and through the city's downtown area. The march was led by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Jacob Sheinkman, secretary-treasurer of the Clothing & Textile Workers.

Convention Theme:

IUD Calls for Federal Action To Contain Recession's Slide

San Francisco—Government action to contain the current recession and shore up the economy emerged as a major theme of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. convention here.

The two-day meeting adopted more than 70 resolutions dealing with economic and social problems and installed new leadership for the department, electing Howard D. Samuel president and Elmer Chatak secretary-treasurer.

The delegates called on the government to take "counter-cyclical actions to keep the recession from being more severe than it is today" and urged job stimulation programs rather than tax cuts or incentives and similar schemes to deal with the downturn.

Other resolutions called for curbing corporate power, enacting plant-closing and relocation legislation, opposing technology transfers, renewing the fight for labor law reform, putting teeth in the Humphrey-Hawkins Act, backing the J. P. Stevens and Winn-Dixie boycotts and pledging support for Israel and the Camp David accords.

In his acceptance speech Samuel pledged to "build on the solid foundation of the IUD provided by Jake Clayman's leadership" and asked for the "full involvement of members and affiliates . . . to meet the challenges of our time."

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall spoke briefly to the convention, praising Samuel's record as deputy under secretary of labor for international labor affairs and his role in helping conclude the recent multilateral trade agreement. Earlier he had presented Clayman with the Labor Dept.'s award of merit for his years of dedicated service to America's workers.

Clayman was honored at the convention banquet with a warm and humorous slide show of his career and comments from AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and former IUD President I. W. Abel.

Vice President Walter F. Mondale reviewed the Administration's energy policies and programs and stressed the "growth of private money in American political campaigns." He declared that "money pouring into corporate PACs is a fearful menace to freedom in this country. . . . We must let these people know that this country is not up for sale. We must have strong campaign financing reform."

The convention heard also from California Gov. Jerry Brown, who called for investment in America rather than encouraging the export of U.S. industries and jobs. Other speakers were Wilson Riles, California superintendent of public instruction, California AFL-CIO Executive Sec. John F. Henning and AFL-CIO National COPE Director Al Barkan.

There were a number of changes in the IUD executive council with Wayne E. Glenn, Paperworkers; Dan V. Maroney, Jr., Transit Union; William H. Wynn, Food & Commercial Workers, and George Poulin, Machinists, replacing A. F. Grospiron, Oil Workers, and Matthew Guinan, Transport Workers, both recently retired as presidents of their unions, and Harry Poole, Food & Commercial Workers, and William W. Winpisinger, Machinists.

In addition to the four new members the others, all re-elected, are: Shelley Appleton, Ladies' Garment Workers; Kenneth Blaylock, Government Employees; Peter Bommarito, Rubber Workers; Dominick D'Ambrosio, Allied Industrial Workers; David J. Fitzmaurice, Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers; Alvin E. Heaps, Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union; Keith Johnson, Woodworkers; William Lucy, State, County & Municipal Employees; Lloyd McBride, Steelworkers; Charles H. Pillard, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; S. Frank Raftery, Painters; W. Vernie Reed, Laborers; Albert Shanker, Teachers; Jacob Sheinkman, Clothing & Textile Workers; Carl W. Studenroth, Molders; Frank Martino, Chemical Workers; J. C. Turner, Operating Engineers; Shannon J. Wall, National Maritime Union; Martin J. Ward, Plumbers & Pipefitters; Glenn Watts, Communications Workers.

Pay Issue Stalls Return Of Rock Island Strikers

The Railway & Airline Clerks said its members stand ready to go back to work on the Rock Island Railroad as soon as they have "affirmative evidence that all employees will be employed at the wage now prevailing in the industry."

BRAC members had remained off the job during a week of legal entanglement following President Carter's Sept. 20 appointment of a three-member presidential emergency board to recommend a settlement in a strike that began Aug. 28.

Members of the United Transportation Union, the only other union involved in the strike, were also prepared to go back to work, but were honoring the BRAC picket lines in the interim.

BRAC President Fred J. Kroll, in making the back-to-work pledge, emphasized that "the Kansas City Terminal Co. has been authorized to pay the prevailing wage," and said BRAC was waiting only "for word from the company that it shall do so."

One week after Carter's appointment of a fact-finding panel, Vice President Mondale announced that the Interstate Commerce Commission had asked that the Kansas City Terminal Co. take over midwestern grain shipments over the road of the Rock Island, which is undergoing reorganization under a court-appointed federal bankruptcy trustee.

But a vice president of the Rock Island, which is one of the 12 carriers making up the Kansas City Terminal Co., told United Press International it would refuse the ICC request rather than pay the prevailing wage and would lobby other companies in the group to do the same.

He said the ICC order wasn't necessary because management crews were already moving four times as much grain out of Iowa as was moved before the strike.

Noting that kind of attitude, new Transporation Sec. Neil Goldschmidt said he was "shocked" at the conduct of the Rock Island management and the bankruptcy trustee. He said trustee William M. Gibbons had failed to pay wages when due, had jeopardized the safety of both the employees and the public and that the Rock Island management had been "running its physical plant into the ground and, more recently, failing to pay its bills."

Earlier, Kroll had noted that the Rock Island had been granted the same 7 percent rate increase awarded other carriers after they signed a new collective bargaining agreement. But the Rock Island chose to pocket the increase as profit, Kroll said, and continued to plead inability to pay wages due despite a $57 million real estate sale.

"It is unfortunate that over the past several weeks, serious inconvenience has been caused by this Rock Island management to farmers, shippers and consumers," Kroll said.

The Kansas City Terminal Co. scheduled a meeting of its member companies on whether to accept the ICC request, which it is allowed under law to decline.

Rock Island employees are now about 21 months behind the pay scales that other carriers have been paying, retroactivity and all. Rock Island's refusal to pay the retroactivity which other carriers had paid helped touch off the BRAC strike Aug. 28 followed a day later by UTU members who had also been refused retroactivity.

The difference for the average railroad clerical worker is about $1.49 an hour, with the national agreement paying a total of $8.57 an hour and Rock Island workers earning $7.08 at the time they struck. The $8.57 an hour is the "prevailing wage" that the Kansas City Terminal Co. has been empowered to pay under the federal back-to-work order.

Under the federal order, the presidential fact-finding board has 30 days to report its findings back to Carter. The panel's chairman is former Under Sec. of Labor James Reynolds.

Labor, White House Set Broad Accord

Shape Framework for Cooperation On Key Economic Policy Issues

(Continued from Page 1)

the accord said, presenting "a clear and present danger" that threatens "our ability to achieve full employment," reduces real incomes and values, drives up investments, impedes productivity and breeds recession, falling "most heavily on those least able to bear the burden."

The statement warned that the war on inflation "should not mean acceptance of higher than otherwise levels of unemployment" and that if it means a period of austerity then "such austerity must be fairly shared."

It is imperative, the accord said, "that we overcome inflation in order to provide adequately for the general welfare and for the national security. It is also essential in order to assure our continued technological, industrial and humanitarian leadership."

Under the heading "general economic policies," the accord called for "a disciplined fiscal policy" keyed to minimizing budget deficits with due regard for social and economic needs. It warned against dissipating revenues for pressing national needs by general tax cuts in conflict "with the principle of shared austerity."

On countercyclical economic policies, the statement said that while actions to counter the recession need to be approached "with care" there should be ready to go programs to shelter the poor and needy "from the twin ravages of inflation and recession; skills training to remedy structural unemployment; public works; improved implementation and expansion of jobs programs; access to capital for the housing industry with reasonable cost financing for low- and moderate-income families; tax relief to offset inflation while contributing to job creation, productivity improvement and cost reduction.

On pay-price policies, the accord stressed the need for constraint and the objectives of "containment and deceleration of inflation." It added "direct participation by labor, business and other public representatives will make a major contribution toward a fair and workable program." It noted that federal pay action for fiscal 1980 has been taken in the context of "both fairness and continued restraint."

In the international area, the accord called for a reduction in dependence upon imported oil and expansion of exports. It stressed that "all international trade must be fair so that American jobs are not threatened by unfair restrictions on American goods and services" and that where American jobs are impacted, adjustment assistance needs to be prompt and adequate. It called also for a strong merchant marine and expansion of American-flag shipping to help reduce the balance of payments deficit.

On energy, the accord outlined the major thrust of the President's programs, termed them of "critical importance" and called on Congress to help carry them out as rapidly as possible.

The accord said that it is important to continue pursuit of the goal of improving "the quality of the human environment." It stressed programs to assure "safe living and working places and to improve health services available to Americans."

The specific points covered, the statement added, "are not intended to be exhaustive. There are other matters which currently deserve mutual consideration and others will arise in the future. Those will be part of an on-going agenda."

Kirkland told reporters that the accord sets the context in which the tripartite pay advisory committee will function to help evolve wage standards and provide a system of due process. Labor has a deep concern also, he said, for the work of the public advisory committee on prices and its work in terms of the overall accord.

He said the wage standards currently in effect will continue until they are modified by the pay committee. He said the labor leaders negotiating the accord were assured that the pay committee's recommendations will be taken "very seriously."

Queried on labor's support for the voluntary wage-price controls system it had seriously questioned over the past year, Kirkland said labor "is willing to give it a try" in the context of the broad accord on economic policies.



LABOR-HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD of the Jewish Labor Committee is presented to Iron Workers President John H. Lyons, left. Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, makes the presentation. In the center is Wilbur Daniels, executive vice president of the Ladies' Garment Workers and chairman of the JLC's Council for Human Rights.

Dunlop Named to Head Tripartite Pay Board

(Continued from Page 1)

- The basic pay standard.
- The inflation assumption for evaluating cost-of-living provisions.
- The threshold for the low-wage exemption.
- The treatment of step increments and tandem relationships.
- Appropriate adjustment for workers not covered by cost-of-living protections.

The committee will also be asked to review past decisions and interpretations of the Council on Wage & Price Stability dealing with wage settlements and to make recommendations "that assure fairness and equity in individual cases and that are consistent with the overall objective of the anti-inflation program."

Alfred Kahn, who heads the President's anti-inflation program, and Treasury Sec. G. William Miller told reporters that while the committee's powers will be advisory, the Administration's expectation is that it will have a strong influence.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland emphasized to reporters that the federation considers the new pay advisory body just one facet of the broad accord between labor and the Administration. Labor's participation in shaping a balanced anti-inflation program, he stressed, goes beyond the pay guidelines issue.

In response to questions from reporters, Kirkland said at a White House briefing that the AFL-CIO's cooperation was achieved because labor was directly involved in shaping the new wage advisory machinery. By contrast, when the guidelines were announced last year, labor was "vouchsafed an audience" but was not a part of the process and was kept "very much at arm's length."

The President also announced that he will appoint a five-member Price Advisory Committee, with an all-public membership to be announced shortly.

Its purpose will be "to provide greater participation by the public in development and administration of the price standard for the second year of the anti-inflation program."

Dunlop served as director of the Cost of Living Council in the Nixon Administration, but he is best known as one of the nation's most skilled practitioners in labor-management relations. During a long tenure as a Harvard University professor and dean, he shuttled back and forth to fill prestigious appointments in every presidential administration since Franklin D. Roosevelt.

His tenure as Secretary of Labor under President Ford was brief, but AFL-CIO President George Meany termed it among the "most distinguished" in the nation's history.

Dunlop resigned after less than a year when President Ford broke a public promise and vetoed a construction site picketing and collective bargaining bill that Dunlop had helped draft.

In such an atmosphere, Dunlop said, he had reached a "professional judgment" that he could no longer be effective in office.

Congress Tightens Ban On Alaskan Oil Swap

(Continued from Page 1)

Alaskan oil were needed to meet U.S. commitments under the Israeli-Egyptian Peace Treaty.

The AFL-CIO had stressed to Congress that lifting oil export restrictions would weaken the United States and remove all incentive to expand refinery capacity and build new pipelines.

Sen. Donald W. Riegle (D-Mich.), Rep. Howard Wolpe (D-Mich.) and Rep. Stewart B. McKinney (R-Conn.) were key figures in preventing weakening of the bill.

The Senate had voted 52-30 against an amendment to ease the export of Alaskan oil, and the House defeated an oil swap amendment by a 340-61 vote.

Both bodies strengthened the bill with labor-supported amendments intended to curb sales to totalitarian countries of products and technologies that could weaken U.S. security.

The AFL-CIO and the Industrial Union Dept. pressed for tighter restrictions, citing such laxities as routine approval for export licenses that have strengthened the military capacity of America's adversaries.

One labor-sought improvement in the Export Administration Act did not pass, however. Both the House and Senate rejected an attempt to limit exports of cattle hides when the result is to force up the price of domestic leather products.

Lyons Denounces Bid To Palestine Terrorists

New York—Iron Workers President John H. Lyons called for "new maturity" in human relations as he accepted the Labor-Human Rights Award from the Jewish Labor Committee and denounced recent meetings between the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Lyons said the SCLC-PLO meetings, triggered by UN Ambassador Andrew Young's resignation, have "debased and besmirched . . . the non-violent moral heritage of Dr. Martin Luther King."

"I don't have to be Jewish to dislike Yasser Arafat," Lyons told nearly 700 guests at the Jewish Labor Committee's annual dinner. He described the PLO leader as "the world's apostle of terrorism, of lethal violence directed against innocent civilians." It is estimated that the PLO has been directly responsible for the deaths of more than a thousand unarmed civilians from 1967 to 1977. The PLO claimed responsibility for the deaths of two persons last week in a bomb explosion on a crowded street in Jerusalem.

Lyons deplored the recent overtures made by SCLC's Rev. Joseph Lowery and D.C. congressional delegate Walter Fauntroy to Arafat.

"The sight of that embrace, on national television, made me sick," Lyons declared. He said the SCLC action served "to give respectability —a precious commodity for the PLO—to that band of assassins."

While applauding the moral claim and labor support of the SCLC in the civil rights struggle of the 1960s, Lyons expressed disbelief "that the SCLC leadership speaks for all black Americans on this subject." He added: "When white Americans can honestly say to Andy Young, 'It's not your color but your politics that bothers me,' and then not be accused of 'keeping black folks down,' that will be a sign of the new maturity."

Midway through his speech, Lyons left the podium and congratulated Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, saying: "I want to pay tribute to one man who worked very closely with Dr. King and who has shown courage" in his recent denunciation of a PLO-SCLC partnership.

Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, paid tribute to Lyons's leadership over the years on the federation's Executive Council and observed that any mention of human rights with the PLO is an "obscenity." Donahue pointed to the "terrorism" of the PLO in arming and training groups such as the Baader-Meinhof gang in West Germany and the Red Brigades in Italy while failing to rescue any refugees worldwide, including Palestinian refugees.

Don Slaiman, deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services and vice president of the Jewish Labor Committee, recalled the JLC's quarter-decade effort in fighting for civil rights against racial discrimination among "clear or confused liberals."

Leaders of government and organized labor sent messages of congratulations to Lyons on his receipt of the Labor-Human Rights Award which is given annually by the JLC's Trade Union Council for Human Rights. A message from Meany said that Lyons's "life and work reflect a tireless and unwavering concern for human freedom."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland said: "Men like Jack Lyons do not abandon their principles or their friends, regardless of momentary shifts of public opinion or the day-to-day vacillations of some in government, nor does the AFL-CIO or the workers it represents."

President Carter said in a telegram to Lyons: "You have contributed to the success of industrial democracy in our nation's vital construction industry." Vice President Walter Mondale told the JLC: "As your friend and mine, Hubert Humphrey, put it, 'American labor has stood up for those too weak to stand for themselves, fought for those too weary to fight for themselves.' In John Lyons you have chosen to honor a proud heir of that high tradition."

Keeping Tabs on Lobbyists

THE AFL-CIO DOES NOT BELIEVE that requiring organizations that seek to influence Congress through paid lobbyists or retained agents to register and file reports on their lobbying activities constitutes an interference with First Amendment rights of free speech, free press, freedom of association or the right of petition for redress of grievances.

We have encountered no difficulty and suffered no loss of our liberties in complying with the existing Federal Regulation of Lobbying Act. And we have heard of no other organization that engages in lobbying and reports under that act citing any such difficulty or loss of freedom in complying with the law.

Of course, the experience under present law is not as instructive as it might be because all too few organizations that engage in lobbying pay serious attention to their obligations. It is estimated that although the number of lobbyists in Washington has increased from about 8,000 to 15,000 during the past five years, fewer than 2,000 are registered and reporting under the 1946 law.

It is clear that lobbying is clearly an aspect of the constitutional right to "petition the government for redress of grievance" and is entitled to effective protection as such. Equally, it is clear, the people and the Congress have a right to be informed about the activities of organizations that hire or employ people to influence the legislative process.

A careful balance is required between these two basic principles lest one of them impinge unduly on the other. And finally, over-regulation may be even more ineffective than non-disclosure since it may drown useful information in a miasma of unnecessary and meaningless detail.

We are proud of our lobbying activity on behalf of the interests and welfare of working people and of our role as "people's lobby" in many legislative campaigns. We have recognized the present law as weak and ineffective, and we have worked along with many other public interest groups to change that law and make it better. The time to change the present ineffective law is long overdue.

—From AFL-CIO testimony.

A Labor Press Beacon

SIXTY YEARS AGO 15 railway labor unions founded Labor, a weekly paper to "tell things which they (the commercial press) will not reveal and carry news which they will not handle."

Today Labor survives as the only national newspaper published cooperatively by a group of unions. It is a paper that accepts no advertising or subsidies of any sort from an outside source. It has remained a fiercely independent and crusading paper, a beacon in the labor press under the distinguished editorship of Ruben Levin.

Its 60 years constitute a clear record of exceptional service.

AFL-CIO News

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LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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High and Dry



Workers' Nightmare:

Libertarian Party Would 'Free' The Rich to Enslave the Poor

By Gus Tyler

THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY that has just nominated its presidential candidate in Los Angeles likes to think of itself as a fresh voice heard across traditional political lines, expressing a view that contains the best of "left" and "right." The motto at the party's think tank is "conservative in appearance, radical in content." A friendly commentator describes the party as being "right" on economic issues and the sanctity of private property, "left" on foreign policy and civil liberties.

The party has an appeal to all those who are sick and tired of too much government. "We look forward to a society of human beings," state the party principles, "ruled completely by voluntary consent." No laws, no courts, no police, no enforcement agencies, no compulsion—either open or subtle.

A close look at the specific planks in the party's platform reveals much about the kind of society we would have when we turn everyone loose to do what he or she pleases, while the government stands by as a non-entity.

The platform calls for women's right to terminate pregnancy. That sounds sort of leftish with its open permission for abortion. But the platform also opposes tax-supported plans to finance abortions.

Now what does this mean in practice? A wealthy woman will be free to get an abortion, since she has the money to do so and since the act will not be illegal. But a poor woman will not be able to get the abortion because she does not have the money. Or, if she gets one, she is likely to get a cheap sloppy scrubbing without preparation or aftercare.

The platform calls for the abolition of the CIA, FBI, OSHA, EPA, FDA, social security and Federal Reserve systems. While the abolition of three of these agencies—CIA, FBI, and the Fed—would affect all of us, the abolition of the other agencies—Occupational Safety, Food & Drug, Environmental Protection—would be a rich man's dream and a workers' nightmare.

An employer need not worry about the safety of his employees; he could poison workers on the job and could pollute the community; a manufacturer of foods and drugs could make and sell what he pleases without testing, labelling, or showing any regard for the consumer.

Working people could spend a whole life laboring and end up in old age without any income at all.

The platform proposes to put an end to our border patrol and to remove all restrictions on immigration. This would officially open our gates to a flood of immigrants without any deterrent at all. For workers, this could mean early disaster; for employers this would mean cheap labor.

In short, the Libertarian Party platform "liberates" the strong to take advantage of the weak: to pay them any wage, to depress the wage further with imported labor, to pay no attention to safety in the plant, to poison the environment, to peddle noxious food and drugs, to deny protection in old age. The rich and powerful would be "free" to enslave everyone else, while the government stands by as a disinterested spectator.

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Bargaining Factor In Productivity Gains

We hear a lot of talk these days about a dramatic slowdown in productivity—a productivity crisis. I do believe we should take a long, careful look at the available evidence before we start ringing alarm bells.

There is no greater thief of productivity than sluggish economic growth and recession. As total output falls, plant and equipment are no longer running at their most efficient rate. Hence, per-unit costs rise.

Any truly effective national productivity program must begin with a strong commitment to high employment and healthy economic growth.

Many aspects of a productivity improvement program will have a direct impact on the working lives of employees. The framework of collective bargaining provides a forum by which labor and management can work out an arrangement beneficial to both sides.

This is important. A productivity program which has been hammered out in the give and take of bargaining is more likely to be successful.

—Building & Construction Trades Dept. President Robert A. Georgine at American Productivity Center conference.

Putting Waste to Work:

Recycling of Garbage Offers Significant Source of Energy

By James E. Hatfield

OUR CITIES PRODUCE tremendous amounts of garbage each day which cost a great deal of money to truck to landfills where it is dumped. The valuable resources this garbage contains are thrown away. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, if all of our cities converted their garbage to energy, the amount of fuel we could save would be a substantial part of all the oil we get from the Middle East.

The effects of our neglect of this tremendous natural resource are sad. Today, the United States converts only 1 percent of its garbage to energy. In Europe they are thriftier and wiser. Denmark converts 60 percent; Switzerland 40 percent; Sweden 30 percent; Germany 20 percent and England 10 percent.

Although the United States has only 5 percent of the world's population we generate more than half the world's trash and we consume ever-increasing amounts of scarce materials and energy. Americans today produce more garbage annually than steel. Only a minuscule part of this material is recycled. Paper makes up almost 50 percent, with newspapers accounting for 15 percent, miscellaneous paper 25 percent, and cardboard 7 percent; food scraps 12 percent; leather, plastics and rubber 5 percent; glass, ceramics and stone 10 percent; metal 8 percent; textiles and wood 6 percent.

The cost of garbage collection and disposal ranks second only to our expenditures for education. Both the cost and the quantity of garbage continues to increase. Today it costs about $35 a ton to collect and dispose of the nation's garbage. It was only $15 a ton ten years ago. Some cities pay up to $50 a ton. Over 75 percent of the material that goes into garbage is burnable and could produce electricity or steam to replenish our oil supply. Only one-fifth of paper products is recycled.

It takes six times the energy to manufacture new ferrous metals as it would to recycle them. Recycling scrap steel could cut air pollution about 86 percent and water pollution about 76 percent. Yet we continue to discard three quarters of our ferrous metals.

Oil is one of our desperate needs. It is a fact that oil can be produced from garbage. In San Diego an experimental facility burns 200 tons of garbage each day into a substance similar to industrial oil. It burns adequately and the system would be economical, experts say, if it handled 1,000 tons of garbage daily. This is easily possible in most large metropolitan areas.

High-energy fuel can be secured from garbage which is stripped of its non-burnable materials (which may or may not be recovered). It is available today as refuse-derived fuel (RDF). Raw garbage has one-third of the heating value of coal. RDF has 60 percent of the energy of coal. Furthermore, RDF plants are cheaper because they do not need new incinerators. The fuel, which is basically finely shredded garbage, can be shipped to utility companies and burned with coal. There is a new, higher-energy RDF which has an added ingredient to make it brittle and coal-like and has an indefinite shelf life. In Bridgeport, Conn., a plant that will be completed soon will produce this fuel which will then be burned by the local utility company. U.S. officials say this fuel could replace 10 percent of the coal and oil used by utilities for generating electricity.

Methane gas can be produced from the garbage in landfills. In Palos Verdes, Calif., 550,000 cubic feet of 99-percent-pure 1,000-BTU gas is delivered daily from a landfill to Southern California Gas Co. and is mixed with natural gas to serve 2,000 homes. Even after the landfill is filled to capacity, it will continue to provide methane gas for 15 years. Another recovery facility will be completed in late 1979 to produce 4 million cubic feet daily to serve 14,000 homes from a landfill in Monterey Park, Calif.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION to put deposits on convenience beverage containers, which constitute 5 percent of all garbage, has become the most political and visible aspect of the garbage problem. More has been written, argued and advertised about non-returnable bottles and cans than about all other garbage combined. But these laws attack only the tip of the iceberg and leave the other 95 percent of garbage untouched.

The solution is to recycle all garbage, which would recover much of our rapidly diminishing natural resources and cut the costs of disposal substantially. Resource recovery plants are operating in Hempstead, N.Y.; Saugus, Mass.; Nashville, Tenn.; Chicago, Ill.; Harrisburg, Pa.; New Orleans, La., and elsewhere. Plants in other cities are under construction.

The more simplistic solution advocated by some legislators of attacking only the 5 percent of non-deposit beverage containers would accomplish little, but over 50,000 skilled jobs would be lost.

The intelligent road of resource recovery would conserve our precious natural resources, solve the growing problem of garbage disposal and create a new industry with thousands of new jobs.

James E. Hatfield is president of the Glass Bottle Blowers Association.

Landlords, Corporations Benefit:

Tax-Cutting Schemes Slowed As Citizens Get Shortchanged

VOTERS ARE COOLING to the tax-cutting fever that flowed from California's Proposition 13 as they see landlords and corporations, not homeowners, reaping the major benefits, President William H. McClennan of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. declared.

McClennan said taxpayers are unwilling to trade limited tax savings for deep slashes of essential public services, and that the "average fair-minded American" is willing to pay a fair share to provide adequate funding for experienced and efficient fire service, police departments and teachers that are key elements in top-quality community life.

The shock waves from Proposition 13 haven't ended, but the momentum has clearly slowed as citizens see that "the piece of the pie for the average homeowner is small," compared with other interests, McClennan stressed.

Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, McClennan said President Carter's "7 percent solution" to the tight lid on federal pay increases was a "pleasant surprise, but it hardly takes care of the problem." He pointed out that even that adjustment leaves federal pay far behind the recommendations of the President's own committee for increases that would put federal workers closer to the wage levels received by private sector workers.

McClennan, who also is president of the Fire Fighters, charged that the Administration's pay policy is still "grossly inadequate." He pointed out that recent negotiations by private sector unions have yielded wage boosts of "10, 12, 13 percent, cost-of-living protection" and other gains.

Reporters questioning McClennan were Jean Culler White of Press Associates, Inc. and Peter Nye of the Bureau of National Affairs. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

For Professional Care!



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

LIKE A BAD PENNY, the idea of a federal value-added tax (VAT) has turned up again.

VAT has had a peculiar appeal to American conservatives for decades. As used in European nations, the tax is built into each stage of the production and distribution process, with the consumer paying the entire load at the retail counter.

VAT looks good to some people because it is apparently simple, it is usually hidden and it raises a lot of revenue. In labor's view, it is nothing more than a national sales tax, the most regressive form of taxation. But VAT has endured as a tax for all reasons.

About 20 years ago, business groups pushed VAT as a way to relieve the federal income tax "burden" on corporations and upper-income individuals.

In the late 1960s, VAT popped up again as a way to supposedly improve the U.S. balance of payments situation. Under international trade and tariff rules, governments can rebate to business any direct tax such as VAT on export goods and impose a tariff on imports.

VAT came back into the public eye at a September conference sponsored by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Almost as newsworthy as the topic was the fact that its chief salesmen were the key chairmen of tax-writing panels—Al Ullman (D-Ore.) of the House Ways & Means Committee and Russell Long (D-La.) of the Senate Finance Committee.

As Ullman sees it, a 10 percent VAT could bring $120 billion to $150 billion a year into the federal treasury. The revenue would be used to replace massive cuts in business, upper income and social security taxes.

Both Ullman and Long feel labor should drop its opposition because, in their opinion, VAT would strengthen the U.S. trade position and protect U.S. jobs. So what's so bad about VAT?

Each time VAT comes up, its defects are reviewed. VAT developed in a unique context in postwar Europe. Rebuilding war-torn economies, the European nations had to generate capital for investment and had little in the way of income taxes to draw on. VAT appealed because of its uniformity in the Common Market setting. Also, since tax-dodging is a popular sport in some countries, the view also existed that a bad tax collected is better than a good tax uncollected.

One conservative voice tried to talk sense at the Chamber of Commerce conference. Rep. Barber Conable, an upstate New York Republican, said business should reject VAT. He said it would require "a very high degree of record-keeping," would be inflationary and might increase the tax burden. Conable, the ranking Republican on Ways & Means, also scored VAT as "a consumption tax; it is not based on ability to pay."

CRITICS OF VAT have made all these points before. Faced with the rebirth of VAT, they once more have to show its unfairness, unworkability and unsuitability to the U.S. federal-state system.

Labor critics quickly dispose of the "protect U.S. jobs" argument by pointing out that other nations can easily retaliate or overreact to export subsidies.

How would VAT affect the Labor Dept.'s hypothetical urban four-person family living on an "intermediate" budget? This urban family's consumption budget is about $16,000 a year. While VAT probably would have some exemptions on such items as food, the proposed 10 percent VAT would hit this urban family with about $1,600 more each year in sales taxes.

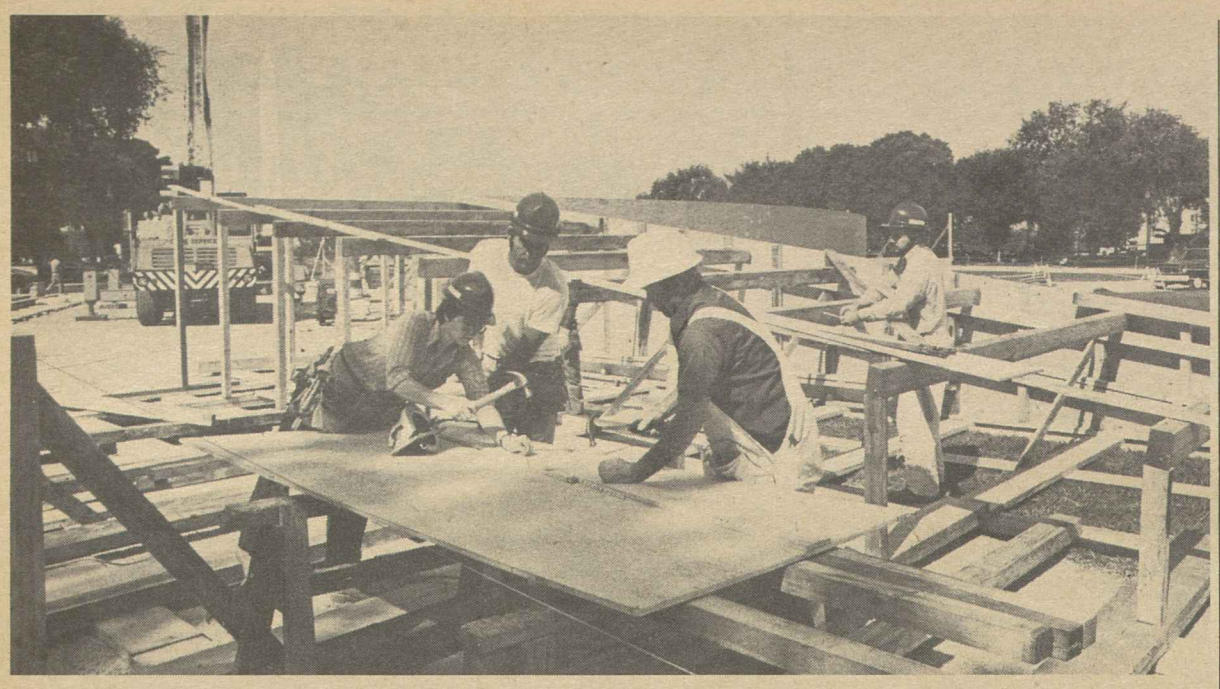
The Ullman proposal to use VAT revenue to roll back social security taxes by 25 percent would mean a tax cut of about $300 for the urban family's wage-earner.

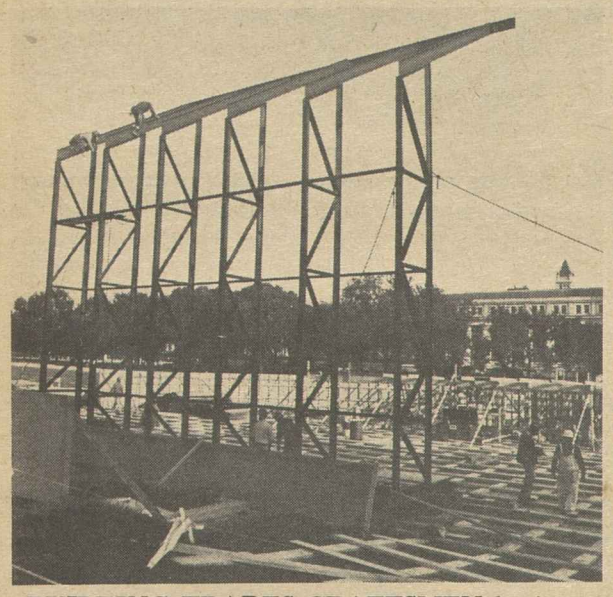
The net result: a $1,300 loss for this urban family while the billions raised through VAT are used to finance tax credits, reductions and giveaways to business and the wealthy.

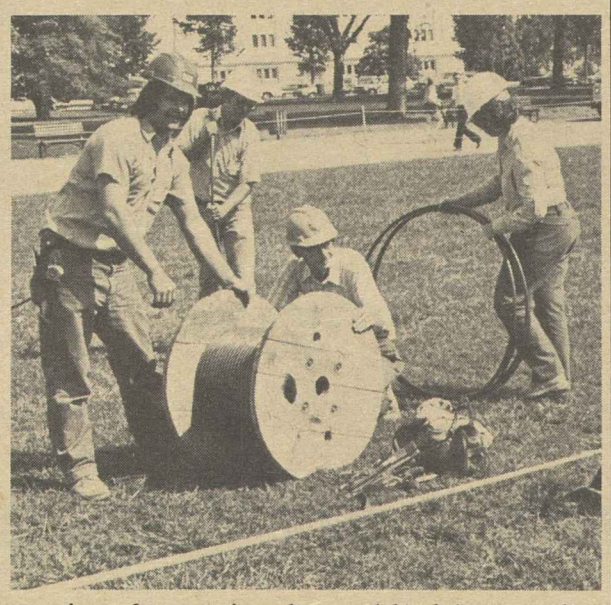
In a democracy, the tax system must be open and fair to enjoy the confidence of the people. As imperfect as the tax system is now, VAT as a hidden unfair tax would make it far worse.



AN EBBING INTEREST in tax-cutting schemes is being noted as homeowners and private taxpayers realize they have been shortchanged on benefits, President William H. McClennan of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Peter Nye, left, of the Bureau of National Affairs and Jean Culler White of Press Associates, Inc.







BUILDING TRADES CRAFTSMEN begin construction of a massive altar and backdrop on the Mall in the nation's capital in preparation for the visit of Pope John Paul II. The Roman Catholic pontiff will celebrate mass on the union-built structure Oct. 7. The work is being done by members of the Carpenters, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Iron Workers.

Strike Settlement:

Grain Millers' Pacts Achieve Key Gains

Duluth, Minn.—Members of the Grain Millers returned to work at the twin ports of Duluth, Minn., and Superior, Wis., to begin around-the-clock operations for loading grain ships and receiving shipments from midwestern farmers.

The return followed ratification of eight separate contracts by members of Local 118, ending their eight-week strike. The vote was 358 to 86.

While there are differences in each of the contracts which were negotiated separately with the eight companies, they all generally followed the pattern of the one with the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association (GTA), the first company to settle.

During the three years of the contracts, pay raises of 8 percent in each of the first two years are provided, with a 5 percent increase scheduled for the third year. In the case of GTA workers, this was calculated to raise average hourly pay from $7.75 an hour to $8.49 during the first year.

The workers were unable to attain an escalator clause based on the consumer price index, but did win provision for a $1,000 bonus per worker in each of the three years.

Joe Devich, Local 118 business agent, reported the bonus would give most members about as much as they would have received under a cost-of-living clause.

The GTA contract also provides for an incentive payment of $4 per worker for every 400 trucks, 210 rail cars, or 1.2 million bushels of wheat moved in a 24-hour period.

Pension, health and welfare, and vacation benefits were also improved in the new contracts.

In addition to GTA, settlements were reached with Cargill, Inc., ConAgra, Continental Grain, General Mills, International Multifood Corp., and Peavey.

With 23 ocean-going ships waiting in the Duluth-Superior harbor as the strike ended, President Carter is being asked to extend the shipping period in the St. Lawrence Seaway from Dec. 15 until Jan. 1. Concurrence would have to be obtained from Canadian officials who operate sections of the seaway.

The settlement came after the Minnesota Farmers Union executive board approved a resolution supporting the strikers, directed to the GTA board, and the Minneapolis Star reported that a number of state farmers "expressed as much concern for the strikers as they did for their own situation."

Cy Carpenter, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union, had insisted that the collective bargaining process was better than any alternative its critics could think of, saying "the record shows collective bargaining has served the nation well."

Carpenter said he keeps hearing about how costly the negotiations were to farmers, but "I wonder, compared to what?" he asked.

"I want to remind everyone that the negotiation of wheat sales to Russia have been costly" to farmers. Interest rate negotiations are costly. Oil price negotiations have been "very costly," Carpenter continued.

The Minneapolis Star cited comments from farmers such as:

"If they reach agreement, I hope it's agreeable to the laboring people."

"It's our opinion that the international and national grain companies have been depriving agriculture of parity for 30 years. It's our feeling that if they have deprived us (the farmers) then they undoubtably deprived the Grain Millers of parity of income."

"The strikers should not return to work unless they reach a good contract."

"Farmers and laborers are very close together and dependent on each other."

Machinists, Clerks Win Northwest Airline Pacts

The Machinists reached tentative agreement with Northwest Airlines just hours before a Sept. 27 strike deadline, and ratification of the proposed 39-month agreement could end a full year of IAM negotiations with what it calls the "trunk" airlines.

The Railway & Airline Clerks had reached agreement just a week earlier with Northwest in a settlement BRAC President Fred J. Kroll described as a "superior pact" and one bargained without the assistance of the National Mediation Board.

Details of the IAM pact, on behalf of some 3,500 mechanics and related personnel, were withheld pending ratification. Machinists' officials estimated the ratification process could be completed as early as the second week of October.

The BRAC contract, covering 3,000 ticket agents and clerical support personnel throughout the country, is the third falling under the jurisdiction of the Railway Labor Act that has been negotiated by the union without the services of federal mediators.

"This proves that the collective bargaining process works when both parties are committed to reaching an agreement," Kroll said.

The Northwest contract, which is retroactive to July 1, provides for a minimum wage increase of 33.3 percent over the three-year term, with 22.2 percent coming during the first nine months of the contract. Other highlights:

- Company-paid life insurance coverage is doubled from $10,000 to $20,000.
- Vacation schedules are compressed so that employees will get more vacation time sooner.
- Major improvements in the company's pension plan will allow for full retirement as early as age 55 with 27 years of service.
- Health and welfare benefits are increased.

For the Machinists, the tentative agreement with Northwest closed bargaining with major airlines that began in July 1978. Agreement was reached with TWA last November, with Eastern in May 1979 and with United in July 1979 after an eight-week strike. All major IAM pacts run until at least late 1981.

Two other AFL-CIO unions are still seeking agreement with smaller airlines in strikes against Ozark Air Lines and Hughes Airwest.

Striking Flight Attendants at Ozark arranged a Sept. 24 meeting with management in St. Louis to "establish a framework for reopening negotiations" to end their three-week walkout. The union, an affiliate of the Air Line Pilots, seeks an acceptable contract on wages, retirement benefits, and working conditions. Over 500 AFA members are involved.

In a dispute mainly over wages, some 2,200 members of the Air Line Employees Association walked off their jobs with Hughes Airwest, causing the airline to ground flights in 45 cities in 12 states. ALEA is a division of ALPA.

Extension Sought for Jobless Benefit Panel

The AFL-CIO has asked Congress to extend the life of the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation an additional year so that it can complete its study of the system.

The commission wasn't appointed and staffed until a year after its anticipated date, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young noted in urging the extension.

Transit Union Ties Dues to Average Pay

Los Angeles—Delegates to the Amalgamated Transit Union's 45th biennial convention here insured the union's future financial stability by adopting a minimum dues structure. The convention also re-elected all top officers.

The new dues program takes effect in January 1980. It will be based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics all-cities index of union wage rates for local transit operating employees. The minimum monthly dues was set at two times the average hourly pay rate. The program also contains a formula for automatic annual adjustments in dues.

Tied into the program is a deferred increase in per capita payments to the international union. Beginning July 1, 1981, the per capita tax will be set at 26⅔ percent of the minimum dues for active members.

In approving the proposal, convention delegates stressed the importance of providing the finances to insure continuation of necessary services to the membership.

In another fiscal area, the delegates approved a proposal to levy automatic assessments on all members of a local to pay for grievance arbitrations. The convention said the action was not designed to discourage the arbitration of grievances, but rather to encourage responsibility in its usage.

The convention also authorized the international union to establish a retiree program, consisting of appropriate retired employee chapters to serve the union's approximate 36,000 retired members.

The delegates re-elected President Dan V. Maroney, Jr., Sec.-Treas. Raymond C. Wallace, Executive Vice President John W. Rowland and all members of the executive board.

2nd House Vote Clears Canal Treaties Measure

(Continued from Page 1)

bill through the House met a stunning 203-192 defeat that threatened to unravel the year of negotiation for a peaceful transfer of control. But a new House-Senate conference edged the final version a notch closer to the House position, key votes were switched and Democratic whips cut down the absenteeism that had marked the first vote.

The turnabout came despite a blunt right-wing threat of political retaliation against any House member who changed his earlier vote and supported the new version.

The threat came from the Conservative Caucus, which said it had mailed out 7.5 million postcards and 100,000 letters to seek defeat of the legislation and in effect repudiation of the treaties.

Its chairman, Howard Phillips, announced before the second vote that his organization was prepared to spend $1 million to defeat for re-election any vote-switchers. Twelve Democrats and 13 Republicans switched to support passage.

The legislation includes guarantees of continued collective bargaining rights for U.S. and Panamanian employees under the same ground rules applicable to federal workers in the United States.

It assures U.S. citizens now employed by the Panama Canal Co. or the Canal Zone government of a cost-of-living allowance after 1984, to compensate for loss of low-cost military stores and post exchange facilities.

The final version was less generous than the House had approved in terms of benefits to teachers at Canal Zone schools and in application of the U.S. minimum wage to Panamanian employees.

While the Defense Dept. has said it will "grandfather in" present employees whose pay is tied to U.S. prevailing rates, the minimum for new hires will be $2.90 an hour, with a 2 percent annual step-increase.

One change made by the second House-Senate conference improved the bill in terms of labor representation on the Panama Canal Commission.

Of the five U.S. members, two will be from the Defense Dept. and their votes will set U.S. policy. The other three members will be chosen to represent labor, shipping and port interests.

Continuing Trend:

Vehicles Outstrip Rise in Population

"The "population explosion" in the United States and a growing number of other nations has been in vehicles, not people.

A recent article in the American Federationist, the AFL-CIO's monthly magazine, pulls together some startling statistics on the increase in cars, trucks and buses, which is far outstripping population growth.

The author, Anthony Downs, sees the escalation of motor vehicles as "a worldwide phenomenon wherever consumers have a free choice."

"There is no evidence yet that this worldwide trend is slowing down because of recent increases in gasoline prices," he writes. And he sees signs that the vehicle population explosion will continue as "one of the major social and economic forces of our era."

The Federationist article focuses special attention on the huge increase in multicar ownership in the United States over the past 25 years.

In the first decade after World War II, the big gain was in single-car families.

By 1955, three out of four households owned a car, but only one out of 10 had more than one vehicle.

By 1974, four out of five households had a car and one-third of all families had two or more cars. The percentage of multi-vehicle families has continued to rise, and the author estimates that by the end of last year about half of all households had at least two vehicles.

In the 1955 to 1974 period, he noted, multicar households rose by 307.8 percent, compared with an overall rise of 45.9 percent in total households and an increase of 16.4 percent in one-car households.

While the United States is the most "vehicle saturated" nation in the world—followed by Canada—Japan and Western European nations have also posted large gains. And the Federationist article notes that the less developed nations are showing a similar trend, with even more dramatic percentage gains because they started from a lower base.

Even with more fuel efficient cars, Downs notes, continued vehicle growth in the United States will mean a further rise in oil consumption.

Mandatory anti-pollution controls have reduced air pollution in the United States, but it remains a problem. And in many of the world's cities, increased traffic has brought pollution "to lung-choking, eye-searing levels."

Ironically, he notes, as U.S. cities press for improved public transportation and reduced use of private autos, trends elsewhere are for greater automobile use.

The United States has improved its road system so that traffic congestion probably is no worse than it was a decade or two ago, despite the increase in vehicles.

Nevertheless, Downs suggests, improvements aren't likely to end rush-hour traffic jams. As the author puts it, "peak-hour usage of all commuter roads always rises to surpass the designed capacity of those roads, no matter how large they are."

Labor Studies Center Schedule for October

Four institutes open to officers, representatives and staff members of AFL-CIO affiliates are scheduled at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies, Silver Spring, Md., during October. Eight unions have scheduled training sessions during the month, as have the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services and the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD). The institutes:

Organizing Techniques, Oct. 7-12—A simulated exercise will be used to teach the mechanics of an organizing campaign. Other topics are developing leaders, the law on organizing and labor board procedures.

Labor Law, Oct. 14-19—A discussion of the laws governing unions, including internal affairs, organizing, bargaining, fair representation, equal opportunity, pregnancy/disability and occupational safety and health.

Union Administrator and Business Agent, Oct. 21-26—A session dealing with the business agent's or full-time officer's role as a local union leader. It covers contract negotiations, administration, scheduling of time, monitoring finances and budgeting, running a union office.

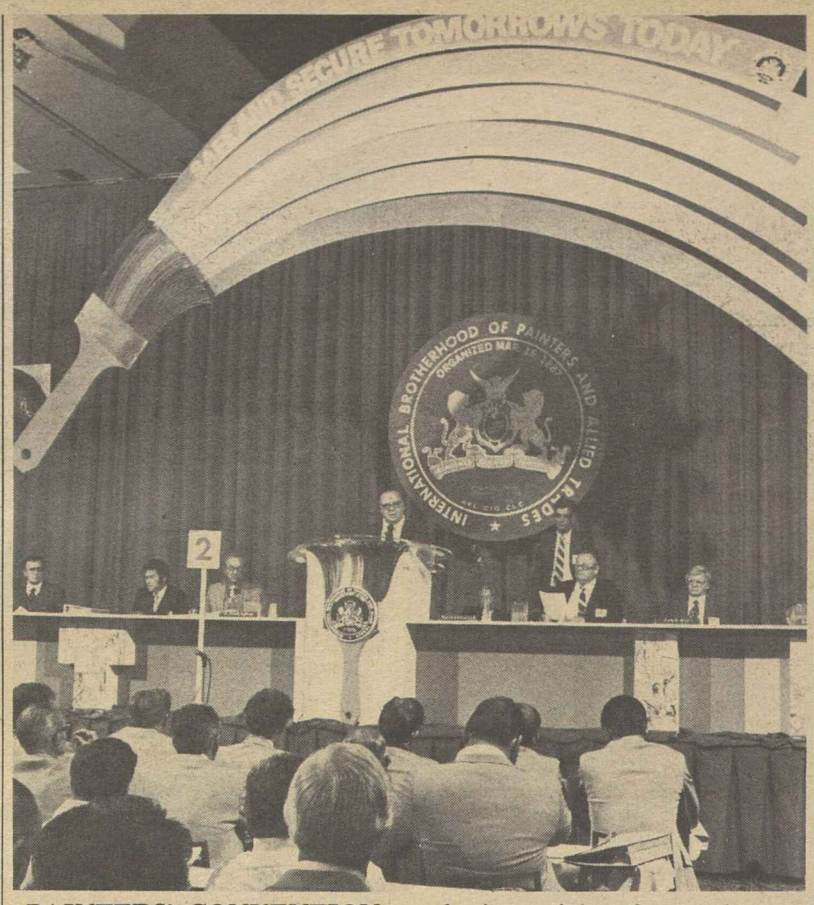
Negotiating Techniques, Oct. 28-Nov. 2—A simulated bargaining exercise, including caucuses, will be videotaped and played back for comment by federal mediators.

Union programs during the month will be presented by the Service Employees, Sept. 30-Oct. 5; Railway & Airline Clerks, Sept. 30-Oct. 5; State, County & Municipal Employees, Oct. 7-12; Painters, Oct. 7-12; Clothing & Textile Workers, Oct. 14-19; Air Traffic Controllers, Oct. 14-19 and Oct. 21-26; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Oct. 21-26; Communications Workers, Oct. 28-Nov. 16.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services has scheduled a staff meeting on campus Oct. 30-Nov. 2.

AIFLD is running two courses, Oct. 9-Nov. 23, for Latin American union leaders. One is an advanced course in collective bargaining, the other an institute on management and leadership.

More information on these or other labor studies programs can be obtained from Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., executive director, George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Tel. 301/431-6400.



PAINTERS' CONVENTION emphasis on job safety and new organizing initiatives to confront open shop contractors are spelled out by President S. Frank Raftery. The convention also increased the union's per capita tax by $2 over the next three years and re-elected Raftery and eight other incumbents to new five-year terms.

General Motors Accord Won for 30,000 in IUE

Members of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers are voting on a new three-year agreement with General Motors Corp. covering some 30,000 employees at plants in Dayton and Warren, Ohio, New Brunswick, N.J., and Rochester, N.Y.

The contract follows the pattern of GM's recent settlement with nearly half a million UAW members. Economic terms are identical to those in the UAW pact, but the agreement calls for some variation in the provision on union recognition at new plants.

The settlement provides for 3 percent annual wage increases, along with cost-of-living adjustments. The COL formula, now 1 cent an hour for each 0.3 change in the consumer price index, improves in the third year of the contract to 1 cent for each 0.26 change.

IUE members will also receive 26 days of personal leave over the term of the contract, significant improvements in pension benefits, and a new stock ownership plan.

Also, the union would be granted recognition as representative of employees at the former Frigidare plant in Dayton, and employees there would receive increases to automotive pay rates, retroactive to July 30.

When GM initially announced plans to convert the Dayton plant to a Chevrolet facility, it said it would continue to recognize IUE as bargaining agent. The UAW protested, however, and the issue was not resolved until UAW settled earlier this month.

The union recognition provision of the new IUE agreement calls for automatic recognition at new Packard Electric plants manufacturing products similar to those produced at the Packard plant in Warren, Ohio. Automatic recognition of IUE also would be extended to new Delco plants that produce similar products and are in the same geographic area as existing Delco plants.

Excluded from the agreement are Packard plants that already have opened in Clinton and Brookhaven, Miss. However, GM agreed to extend a period of preferential hiring at these plants for IUE or UAW members who wish to transfer from other GM plants.

In its settlement with the auto maker, the UAW agreed not to seek to organize employees at plants traditionally represented by IUE. Provisions on recognition were worked out at meetings of all three parties, the IUE reported.

Ex-NLRB Member Abe Murdock Dies

Abe Murdock, who served on the National Labor Relations Board for 10 years after having represented Utah in both the House and Senate, died at the age of 86.

Youth Wage Discredited in Oregon Test

Portland, Ore. — The claim by employers that a lower minimum wage creates jobs was disproved here in an abortive summer experiment by the Oregon Wage & Hour Commission.

The governor-appointed three-member board voted 2-1 to set a subminimum for workers under 18 of $1.85 an hour, 45 cents below the state minimum. Proponents contended it would generate more jobs for young workers during the summer vacation.

Statistics just released show the "work-for-less" test was not the job-producing bonanza that proponents had promised. Out of 6,498 teen-agers registered to work by the Oregon Bureau of Labor, only 20 were certified to work under the experimental subminimum.

Organized labor opposed the subminimum and helped lobby through a law in the final days of the 1979 legislature that stripped the commission's power to set a subminimum by age classification. The legislature also adopted a timetable to bring the state into conformity with the federal minimum wage by 1981. The experiment came to an end in late July when the Oregon Court of Appeals ruled that the wage and hour law does not permit experimental subminimums.

"We felt they were treating youngsters as second-class citizens and we were adamantly opposed to the subminimum," said Nellie Fox, legislative and political education director for the Oregon AFL-CIO. Although fast-food chains and other sometimes exploitive employers of young people wanted the subminimum, Fox said she thinks they "became afraid of it" because of intense public opposition by teen-agers. The young people formed a loosely-knit protest group and staged picketing demonstrations against the experiment.

The failure of the subminimum experiment for teen-agers does not mean that all employers are willing to pay the standard minimum wage, Fox noted. "Now the employers of handicapped people are trying to get an exception to the minimum wage," she warned.

Chemical Workers Pick Sparks for No. 2 Post

Akron, Ohio—William J. Sparks has succeeded J. A. Thomas as secretary-treasurer of the Chemical Workers. Thomas, who has held the union's second-ranking post since 1975, retired Sept. 1.

ICWU President Frank Martino announced that the union's executive board unanimously confirmed Sparks's appointment, along with that of Ralph Brannon as a vice president and director of ICWU Region VI to succeed Sparks.

Sparks, 55, has been a vice president and a member of the union's executive board since 1960. Earlier, he had been an officer of ICWU Local 401 in Copperhill, Tenn., before joining the international staff in 1953.

Brannon, 56, has been a member of the ICWU since 1944 and held a number of local union positions before he was named an international representative in 1957.

Thomas, 66, had served for six years as a district council business agent when he was appointed an international representative in 1957. He became special assistant to the union's president in 1967 and two years later was named director of research and education.

Thomas was elected a vice president in 1972 and later also served as director of Region III. In 1975, he succeeded Martino as secretary-treasurer and was elected to a four-year term at the union's 1976 convention.

Elections for new four-year terms will be conducted at the union's 1980 convention.

2 Labor Officials on Federal Services Panel

President Carter has appointed Food & Commercial Workers President William H. Wynn and John A. McCart, executive director of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., to a new Management Improvement Council that will advise on efforts to improve "the quality of service that our government provides to the American people."

The 19-member body includes public officials and members drawn from private business and universities. It is chaired jointly by James T. McIntyre, Jr., director of the Office of Management & Budget, and Alan K. Campbell, director of the Office of Personnel Management.

Boom to Multinational Firms:

Trade Preferences Called Costly to U.S.

Duty-free imports pouring into the United States are benefiting multinational corporations and wealthier countries far more than the poor of developing countries that should be aided by the government's General System of Preferences, the AFL-CIO declared.

Testifying before a GSP subcommittee of an interagency panel on foreign trade, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said that not only has the GSP program failed to bring economic benefits to foreign workers, it has actually harmed American workers.

"The benefits of the program have gone largely to multinationals and elites abroad," Oswald stressed. "The majority of benefits have gone to a few countries who seem to need it the least."

The GSP program was set up under a section of the 1974 Trade Act that provides special trade preferences for 2,700 items free of tariff from 140 low-wage countries and territories.

Urging repeal or extensive overhaul of the program, Oswald said that economic assistance to needy countries should be more direct and more developmental.

"If the United States believes it should not repeal GSP, considerations should be given to phasing out coverage of some countries, as well as the removal of certain products," he asserted.

"At the very least," Oswald said, "the benefits should be withdrawn from those countries and products whose trade patterns are actual or potential threats to the United States."

He noted that massive transfers of technology, capital and production tend to create high levels of industrialization in some countries without helping the poor.

As a result, he pointed out, the list of so-called "developing" countries now includes some wealthy and highly industrialized nations, as well as some that are tragically poor.

A comprehensive and ongoing review of the GSP program is essential to weed out multinational corporations and wealthy countries benefiting from the program, Oswald urged.

He also cited the adverse impact GSP is having on the U.S. balance of trade. As an example, he noted that of the $30 billion U.S. trade deficit last year, more than $5 billion of it was traced to three countries covered by the GSP—Taiwan, Hong Kong and Korea.

Numerous job losses and lost employment opportunities have been traced to the GSP program, Oswald pointed out.

In outlining the AFL-CIO position calling for an overhaul of the GSP program, Oswald said criteria should be established for the removal of large world exporters and particular items from the U.S. preference list.

He suggested that a country should lose GSP eligibility if it:

- Exports more than $1 billion in goods to the United States.
- Exports more than $500 million under GSP provisions.
- Exceeds exports of $1,000 per capita in its gross national product.
- Has a trade surplus in manufactured products with the United States.

A number of AFL-CIO affiliates whose members have suffered serious job losses as a result of the program also submitted statements to the panel calling for the removal of particular products from GSP coverage.

The unions include the Furniture Workers, Rubber Workers, Ladies' Garment Workers, Iron Workers, the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Carpenters and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The eight-union coalition of the Stone, Glass & Clay Coordinating Committee also called for removal of products that have affected members' jobs.



LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES of the AFL-CIO in the 96th Congress are detailed for students of the U.S. Army War College during a visit to the federation headquarters. AFL-CIO representatives conducting the briefing included Education Director Walter G. Davis, Associate Social Security Director Lawrence Smedley, Associate Legislative Director Ray Denison and Assistant Research Director Arnold Cantor.

HEW Scored on Plan to Reduce Standards for Child Care Centers

The AFL-CIO has voiced strong objections to proposals that would drastically lower the quality of care required in day-care centers regulated by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman pointed out in a letter to Sylvester Ligsukis, director of HEW's Day Care Task Force, that proposed changes listed in the Federal Register "represent a clear and significant regression in the lengthy and difficult development of federal responsibility for the needs of children."

If adopted, Seidman said, the regulations would "eliminate services and reduce staffing required under current standards so as to shift the intent of federal regulation from developmental day care to potentially harmful custodial care."

Following are the changes Seidman listed as most objectionable:

- Deletion of all requirements that a caregiver have any previous education or training in the care of young children, or even be in good health or "of an age appropriate to being entrusted" with child or infant care.
- Deletion of present requirements that social services be provided to children when needed. The proposed rule would require only that the parents be given information and referred to services elsewhere.
- Deletion of provisions for any involvement by parents in their child's program except "access to public information" about the center.
- Deletion of requirements that federal standards apply to all federally financed day care, including that funded by the Dept. of Labor under the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act and by the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development. Day care paid for under the program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children would be specifically exempted, leaving children "without even the questionable protection of these minimal standards."
- Deletion of any federal role in monitoring or enforcement of federal standards. The proposed rule would not require site visits by either federal or state authorities, relying on "self-assessment reports." Even then, if any provider is somehow discovered to be not in compliance with the standards, there is no provision to cut off funding.

"For these reasons," Seidman concluded, "the AFL-CIO will oppose adoption of the proposed regulations and recommends that they be withdrawn. We urge the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare to issue new draft regulations which are more consistent with the goal of quality child care.

"In the interim, child-care providers receiving federal financial participation should be required to maintain the quality of their program at the level required by the states in 1975."

Jobless Benefit 'Offset' For Retirees Opposed

A scheduled change in federal unemployment compensation standards would impose an unfair "means test" for payment of benefits and should be repealed, the AFL-CIO urged.

Unless Congress acts, states will be required after Mar. 31, 1980, to reduce unemployment insurance benefits to "offset" the amount of any pension a recipient may be getting from some previous job.

AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Robert McGlotten protested that an offset requirement would depart from the concept of jobless benefits as an earned right, rather than a form of welfare.

In practice, he told a House Ways & Means subcommittee, it would amount to a form of discrimination against older persons seeking to stay in the labor force. The reduction of benefits would apply even though a pension recipient earned rights to unemployment compensation in subsequent jobs that did not provide an immediate pension, McGlotten noted.

Those who face benefit cuts unless Congress intervenes include persons receiving pensions from past military service. Others especially vulnerable, McGlotten said, would be workers who were eligible for modest early retirement benefits after they were left jobless by layoffs or plant closings.

In an accompanying statement to the subcommittee, the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. termed the offset requirement "a gross inequity" and found it ironic that it had been inserted into a labor-supported 1976 law that extended unemployment compensation rights to state and local employees.

McGlotten noted that the offset restriction had been written into the bill as a Senate amendment without any hearings on the issue.

Congress had delayed the original effective date to allow the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation to study the matter, and McGlotten noted that the commission "unanimously recommended repeal" of the requirement.

Labor's position, he said, is that "anyone, including retirees, who has qualified for an unemployment compensation benefit should have it."

Under the scheduled change, McGlotten noted, a J. P. Stevens worker in North Carolina who retires at a maximum pension of $36 a month and needs to continue in the workforce would have unemployment benefits reduced while there would be no reduction for persons with income from savings or investments. Further, he reminded the panel, pensions received by workers may include a worker's own payments into a contributory pension program—in effect a form of forced savings.

The 1976 offset amendment should never have been adopted, he said, and should be rescinded.

Real Earnings Show Sharp Drop As Retail Prices Continue to Surge

(Continued from Page 1)

the cost of most other items used by consumers increased during the month. The inexorable rise in prices produced the steep nine-tenths of 1 percent plunge in purchasing power, the largest decline since a 2.3 percent drop in April. Over the year, real spendable earnings were down 4.3 percent, BLS reported.

The average married worker with three dependents took home $195.17 in current-dollar spendable weekly earnings in August, an increase of 27 cents from the July level and $13.39 more than a year earlier. In constant dollars, however, the same worker drew only $88.35 in spendable weekly earnings last month, a decline of 77 cents over the month and $3.78 less than in August 1978.

The moderation in food prices over the month was attributed primarily to a 3.7 percent decline in the prices of meat, poultry, fish, and eggs. Beef, pork, and poultry prices all fell by more than 4 percent, and egg prices were down 10.5 percent after seasonal adjustment.

The declines were partially offset by increases in prices for most other grocery-store foods, BLS said. Prices for cereal and bakery products and dairy products registered their largest increases of the year in August. Prices for fruits and vegetables also rose substantially.

Clothing and upkeep costs were up five-tenths of 1 percent after declines of two-tenths of 1 percent in June and July and one-tenth of 1 percent in May. The August gain, the fastest since last March, was attributed to the introduction of the fall and winter lines of women's and girls' clothing.

Transportation costs rose sharply for the 10th consecutive month. Higher gasoline prices accounted for over two-thirds of the transportation increase, BLS said. Gasoline prices in the past 12 months have increased 46.9 percent.

New car prices increased three-tenths of 1 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis, compared with 1 percent in July. Used car prices fell for the sixth consecutive month.

Public transportation costs rose 1.6 percent following a 1.2 percent increase in July, as airline fares, intercity train and bus fares, and taxi fares all showed substantial increases.

Medical care costs jumped eight-tenths of 1 percent as charges for doctors' services and hospital rooms rose eight-tenths of 1 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively.

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Kirkland Stresses Danger Of Balanced Budget Plan



THIRD INTERNATIONAL SAKHAROV HEARINGS, sponsored by the AFL-CIO and several private organizations, focused on workers' rights in the Soviet Union and elsewhere behind the Iron Curtain. Federation Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, above, chaired the session on the status of workers. More than a score of former Soviet, Polish, and East German workers told a panel of prominent human rights leaders of violations of their fundamental rights by Communist officials.

Wholesale Prices In New Surge

Higher consumer costs are on the way for Americans already reeling from one of the worst bouts of inflation since World War II. The bad news came in a Labor Dept. report that wholesale prices rose 1.4 percent in September, largely as a result of sharp boosts in energy costs. It was the sharpest monthly increase in wholesale prices in nearly five years.

Wholesale prices—what the government calls producer prices for finished goods—eventually filter down to the consumer, often in a month or so.

The latest rise in wholesale prices boosted the producer price index for finished goods to 11.8 percent over the year-earlier level. During the third quarter, from July to September, wholesale prices advanced at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 15.7 percent, compared with 6.8 percent in the previous three months and 14.3 percent in the first quarter.

Wholesale prices for energy goods climbed 6.8 percent during the month, up a full percentage point from the August advance. Energy costs over the year, from September to September, rose 55.9 percent, the department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Home heating oil prices soared 7.9 percent during the month, and were up 72.8 percent from a year earlier.

While higher petroleum prices were the major culprit in the large increase in the index, rising food prices were not far behind. Food items were up 1.8 percent over the month, compared with 1.2 percent in August. From April through July, food prices had shown no change or had declined.

"Beef and veal prices rose sharply in September following four months of decline, and prices for pork rose for the second consecutive month following five consecutive decreases," BLS said.

Large increases also were rung up for milled rice, roasted coffee, processed poultry and bakery products. Non-food items were up 1.3 percent, about the same as in August.

The September increase in prices for producer finished goods was the third consecutive monthly rise of more than 1 percent, and the largest since a 2 percent jump in October 1974, when the nation was in a major recession.

Prices for intermediate goods, items that require further processing before they become finished goods, jumped 1.5 percent, following a 1.2 percent rise in August. The index for intermediate goods over the year was up 14.6 percent.

Move Seen Attack On Constitution

The AFL-CIO is "unalterably opposed" to a constitutional amendment that would compel a balanced federal budget, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland testified at Senate hearings.

Kirkland said a mandatory balanced budget would leave Congress helpless to deal with national emergencies and economic recessions. And it would grossly violate the concept of the Constitution as "a framework for an enduring government" rather than a compilation of laws that are soon outdated.

A Senate Judiciary subcommittee is considering variants of a balanced budget amendment that has been endorsed by 30 of the 34 state legislatures needed to compel a constitutional convention to be called. The state actions are seen as pressuring Congress to initiate such an amendment itself and thus head off the uncertainties of the never-used convention procedure.

Kirkland spoke of the political expediency of members of state legislatures who voted for the constitutional convention resolution so they could tell constituents they supported "fiscal responsibility."

Most of the states adopted the resolutions without hearings and with only perfunctory debate, he said.

Ironically, Kirkland noted, the federal budget would show a big surplus if Congress discontinued more than $80-billion-a-year in grants to the states.

(Continued on Page 3)

Freedom Stamped Out:

Sakharov Hearings Expose Extent of Soviet Oppression

By James M. Shevis

Whether an independent trade union movement ever emerges in the Soviet Union depends to a large extent on the West, former Soviet workers and dissidents told a distinguished panel investigating human rights violations in the USSR.

Victor Fainberg, the Western representative of the only active union in the USSR that does not pay lip service to the Communist authorities, told the third International Sakharov Hearings in Washington that help and encouragement from the free world are urgently needed if the group is to survive.

The Free Interprofessional Association of Workers (SMOT) is the second unofficial trade union to spring up in the Soviet Union over the past three years. SMOT's predecessor, the Free Trade Union Association of Soviet Workers, was stamped out and its leaders were either jailed or incarcerated in psychiatric hospitals.

SMOT, too, has felt the pressure of Soviet authorities but even though several of its leaders have been imprisoned it has managed to hang on and is now in its 11th month of existence.

The right to form independent trade unions in the USSR and other Soviet-bloc countries came in for lengthy discussion during the first day and a half of the hearings, which were organized by Soviet dissidents and funded by several private organizations, including the AFL-CIO.

The hearings—named for leading Soviet dissident and Nobel Peace Prize winner Andrei D. Sakharov—also focused on forced labor in the USSR, lack of freedom of movement inside the country, the Soviet legal system, and the plight of prisoners of conscience behind the Iron Curtain.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, who chaired the sessions on workers' rights, noted that the Soviet Union and other East European nations have subscribed to a number of international agreements on human rights, and are obligated to live up to them and undergo world scrutiny. Regarding workers' rights, there are clear and uniform standards of behavior spelled out in various conventions adopted by the International Labor Organization that all signatory nations have agreed to observe, he noted.

As the parade of witnesses proceeded to give their testimony, however, it was clear that the Soviets continue in gross violation of these standards and fail to accord even basic workers' rights to their people.

(Continued on Page 2)

Stevens Told To Open Plants To Organizers

The Clothing & Textile Workers scored a major legal victory against the anti-union J. P. Stevens & Co. as the National Labor Relations Board ordered the giant textile firm to grant ACTWU organizers equal access to its plant facilities throughout the United States during the next two years.

Citing Stevens's "demonstrated and longstanding proclivity to violate the (National Labor Relations) Act, and thereafter . . . often to ignore remedial orders of this board and on occasion of the courts," a three-member NLRB panel declared that "the imposition of extraordinary remedies" sought by ACTWU was justified.

In its decision—the 21st remedial order to be issued by the board

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Senate Passes Strong Energy Bill To Cut Red Tape, Reduce Delays

By David L. Perlman

The Senate voted 68-25 approval of a labor-supported bill to create an Energy Mobilization Board that could cut red tape and speed construction of high priority non-nuclear energy facilities such as refineries, synthetic fuel plants and pipelines.

The Administration-sought bill would authorize a presidentially appointed board to designate national priority energy projects and to establish binding timetables for federal, state and local agencies to act on construction permits and other necessary clearances.

While the board could not overrule denial of a permit, it could move ahead or seek expedited court approval to do so if the governmental body involved did not meet a reasonable deadline.

Once construction had begun, the board would be able to block imposition of new restrictions—but only if necessary for timely completion of the project and if public health or safety were not endangered.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged senators to support the Energy Mobilization Board legislation to help free the nation of its dependence on imported oil.

"The energy crisis we face is real," he wrote. "The United States has not built a major domestic refinery since 1963, and construction of vital energy projects throughout

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Hearings Document Soviet Oppression



LUDMILLA ALEXEYEVA



AMBARTSUM KHLGATYAN



VICTOR FAINBERG

First-Hand Reports by Witnesses Show Real Face of Totalitarianism

Following are excerpts from statements and testimony at the third International Sakharov Hearings.

THE EXPANSION of totalitarianism is one of the greatest dangers of our time. . . . It is my opinion that in the struggle against totalitarianism the main front lies precisely in the international defense of human rights, wherever these rights are violated."—**Andrei Sakharov,** Soviet academician and leading dissident, in a mesage to the third International Sakharov Hearings.

"Soviet propaganda maintains that the individual has no need for freedom of speech. It stresses instead expression of the collective will. And civil liberties in general are termed a bourgeois fraud and entirely superfluous."

"Many people in some Western countries still believe that while intellectuals may be oppressed in the Soviet Union, at least workers are happy. In other words, the more or less common belief is that though civil and political rights of the population are violated, social and economic rights are observed. Both groups of rights are equally disregarded by the administration." —**Pavel Litvinov**, grandson of Maxim Litvinov, the former Soviet diplomat; former editorial board member of Khronika Press.

"Forced labor is practiced in the concentration camps and prisons for political prisoners. Prisoners are forced by threats of still more severe punishment to work outside their professions and to do those jobs which are given them by the camp or prison administration. All are forced to work, regardless of their state of health or age. Even invalids and old men are not exempt from working."—**Nikolay Scharegin,** who last year completed a 10-year term in Soviet jails.

"Soviet labor camps, established in the '30s, provide the regime a source of cheap labor. One of the main goals of a labor camp is to transform it into a productive institution. The NKVD (the state police) is constantly pressed to provide a fresh flow of labor for the camps."—**Eduard Kuznetsov,** a recently released Soviet political prisoner.

"The non-fulfillment of a quota is immediately punished in several ways: reductions in 'purchases' (e.g., tobacco), bans on letter writing, bans on the one-hour visits allowed relatives every nine weeks, 8-21 day detentions in a 'tiger cage,' or extended solitary confinement in the tiger cage. . . . It is considered a right and a privilege to work. The prisoner can't say no. He must take part in the production process."—**Klaus Mainz,** testifying on the use of prison inmates in East Germany.

"The factory was so dirty you couldn't see in it. Workers were sick in the winter because it was so terribly cold. Cots were stacked three high, so crowded that when you turned in your sleep at night, you'd wake up your neighbor."—**Valentin Stepanov,** a former 12-year inmate of a labor camp near Murmansk.

"One man hung himself in the (labor camp) hospital, leaving a note saying that he was no longer able to put up with the conditions."—**Anatoly Altman,** an inmate of a labor camp in the Urals for eight years.

"The party authorities at the mine desired to excavate as much coal as possible without regard for work conditions, the law on labor hygiene and safety, and the resolutions of the labor code. The Polish labor code is meaningful only on paper. The administrators of mines and factories comply with its resolutions only when they do not interfere with the fulfillment of the centrally determined plan of production. If the fulfillment of the plan is going badly, then the resolutions of the labor code take a back seat."—**Wladyslav Sulecki,** a former Polish miner, now chairman of the Committee for Solidarity with the Free Trade Unions in Poland.

"In brief, a *kolkhoz* (collective farm) is really a labor camp. . . . Ordinary workers are paid about two rubles a day for a full day's work. There is only one day off, Sunday, and during the harvest season, none. Workers can't leave the *kolkhoz,* so they are isolated from any outside activity. They have no idea what is going on in the West."—**Schmuil Matveyev,** a former worker on a Soviet *kolkhoz.*

"Soviet laws on vagrancy and parasitism have been used repeatedly against political dissidents. Any Soviet citizen can be converted into a 'parasite' by firing him from his job and refusing him another since the state is the only employer. He is then liable to forced labor in a labor camp." —**Walter Galenson,** an economics and industrial relations professor at Cornell University.

"In the Sovet Union, there is a lot of absurd formalism. The trade unions are an example of this absurd formalism. . . . The Soviet people do not take them seriously. . . . The people also are starting not to take the party seriously either because, like the unions, they do not help them."—**Ambartsum Khlgatyan,** a former Soviet toolmaker from Armenia.

"The trade unions and the party administration (in the Soviet Union) are in fact like Janus: one body and two faces. The two work together . . . to keep a tighter grip on the workers and make them do what they're told to do."—**Mikhail Nikolayev,** a former worker from Kaluga.

"Trade union rights exist on paper in the Soviet Union, but how are they implemented and interpreted by the Soviet authorities? The official trade-union movement in the USSR is state-controlled, differing very little from their corporate fascist equivalent in Nazi Germany, fascist Italy, and Franco's Spain. The links that the union has with the secret police and the role it plays in controlling the working mass was overtly displayed when Alexander Shelepin was the offical head of the trade-union movement in the USSR."—**Vladimir Bukovsky,** exiled Soviet dissident and writer.

"The Soviet regime must recognize these statements that are being made here. We learned that at the Jackson-Vanik Amendment hearings. These hearings are a rallying point. They are part and parcel of this whole movement toward greater freedom behind the Iron Curtain."—**Sen. Henry M. Jackson** (D-Wash.), a co-chairman of the hearings.

Free Worker Hopes Tied to Western Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

The official Soviet trade unions are nothing more than front organizations for the Communist Party apparatus, they charged.

Union membership is not compulsory but workers who do not join lose out on a number of welfare benefits administered by the unions in behalf of the government. The state determines wage scales, and collective agreements exist primarily to raise productivity.

Mikhail Nikolayev, who worked at heavy physical labor after 10 years in a labor camp, gave this description of a typical working day on a construction job in Borovsk: "Normally a work day ran from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. However, there was hardly a day when the necessary materials were in place for the beginning of the work day, and it was impossible to begin work on time. . . .

"We did not begin work until 10 a.m. but were not paid for the idle time. Therefore, the workers were always trying to make up for lost time, and the quality of work correspondingly fell. . . . They hurried their work, neglected safety procedures and quality, and worked almost every day until 8 or 9 in the evening.

"Our brigade also went to work every Saturday, although officially we had a five-day work week. . . . Nobody claimed overtime; it just wasn't done, and everyone knew that the claims would not be paid anyway." Pay for this six-day work week of almost 12 hours a day was between 130 and 170 rubles a month (between $205 and $265), Nikolayev said.

Appeals to the employer—in effect, the state—or to the official trade-unions are a waste of time, the former Soviet workers charged. Several recent emigres from East Germany and Poland vouched that as much was true throughout East Europe.

Wladyslav Sulecki, a former Polish miner and a former member of "KOR," Poland's Committee for Social Self-Defense, told the tribunal that after 20 years of working in mines in that Communist country he could attest that trade unions there "pretend to be workers' organizations" but "in reality, they are extensions of the power of the authorities."

The Sakharov Hearings, which have been held every two years since 1975, went on for four days at the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The hearings previously convened in Copenhagen and in Rome. The 67 witnesses at this year's hearings constituted the largest number of Soviet dissidents ever gathered in the United States, said Efrem Yankelevich, a member of the organizing executive committee and Sakharov's son-in-law who now lives in the United States

Sakharov, who symbolizes the human rights movement in the Soviet Union, said in a message recorded in Moscow on Sept. 5 that basic workers' benefits—pensions, medical assistance, vacations—are used by the Soviet authorities to keep workers in line. A translation of the Sakharov message was made available at the hearings.

"In our closed and hypocritical society, with its elitism and its caste system," he said, "such rights are exercised in a totally distorted way."

The academician, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1974 for his espousal of human rights in the USSR, said that workers' freedom of movement is restricted by the internal passports that all Soviet citizens must carry.

Other Soviet laws punish people for their way of life, he noted. The so-called "anti-parasite" law, for instance, has been used repeatedly against political dissidents. Any Soviet citizen can be converted into a "parasite" simply by firing him from his job, and refusing him another. The worker then may be sent to a forced labor camp.

Among those testifying at the hearings were many of the famous dissidents of recent years, most of whom now live in the United States, Europe, and Israel. They included Aleksandr Ginzburg, Andrei Amalrik, Pavel Litvinov, Valery Chalidze, Vladimir Bukovsky, Petro Grigorenko, and Natalia Solzhenitsyn, the wife of the exiled Russian novelist, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

Bukovsky, who has addressed many AFL-CIO gatherings, said the year-old Free Interprofessional Association of Workers (SMOT) has approximately 200 members who are dispersed throughout the Soviet Union. The union members remain anonymous, except for the eight council members who identified themselves at an inaugural press conference, he said.

SMOT's major problem today rests in the fact that "Western trade unions have not reacted with enough vigor and at times one can say with incredible caution and hesitation to support this new enterprise in the Soviet Union," Bukovsky said.

"This does not apply to the AFL-CIO, for they adopted a very strongly worded resolution in support of SMOT," he said. The federation, in an Executive Council statement last month, urged President Carter to press the Soviet government for the release of SMOT's imprisoned leaders and to halt its repression of the union.

There were complaints during the hearings that the Carter Administration had backed off from its aggressive human rights position of 1977, and that this has hurt the international human rights movement.

Bukovsky told a press conference that Carter's human rights initiatives had provided a "tremendous impetus" two years ago, but now the movement receives little strengh from the Administration. Mrs. Solzhenitsyn said her husband welcomed the President's strong stance on human rights earlier but felt U.S. policy on the issue today "has reduced itself almost entirely to words."

The hearings were conducted by a commission of prominent civic, academic, human rights, and labor leaders, including historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.; Simon Wiesenthal, the celebrated hunter of Nazi criminals; Robert Conquest, the Soviet affairs specialist; President Sol Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers; President Bayard Rustin of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; Herman Rebhan, general secretary of the International Metalworkers' Federation; Assistant Gen. Sec. Jean Vanderveken of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, and Iron Workers President John H. Lyons.

Rustin and AFL-CIO President George Meany are members of an international advisory board supporting the hearings.

Constitutional Amendment:

Kirkland Hits Plan To Tie Down Budget

(Continued from Page 1)

"So-called fiscal responsibility would then require these brave legislators to raise state or local taxes to provide the necessary services," he suggested.

Kirkland stressed the careful separation of powers among the branches of government and the impact of a balanced budget requirement or a comparable "mechanistic formula" that would immobilize the fiscal powers of Congress.

In many possible circumstances, he suggested, a Congress tied by a balanced budget requirement would be powerless to carry out the constitutional mandate to both "provide for the common defense" and "promote the general welfare."

During economic downturns, when tax income often drops, a mandatory balanced budget would cause a recession to feed on itself and perhaps turn into a full-scale depression. That's what would have happened in the 1974-75 recession, he said.

As for various "compromise" proposals that would allow three-fourths of Congress or some other percentage to waive the balanced budget requirement, Kirkland asked why the majority rule policy should be further emasculated in Congress.

The Senate's filibuster rule is bad enough, he suggested "without adding a further numerical hurdle that leaves a gross imbalance of power in the hands of a minority."

Kirkland wondered why Congress would consider initiating a balanced budget amendment when it can simply legislate a balanced budget in any year when economic conditions make it feasible.

The reason it has not done so this year, he suggested, is that it would create economic "chaos."

As a practical matter, there is no way of forecasting revenue sufficiently in advance to assure that government spending will not exceed income, Kirkland noted. And despite the dollar rise in the federal deficit, it has shrunk dramatically as a percentage of the national economy and income, and over the past two decades has risen at a slower rate than corporate debt, household debt and the debt of state and local government.

"Properly-managed debt is part of the economic system of this nation," he noted, making possible "homes, college education, new factories, new firehouses, new roads."

As for the federal debt, the major share has been the result of wars and recessions, Kirkland said, "not the actions of spendthrift congresses."

But beyond the figures "on an accountant's ledger," Kirkland suggested, adoption of a mandatory balanced budget amendment would in effect be telling the nation's poor and jobless, "The value of your life has been determined, and it is not worth spending one dime more than we have."

Congress, he urged, "should not arbitrarily limit its ability to enhance and protect the lives of the American people."

Unionists Bid Castro to Free Huber Matos

New York—Eight union leaders, including AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, are among 85 Americans who have issued an appeal to Fidel Castro that Huber Matos, Cuba's leading political prisoner, be free to leave Cuba when his 20-year prison sentence is completed Oct. 21.

Matos, a leader of the revolutionary movement that overthrew the government of Fulgencio Batista, was sentenced after he protested the growing Communist influence in the Castro government.

The appeal was initiated by Social Democrats, USA. Signers of the appeal include the organization's national chairman, Bayard Rustin, Senators Henry M. Jackson and Daniel Moynihan, and novelist Saul Bellow.

AFL-CIO vice presidents who signed the appeal are Sol Chaikin, Thomas W. Gleason, Lloyd McBride, Frederick O'Neal, Harry R. Poole, Albert Shanker and J. C. Turner.

Union Wins Court Test Of Contribution Policies

The Supreme Court refused to review and thus left final an appellate court decision upholding a union's right to spend funds for political activities and to contribute to various social causes.

Six members of a UAW local had challenged the expenditures, but the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals last March found the donations lawful under the UAW constitution and convention resolutions It said no laws were violated and it wasn't up to the courts to review a union's expenditures "merely because of their controversial nature."

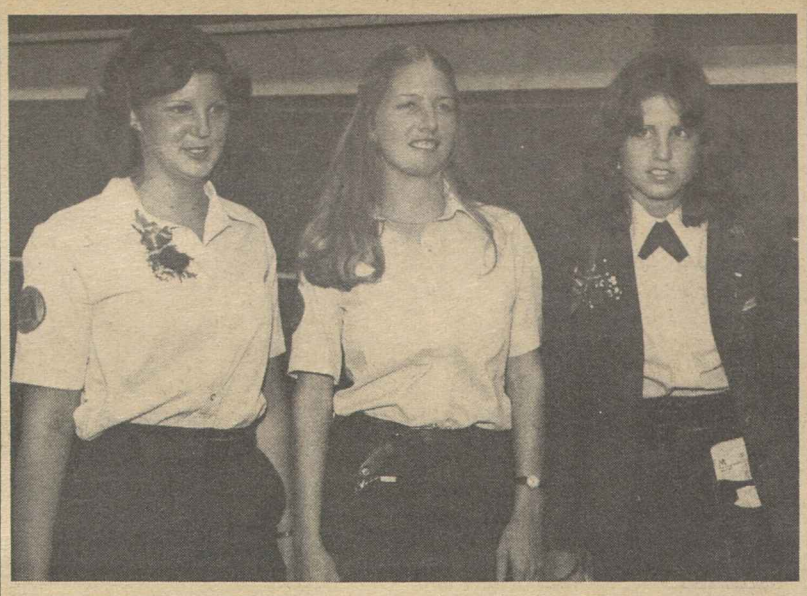
The court also refused to reconsider its ruling last June in the Weber case, where an affirmative action job-training plan negotiated by the Steelworkers and Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. was held to be legal.

One of the cases the Supreme Court agreed to review involves a Labor Dept. regulation that allows an employee to refuse to work under what he has reason to believe are unsafe conditions that seriously threaten his life or health.

The regulation bars an employer from taking disciplinary action against such an employee.

The 6th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the Labor Dept. position last February in a case involving two maintenance workers at a Whirlpool Corp. plant in Marion, Ohio. They were issued written reprimands for insubordination after refusing to step onto a steel mesh guard screen 20 feet above the plant floor, where accidents and one fatality had previously occurred.

In another case, the court refused to reconsider its decision not to hear the AFL-CIO's arguments challenging the constitutionality of the Carter Administration's wage-price guidelines. Earlier this year, a federal district judge agreed with labor that the standards were unconstitutional, but an appellate court overruled his decision. and the federation had challenged this finding.



ALL-WOMAN CREW headed by conductor Elizabeth Hickey, center, operates regular commuter runs on the Long Island Rail Road between Port Washington and New York City's Penn Station. She is flanked by brakemen Beverly Terrillion and Eileen Denn. All are members of United Transportation Union Local 645 in Garden City, N.Y. Denn's father, William P. Denn, is chairman of UTU Local 1831 in Jamaica, N.Y.

Florida Labor Links Per Capita to Growth

Hollywood, Fla.—The Florida AFL-CIO will put into effect a provisional per capita tax increase of 10 cents next Jan. 1 that would revert to the current 25-cent monthly charge with an increase of 100,000 in membership rolls.

The restructured formula approved by delegates to the state federation's 23rd annual convention was introduced as an incentive for affiliates to expand membership and to pay the full per capita tax on existing members.

Under the plan, the per capita payment will go to 35 cents in 1980, but will be reduced in 5-cent steps with each increase of 50,000 members. When the certified membership reaches the 150,000 mark, the rate will drop to 30 cents a month and to 25 cents when membership reaches 200,000.

In other action, the nearly 400 convention delegates called on affiliates to negotiate contract clauses providing for voluntary COPE checkoff contributions of 5 cents a month to help finance an expanded political action program.

An immediate focus of the political action effort is to broaden labor representation in the state Democratic Party and to clearly express labor's positions at the party's state convention later this month.

Key resolutions adopted at the four-day convention called for reenactment of the state prevailing wage law which was repealed by the state legislature earlier this year, a petition drive to repeal the Florida "right-to-work" law through a voter referendum in 1980, improvements in jobless benefits and passage of mail voter registration.

Delegates also joined in a mass rally of more than 700 persons supporting the boycott of the anti-union Winn-Dixie supermarket chain.

The convention elected 19 vice presidents to two-year terms of office. No elections were held for the top officers, whose current four-year terms expire in 1981.

Major convention speakers included Vice President Walter F. Mondale, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, Rep. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.) and Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany.

A program for the establishment of a labor research center by Florida State University was detailed for delegates by University Chancellor E. J. York, who also announced the appointment of State AFL-CIO President Daniel J. Miller as a director of the center.

Officers Returned By Siderographers

Philadelphia — The Siderographers re-elected top officers to new two-year terms at the union's 36th biennial convention here. They are President Paul Gabe, First Vice President James Bullis and Sec.-Treas. Harvey Henderson.

Six delegates attended the two-day convention. The union has 14 active members in the United States and Canada. Siderographers reproduce engravings used in the printing of currency, postage stamps and securities.

Delegates selected Ottawa as the site for the union's 1981 convention.

Meany Cites Boycott Effect On Winn-Dixie

Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc., the nation's leading anti-union food chain, is "strongly feeling the effects" of labor's two-year-old consumer boycott of the firm, AFL-CIO President George Meany reported.

In a letter to affiliated unions and state and local central bodies, Meany urged all union members to step up their boycott activities to press the company to negotiate fair contracts with the Food & Commercial Workers and the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers.

"Sooner or later, Winn-Dixie will have no choice but to go to the bargaining table and negotiate fair agreements for the workers in its 1,175 stores in 13 southern states," Meany said.

He noted that Winn-Dixie has dropped to fifth place among the nation's largest food retailers after holding fourth place for many years. The rankings are made by Chain Store Age magazine, which keeps close watch on industry trends.

The company suffered two decisive defeats in union representation elections held in its Atlanta division in July. Since then, in efforts to stem growing union support among its unorganized employees, it has announced extensive improvements of benefits which, Meany observed, could be rescinded "any time it desired."

"While the record in the various NLRB cases involving the company demonstrates that Winn-Dixie is prepared to take extreme measures to avoid recognizing its employees' unions, the handwriting is on the wall," Meany declared.

He noted that last year the company sold its entire New Mexico chain to avoid signing contracts with the two unions of its workers who were on strike.

Teacher Strikes Settled In Detroit, New Orleans

Major teacher strikes in Detroit and Jefferson Parish in the New Orleans suburbs ended with tentative settlements providing substantial wage increases and other benefits, but San Francisco teachers still remained off the job along with teachers in several smaller communities.

In both Detroit and New Orleans, locals of the American Federation of Teachers agreed to call off their walkouts and return their members to the classroom pending ratification of the accords. Vote counts were expected to be completed by this weekend.

The strike by the Jefferson Federation of Teachers began on Aug. 24. Schools remained open but attendance was about 50 percent.

Highlights of the settlement include an average 9.7 percent wage increase in the first year of a two-year pact, and 4.1 percent the second year; a greater school board contribution toward hospital insurance, and a streamlined grievance procedure.

Other provisions give the district's 3,100 teachers a class preparation period for the first time and the right to remove disruptive students from a classroom, and eliminate the requirement that they punch a time clock.

The Detroit settlement came at a meeting of the 12,000-member Detroit Federation of Teachers, which struck Sept. 10. The agreement calls for a 25 percent increase in wages over a three-year period.

Other AFT settlements involved over 1,000 teachers in Woodbridge, N.J., and about in 500 Perth Amboy, N.J. Teachers there will receive over 9 percent in wage hikes in each year of their two-year pacts.

The union reported that members still are on strike in three Pittsburgh suburbs and in San Francisco. The Bethel Park, Pa., strike, which began Aug. 22, is the longest AFT strike of the school season.

Most of this year's teachers strikes are by units of the unaffiliated National Education Association, which reported that about 30 percent of its 155 walkouts remain unsettled. The greatest strike activity has been in Pennsylvania and Michigan.

Labor Data Compiled In BLS Handbook

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has published a 620-page compilation of economic data dealing with the labor force from the earliest available year through 1977. It includes such areas as employment, unemployment, hours, productivity, compensation, prices and foreign labor statistics.

The "Handbook of Labor Statistics 1978" is BLS Bulletin 2000 and is priced at $9.50. It is available from BLS regional offices and from the Supt. of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Distorting the Constitution

THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL amendments (mandating a balanced budget) would do more than write economic theory into the Constitution. They would also undermine essential separation of powers principles and erode the ability of representative government to function through excessive limitations on its power to act. Each would weaken rather than strengthen the Constitution and change the fundamental character of this government by distorting the delicate system of checks and balances.

First, Congress would be required to surrender its full partnership role in shaping national economic policy, by immobilizing its fiscal powers—the major weapon government has to fight recession and depression. Indeed, as the role of the elected representatives of the people would be diminished, the powers of the Federal Reserve Board—an unelected body without specific prescribed constitutional responsibilities—would be enhanced.

We believe that the key role the elected representatives of the people play in economic policy, through the budget process, must not be surrendered to an appointed body.

We cannot think of any reason why the Congress should disqualify itself from participation in developing economic policy. It is ironic that the sponsors of these amendments, invoking the spirit of a real or supposed popular groundswell of public sentiment, have in fact proposed a solution to further insulate the system from public participation. Instead, a balanced budget requirement relies upon an arbitrary, mechanistic approach to policy considerations.

Secondly, these proposed amendments would indirectly grant broad, sweeping new powers to the Judicial Branch. What if the Congress fails to provide for a balanced budget? Could the members be sued, or jailed for contempt? Could a court determine how to achieve a balanced budget? Would the Supreme Court take over the Congress until it met its constitutional responsibility? Who would enforce such a provision?

These are questions without answers, because even the sponsors have no idea as to how the courts would rule. That's part of the problem with political expediencies and simplistic solutions—the questions they leave unanswered are often more complicated than the original problem.

Thirdly, many of the proposed amendments display flagrant disregard for the democratic principle of majority rule. Under the Constitution, the Congress may declare war by majority rule. But under most of these proposals, it would require up to a three-fourths vote to declare that a war is an emergency so that adequate funding can be made available to fight that war.

The Senate already has enough trouble with a minority practicing obstructionism under the filibuster rule without adding a further numerical hurdle that leaves a gross imbalance of power in the hands of a minority.

—From testimony by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitution.

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'Let's Get It Working!'



Shifting the Burden:

Loopholes Enable Big Firms To Avoid Fair Share of Taxes

By Gus Tyler

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE to have an income of $87 billion this year and pay an income tax at the rate of 17 percent? Sounds too good to be true. But it did happen to a few fortunates in these United States in 1977.

The fortunates were corporations listed among the top 100. According to the law, these corporations supposedly pay a tax at the rate of 48 percent. But that rate does not allow for all the loopholes through which some of our richest corporations escape their federal tax.

"For most major profitable corporations, the statutory corporate tax rate of 48 percent is a myth," reports Rep. Charles Vanik (D-Ohio).

Vanik's evidence is spelled out in detail in a report prepared by the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation with an assist from the General Accounting Office. The current study is but the latest in a series of annual digs that the Ohio congressman has conducted with the hope that his data would somehow reverse the trend toward ever-lower corporate taxes. He wants to close loopholes that allow corporations with multi-billion dollar earnings to pay at the same rate as a family of four with an annual income of $26,150.

At the moment, Vanik feels frustrated. In 1977, "17 of the profitable corporations with pretax worldwide earnings of $2,601,293,000 (more than $2.5 billion) paid no federal income taxes." Another 38 corporations (worldwide income of more than $33 billion) paid only 10 percent or less in federal income taxes. The big oil companies paid at the rate of 11 percent on worldwide income.

Despite the tax "reform" act of 1976, matters do not seem to improve. It seems as if loopholes never die," says Vanik. "They just get bigger."

The 1976 act virtually excuses railroads and airlines from paying federal income taxes. Big banks paid at the effective rate of 7.1 percent on income of more than $2.5 billion.

None of these corporations is violating the law. They are merely taking the fullest advantage of what the law allows. And a law passed last year—the Revenue Act of 1978—will offer further advantages since the starting rate of 48 percent has been reduced.

Not all businesses can play this game. The rules favor the biggest. As a consequence, the tax load falls heavier on the small business and heaviest on the individual wage and salaried employee who has absolutely no loopholes through which to crawl out of the tax trap.

Vanik concludes that the facts make "hash of the argument—for large corporations at least—that federal taxes take too much venture capital and that additional corporate tax relief is needed."

Unfortunately, reform to get the big corporations to pay their due is devilishly difficult. Once a bill is passed to open a loophole for a corporation, it is almost impossible to repeal the item. There is no procedure that forces Congress to review these giveaways on a regular basis.

"Once a tax incentive is enacted into law and made part of the Tax Code," says Vanik, "it is very difficult, if not impossible, to remove the provision."

Maybe all such provisions should be enacted with an expiration date written into the law.

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Energy Board Plan Offers 'Best Hope'

No time could be more critical for considering this legislation.

The nation is now paralyzed by a bureaucracy that can delay vital energy projects for months and even years. Pipelines that could bring domestic oil to market and power plants that could burn coal are hopelessly caught up in a massive web of government red tape.

The proposal before us would create a strong Energy Mobilization Board, one that would cut through the bureaucracy and dramatically reduce the time required to bring vital energy projects on line.

The board could set deadlines for federal, state and local agencies and see that the deadlines were enforced.

It offers the best hope in the short term for reducing our dependence upon OPEC oil.

—Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) during Senate debate on the energy mobilization bill.

Enemies of Freedom:

Terrorists Throughout World Draw Inspiration from PLO

The following is excerpted from an address by Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, to the Jewish Labor Committee.

THE SURVIVAL OF DEMOCRACY is our legitimate concern, and we see no hope that democracy in any of its political or economic or social forms, including the form of trade unionism, can be kept alive in the Middle East without a strong and free Israel. It is — or should be — precisely the fact and the example of Israel that holds out hope to the oppressed victims of despotism, in all its ancient and modern forms, in the nations that surround her.

I don't believe there can be the slightest doubt that if Israel should fall, her Arab neighbors would quickly be swallowed up or reduced to helpless satellites of the greatest despotism of all, the Soviet Empire. If the light of democracy were extinguished in Israel, the darkness would soon be complete.

And once that happens — once the strategic control of Middle Eastern oil resources falls under Soviet control — how long could America's allies in Europe and Asia remain free? How long could the United States itself maintain its strength and stability and freedom?

So the issues that turn on the survival of Israel are vital to free men and women everywhere. Make no mistake about that. Your freedom and mine and the freedom of our children are under challenge by those who say Israel has no right to exist.

After repeated failures to overcome Israel by direct military means, her enemies have turned to terrorism as the method and to the Palestine Liberation Front as the instrument of Israel's destruction.

That the PLO should carry on its bloody and indiscriminate murders of women and children, tourists and innocent civilians, in the name of "human rights," is an obscenity. The last people on earth to benefit from PLO actions are the Palestinian refugees they claim so falsely to represent.

In no other area is the contrast between Israel's goals and the goals of the PLO more obvious or more damning.

For 30 years, there has been no Jewish refugee anywhere in the world. Instead of using oppressed Jews as an excuse for hate campaigns against other nations that have oppressed or expelled them for centuries, Israel has done everything in her power to rescue and rehabilitate them. Rather than villifying others, Israel has accepted the responsibility to take care of her own.

How have Israel's enemies behaved toward refugees? They have despised and rejected them. They have used them as pawns and exhibits in a war of hatred.

THE PLO ITSELF has never been a rescue agency. It has never represented Palestinians or taken the slightest interest in their welfare or entertained any proposal for their resettlement except through the destruction of Israel and the wholesale slaughter of the Israeli people.

The leaders of the PLO were elected by no one but themselves. They do not speak for peace or justice or human rights or economic progress or political stability. They use all of these words, but they despise what they stand for. Their actions — in Israel, in Lebanon, in Munich and elsewhere in the world — speak only of hatred, death and chaos.

Thanks largely to the example and active encouragement of the PLO, calculated terrorism is a growing world phenomenon. And this is happening, ironically, at a time when open warfare is on the decline. There are no international wars being fought, but terrorism and guerrilla operations have become a plague throughout the world — and most of them prostitute the word "liberation."

It is hopeless to try to discriminate among individual gangs of terrorists, to condemn, say, Germany's Baader-Meinhof thugs or Italy's Red Brigades, while approving the motives of the PLO. They are tied together so closely, in such concrete and literal ways, that no distinction makes a difference.

Terrorism itself is the enemy which all men and women who value human freedom and human rights must condemn and resist and overcome wherever it appears, whatever flag it may fly.

Regressive Proposal:

Value-Added Tax Scheme Puts Heaviest Burden on Consumers

THE VALUE-ADDED TAX scheme being pushed in Congress would deal a stiff blow to low and middle-income families and would be even more regressive than the loophole-ridden system already on the books, AFL-CIO tax expert Arnold Cantor charged.

"A national sales tax can generate a lot of money," Cantor said, but he stressed that "somebody has to pay it," and the full burden of a value-added tax (VAT) "converges on the consumer." VAT would create a "built-in unfair, regressive tax, which is based on the need to consume, not on the ability to pay," he pointed out.

Noting that some VAT proponents "feel that since the tax is hidden and that if people pay it day-by-day they won't be as upset about it as they are about income and social security taxes," Cantor said, "that's a pretty shabby basis for tax policy," that can't work in a democracy.

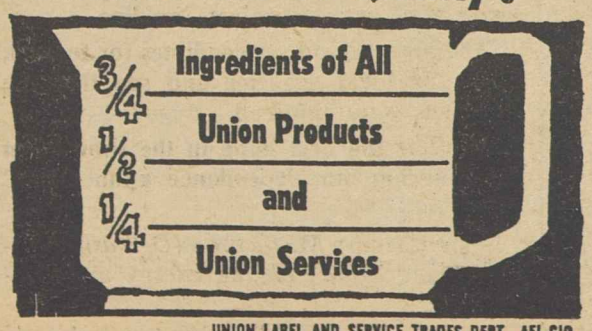
Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, Cantor said there now appears to be little chance that this Congress will act on legitimate tax reforms. He said the tax bill enacted last year was "a disaster" and Congress seems to have "lost sight of the tax reform issue," although it is sure to emerge as an issue in next year's election campaigns.

"It looks like we'll be lucky if, over the next year or two, we can just prevent things from getting worse" in the area of taxes, the federation's assistant research director said.

Cantor renewed the call for direct, targeted programs to stimulate the "recession-prone economy." He said stepped-up federal spending for public works and public service employment would "do the most good—create the most jobs in the most efficient manner." Those types of programs would, dollar-for-dollar, create twice as many jobs as an across-the-board tax cut, he said, and a great many badly needed projects could get under way in 90 days or less, providing a quick lift to the economy.

Reporters questioning Cantor on Labor News Conference, were Michael Posner of the Reuters news agency and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Full Measure of Quality!



UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPT., AFL-CIO

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY, 40-hour week has been the basic pattern of American worklife ever since the late 1940s, when the workday and week finally stabilized after nearly 20 years of depression, war and recession. The question now, three decades later, is whether the American people—and their employers—are ready to try something new.

The answer seems to be yes and no. "Yes," because about half of all U.S. wage earners now work outside the basic work shift, for a variety of reasons, and "no" because most of the options offered so far are less attractive than the old schedule.

That change will come eventually is inevitable. The basic decline in workweek hours from 60 hours to 40 occurred within the memory of some Americans still living today, so there's nothing etched in stone mandating the number of work hours in a day or the number of work days in a week.

If the UAW has its way, the change would be to a four-day workweek, as soon as possible. In their recently concluded negotiations with General Motors, UAW bargainers settled on a contract that included 14 new paid "personal days" off over three years, on top of the 12 the union had negotiated in 1976.

If it continues to add to these days off with pay in future negotiations, the union says it will eventually reach the point in which every fifth workday is instead a paid day off—therefore making a four-day week with five days' pay. A shorter week, UAW President Douglas Fraser has said, is "absolutely inevitable." The only question is "how fast we get there."

On a nearly parallel course is a group of unionists seeking a legislated shorter day—seven hours instead of the standard eight, creating a 35-hour workweek.

The group, made up mainly of local leaders from a variety of international unions, sees the reduction to a 35-hour week, coupled with elimination of compulsory overtime and increasing the premium rate for overtime to double-time, as a spur to employment. Millions of new jobs would be created, the committee says, thereby helping the unemployed as well as creating more leisure time for those now working.

While employers are cool toward the idea of shortening worktime without cutting back pay, there are other variations in the traditional work pattern which have elicited some management interest.

SEVERAL OF THESE PLANS are discussed in the recently released 1979 Employment & Training Report of the President. The report, prepared by the Labor Dept. and the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, takes a look at some of the alternatives.

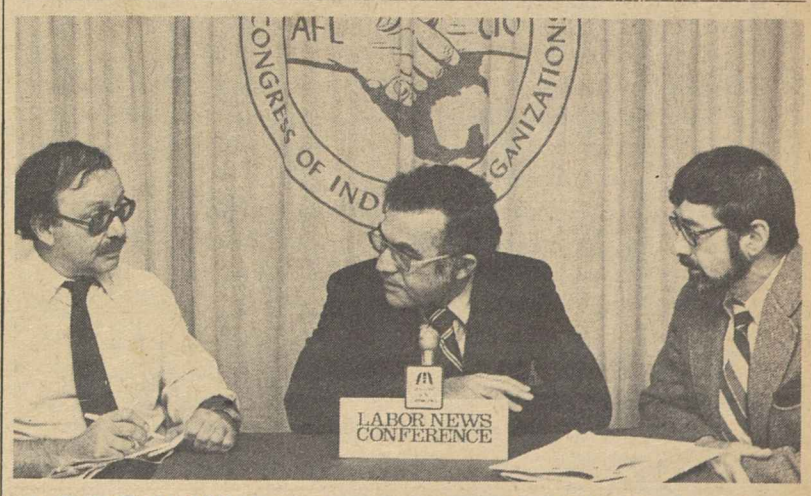
One is the "compressed workweek"—a four-day workweek with no reduction in total number of hours worked, and sometimes even a three-day, 12-hour schedule. According to the Labor Dept., about 1.1 million workers—1.8 percent of the full-time nonfarm workforce —now follow such a "compressed" routine.

Unions generally are in opposition to the scheme, and for a variety of reasons. Perhaps the biggest objection is that the 10 or 12-hour days are all paid at "straight time," while standard practice with many unions, a practice established after decades of struggle, is that more than eight hours of work in any one day deserves premium pay.

The same objection holds for some varieties of "flextime," a concept that gives employees some choice in devising their own work schedules.

Another variation is called "job sharing," a concept that has found little favor among unionists in that it does little more than divide one job between two workers, creating two part-time jobs instead of one full-time job.

No one alternative to the basic eight-hour day, 40-hour week has yet caught on. There doubtless will be many experiments and false starts—and opposition as well—before a new pattern of work spreads across the land.



A STIFF BLOW to workers is seen in the federal value-added tax scheme that has resurfaced in Congress, AFL-CIO tax expert Arnold Cantor, center, warned on Labor News Conference. Cantor, who is the federation's assistant research director, was questioned by Michael Posner, left, of Reuters news agency and Robert Cooney of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs interview is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Text of National Accord on Economy

Following is the text of the National Accord approved by the Carter Administration and the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Sept. 28, 1979.

- To provide for American labor's involvement and cooperation with the Administration on important national issues.
- To deal effectively with inflation in an equitable manner, consistent with the historic values of our nation.
- To assure that the austerity arising from battling inflation is fairly shared, while protecting those members of society who are least able to bear the burden.
- To pursue our established national goals of full employment, price stability and balanced growth.
- To maintain and enhance the pre-eminence of America at home and abroad.

ALL AMERICANS SHARE a common commitment to achieve our nation's economic goals of full employment, price stability and balanced growth as set forth in the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978.

Recently, progress has been impaired by high and persistent rates of inflation. Inflation has built up over the past 15 years, and in the last six has been aggravated by extraordinary increases in world petroleum and other energy prices.

The causes of inflation are many. But it is now deeply embedded in our economic structure. Inflation is a clear and present danger. It threatens our ability to achieve full employment; it reduces real incomes and values; it dries up job creating investments; it impedes productivity; it breeds recession; and it falls most heavily on those least able to bear the burden.

The war against inflation must be the top priority of government and of private individuals and institutions. There is no quick or simple solution. The war must be waged through a comprehensive strategy on all fronts on a continuing basis. But it should not mean acceptance of higher than otherwise levels of unemployment.

To accept such levels of unemployment in the name of fighting inflation is inconsistent with the equitable sharing of sacrifice. The pursuit of full employment and balanced growth as set forth in the 1978 act is essential to the ultimate elimination of budget deficits, the achievement of economic stability and the realization of social and economic justice.

It is imperative that we overcome inflation in order to provide adequately for the general welfare and for the national security. It is also essential in order to assure our continued technological, industrial and humanitarian leadership.

To deal effectively with inflation requires discipline and restraints. This will mean a period of austerity for Americans—individual and collective sacrifices for a time so that we may then enjoy the greater bounty of our land in the years to come.

Such austerity must be fairly shared. The burdens need to be distributed equitably. And in the process we must protect those least advantaged in our society, who are not able to bear the costs.

Full involvement and cooperation of the private sector is necessary in order to wring out inflation and to attain our goals of full employment and price stability.

Therefore, this National Accord has been undertaken to evidence and provide for the continued involvement and cooperation of American labor leadership with the Administration for this purpose.

1. GENERAL ECONOMIC POLICIES. It is recognized that a disciplined fiscal policy is needed to counter inflation. Close control should be exercised over federal expenditures; and budget deficits should be minimized, giving due regard to the state of the business cycle and the social and economic needs of our society. The revenues required for targeted programs and pressing national needs should not be dissipated by general tax cuts in conflict with the principle of shared austerity. Spending and taxing decisions within this framework must be and can be made consistent with the long-term goals of full employment, price stability and balanced growth.

2. COUNTERCYCLICAL ECONOMIC POLICIES. The current recessionary conditions developed following the large increase in world oil prices in the second quarter. Policies should be directed toward moderating and reversing the resulting downturn. Established countercyclical programs will automatically come into play to help in this regard. Further counter actions need to be approached with care, so as to avoid new inflationary pressures. Nevertheless, if the recession deepens, well balanced responses of appropriate scale should be prepared and ready for action giving due regard to any required congressional approvals, to emphasize actions that have anti-inflation as well as anti-unemployment characteristics, and to practical operation limitations. These include:

—Programs to shelter the poor and needy from the twin ravages of inflation and recession.

—Additional skills training to help remedy structural unemployment.

—Public works that provide jobs while at the same time contributing to anti-inflation objectives, such as public transit projects funded by the proposed oil windfall profits tax.

—Improved implementation and expansion of jobs programs.

—Policies to assure access to capital for the housing industry, with emphasis upon availability of financing, at reasonable cost, to low- and modern-income families.

—Appropriate tax relief targeted to offset inflation on the one hand while on the other contributing to anti-inflation through job creation, productivity improvement and cost reduction—particularly in areas most severely affected by high unemployment and economic adversity.

3. PAY-PRICE POLICIES. An important aspect of the anti-inflation effort is responsible behavior with respect to pay and prices. For the past year, a voluntary program of pay and price restraint has been used.

In the present circumstances, continued constraint is required on the overall levels of price and compensation increases consistent with achieving a reduction in the rate of inflation. After extensive public consultations, the program for the second year has been established with provision for greater public participation, while maintaining the clear objectives of containment and deceleration of inflation.

Direct participation by labor, business and other public representatives will make a major contribution toward a fair and workable program which will achieve the overall goals.

The federal government must continue to show leadership in moderation. Federal pay action for fiscal 1980 has therefore been taken in the context of both fairness and continued restraint.

4. INTERNATIONAL. International developments in the post war era have led to greater economic interdependence among nations. In this environment, a demonstrated commitment to an effective anti-inflation program and to bringing our current account into balance is necessary in order to avoid adding to domestic inflation and to prevent disturbances in international trade and finance.

We must therefore seek both a reduction in dependence upon imported oil and an expansion of exports. An increase in exports will create additional American jobs. At the same time, all international trade must be fair so that American jobs are not threatened by unfair restrictions on American goods and services or by unfair prices or subsidies for goods and services of other countries.

Where American jobs are impacted by international trade developments, adjustment assistance for American workers needs to be prompt and adequate.

The United States also should pursue maritime policies which will promote a strong merchant marine and assure that expanding American-flag shipping services will make a growing contribution to the reduction of our balance of payments deficit.

5. ENERGY. In view of the availability, location and cost of oil and gas, our nation must reduce its dependence on petroleum as an energy source and particularly its dependence on imported petroleum.

Toward that end, the President has proposed a comprehensive energy program, which includes conservation measures, limitations on oil imports and a windfall profits tax to capture some of the increased revenues from higher oil prices for public purposes. Proceeds from the windfall profits tax will be used to help finance the development of unconventional energy sources, such as synthetic fuels; to carry out projects which conserve overall energy requirements, such as expanded public transit facilities; to provide incentives for greater conservation; and to extend financial relief from higher energy costs for the poor and needy.

These vital features of the President's energy program are of critical importance and should be carried out by congressional and other actions as rapidly as possible.

6. HUMAN ENVIRONMENT. It is also important to continue pursuit of the goal of improving the quality of the human environment. This includes cooperation on programs to assure safe living and working places and to improve health services available to Americans.

7. OTHER MATTERS. The specific areas set forth in this Accord are not intended to be exhaustive. There are other matters which currently deserve mutual consideration and others will arise in the future. Those will be part of an ongoing agenda.

8. CONTINUING CONSULTATIONS. The essence of this National Accord is involvement and cooperation. The process is by its nature dynamic and evolutionary. It is our purpose to establish procedures for continuing consultations between American labor leadership and the Administration on those and other issues of vital concern to working people, as workers and as citizens.

13.6% Increase Registered In Executive Pay for '78

The salaries of high corporate executives rose 13.6 percent last year, about the same as the record 14 percent increase in 1976, a survey by Arthur Young & Co., a New York-based accounting firm, showed.

The survey examined the salary and bonus compensation for positions in the executive and financial departments of more than 1,100 companies.

A spokesman for the company, James A. Giardina, said corporations increased bonus payments at a slower rate in 1978 despite the fact that "corporate performance held up reasonably well for the year." He said firms are continuing to adopt a "pay-for-performance attitude" while tightening bonus targets during the last several years.

Of the 24 industry groups analyzed in the survey, the machinery industry topped the list with a 20 percent increase. The commercial banking industry and the financial holding and investment industry followed with increases of 18.1 percent each. Electrical machinery industry executives received salary increases amounting to 17.9 percent.

NLRB Orders J.P. Stevens to Give Union Organizers Access to Plants

(Continued from Page 1)

during ACTWU's 15-year organizing drive against the company—the panel also ordered that Stevens's president, chairman of the board, and other directors personally sign a notice promising to end the firm's illegal anti-union activities. The notice must be posted at each of the company's 80 plants around the country, and copies distributed to all 45,000 Stevens employees.

NLRB Members Howard Jenkins, Jr. and John C. Truesdale said the unusual remedies were required "to dissipate the effects of the extraordinary violations committed" by Stevens. Member Betty S. Murphy joined her colleagues in the findings, but said some of the remedies imposed were inappropriate.

The decision stems from an ACTWU organizing campaign dating back to 1976 at Stevens's Angle and Ferrum plants in Rocky Mount, Va., during which the union charged the firm with multiple labor law violations. In October 1978, an NLRB hearing officer ordered the company to reinstate an employee discharged for union activities. The administrative law judge also ordered the company to end its illegal activities, including threats of reprisals to workers who engage in union activity.

The NLRB panel unanimously upheld the judge's findings, but broadened his remedies to include:

- Upon request of the union, Stevens must furnish immediately an up-to-date list of all its workers' names and addresses.
- Union representatives must be given reasonable access to company bulletin boards and allowed to address employees at all plants.
- In the event of an NLRB election at any Stevens facility, the company must allow "at least two union representatives reasonable access to each of (the) plants . . . to deliver a 30-minute speech to employees on working time."

The panel condemned the company for repeated violations of past NLRB orders as well as those of the courts, and said the tendency to violate labor laws has been "found to emanate from the highest levels of . . . corporate management."

ACTWU called the decision "another verification of the J. P. Stevens pattern of unlawful conduct."

By Government Agencies:

Uniform Approach To Cancer Sought

The Carter Administration has issued a government-wide policy for establishing a uniform approach to control cancer-causing substances that threaten the health of workers, consumers and the public.

The policy, drafted by the interagency Regulatory Council, addresses numerous concerns expressed by labor job safety and health specialists.

Its objective is to ensure that government agencies involved in safety and health matters use the same scientific base to determine if a substance is carcinogenic and apply the same criteria in establishing regulations.

Key agencies that would be affected by the policy include the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Dept. of Agriculture and the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The Regulatory Council, created by President Carter a year ago, consists of representatives of 35 federal departments and independent agencies.

Its policy on carcinogens will appear in an interagency agreement in the Federal Register later this month.

In announcing the new policy, Council Chairman Douglas A. Costle noted that cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States and that one in every five Americans will die of the disease.

Costle also cited the severe economic impact of cancer, pointing out that "as of 1977 we were spending $5.5 billion per year to treat cancer patients. The earnings lost by death from this disease are estimated to be between $14 and $18 billion per year."

Four areas of cancer control covered by the new policy are: determining whether a chemical may cause cancer; assessing its risk to people; setting regulatory priorities; undertaking regulatory actions.

Assistant Labor Sec. Eula Bingham, who heads OSHA, said at a White House press briefing that the new policy doesn't conflict with her agency's approach in setting job health standards. OSHA is expected soon to issue a broad standard covering workplace carcinogens.

Some key points of the new policy are:

- Laboratory animal tests are a valid method for determining whether a substance will cause cancer in humans.
- Proposals to control a carcinogen should have some form of risk assessment, including a determination of how many people are exposed to the cancer agent.
- Agencies should give priority to determining which suspected cancer-agent to tackle first, including the level of risk to various segments of the population—such as children.
- A "zero risk" from cancer agents should be considered as a proper goal where economic and social costs of strict prohibition would be slight.
- In planning cancer controls, agencies should identify and consider the least costly and least disruptive alternatives.

The last point embraces the provisions of Executive Order 12044, which, according to labor safety specialists, have tended to weaken some OSHA standards.

In other job health and safety developments, OSHA has proposed streamlining its electrical standard for general industry. The action focuses on sharply reducing the wording of the 250,000-word regulation.

As it is now written, most of the code deals with architectural and engineering aspects, rather than worker safety.

The changes were recommended by an industry-labor panel, of which the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is a member. The change would go into effect at the end of the year unless it is challenged by labor or industry.

Payroll Records Law Called Vital Safeguard

A Senate bill to end payroll record-keeping requirements on federally funded construction would undermine the Davis-Bacon Act, the AFL-CIO and its Building & Construction Trades Dept. charged.

Building Trades President Robert A. Georgine asked a Senate Governmental Operations subcommittee to reject attempts to weaken the 1934 anti-kickback law that requires contractors to furnish payroll data to the Labor Dept.

The law was originally needed because greedy contractors were flouting the Davis-Bacon Act, Georgine said, and pressuring workers to kick back part of their pay. The Davis-Bacon Act, passed in 1931, had no enforcement machinery.

Georgine told the subcommittee that the payroll records required by the law have made it possible to identify underpayments and have resulted in additional payments to workers totaling millions of dollars a year.

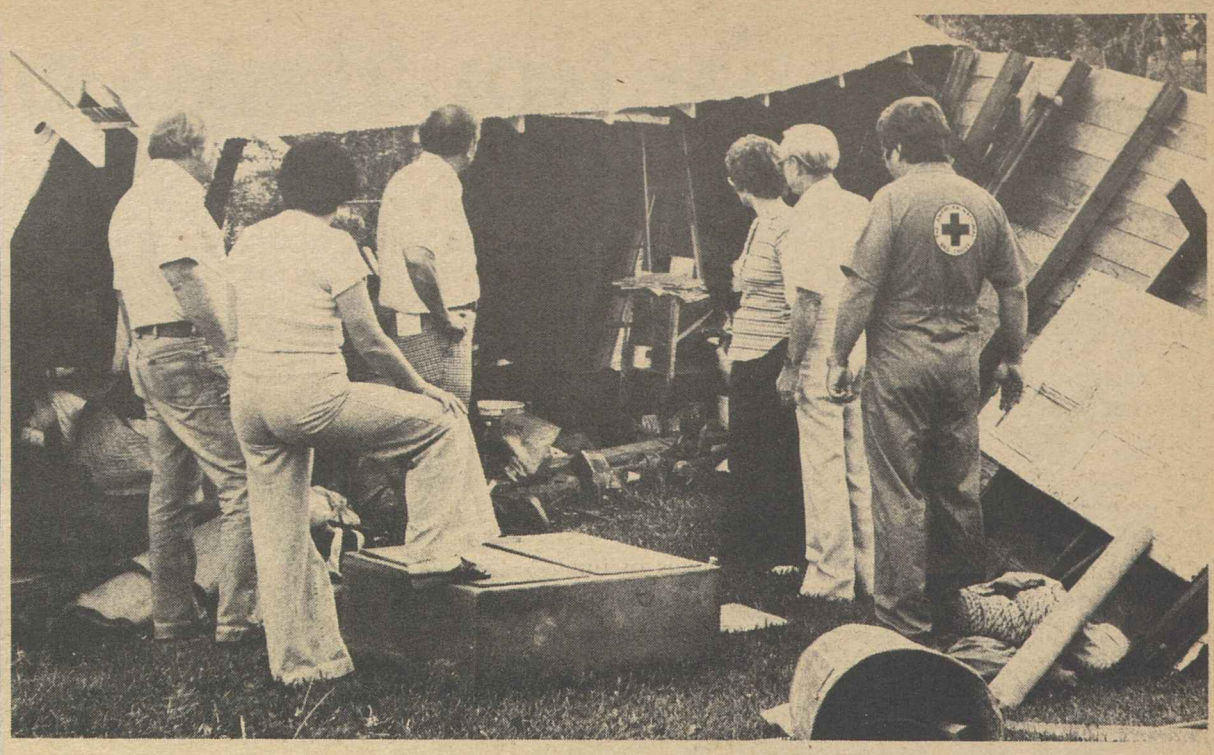
The law also has the side benefit, he stressed, of protecting fair contractors who live up to it from unscrupulous employers who seek "a competitive advantage by avoiding payment of prevailing wages."

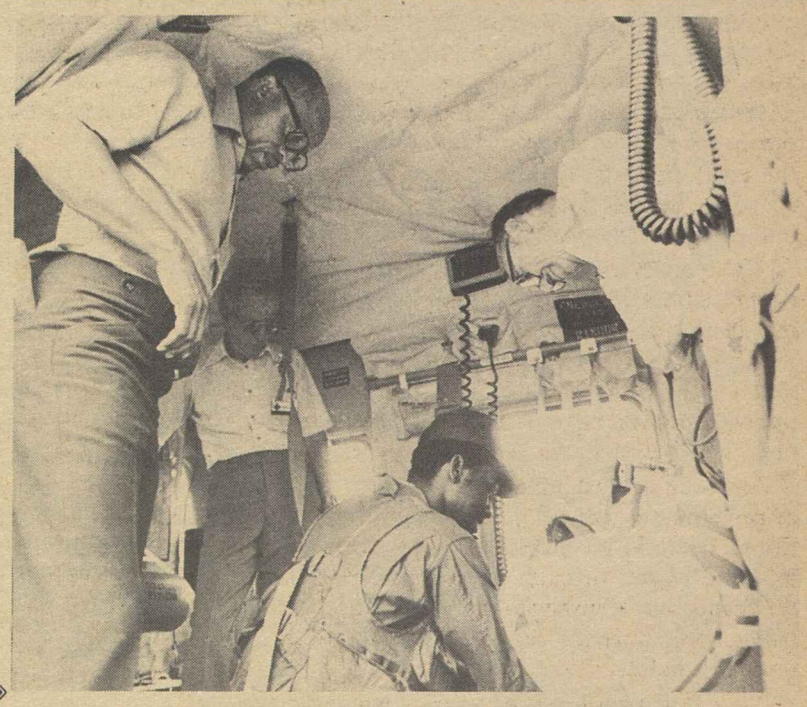
In a letter to Subcommittee Chairman Lawton Chiles (D-Fla.), AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said the attempt to amend the record-keeping requirements of the anti-kickback law must be viewed as "an attack on the Davis-Bacon Act itself."

He termed the proposed amendment on record-keeping "an integral part of the business strategy to gradually chip away at the Davis-Bacon Act until there is nothing left of it."

As to employer complaints that the reporting requirements are too burdensome, Young noted that most of the data must be compiled anyway and there are only minor additional costs since payroll records may be submitted "in whatever form they are normally kept."

He urged the Senate panel "not to allow this historic piece of protective legislation to be eroded by those who seek to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act as an avenue to higher profits and personal gain at the expense of this nation's working men and women."





UNION FAMILIES were among the many who suffered property destruction from the winds and rain of Hurricane Frederick, including those who also joined in Red Cross relief and clean-up efforts to aid other victims in southern states. Viewing the damage (above) to property of W. O. Mozingo, president of the South West Alabama AFL-CIO, are several union volunteers working in the Mobile, Ala., area. More damage was surveyed by labor officials aboard a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter. On the flight were Alabama AFL-CIO President Barney Weeks, right, Vice President Issom Clemon, left, and Mozingo.

House Vote Creates Dept. Of Education

Congress approved creation of a new Dept. of Education after an aggressive White House lobbying effort that was credited with tilting key votes in a closely divided House of Representatives.

The House approved creation of the new department, 215-201, after the Senate had acted by a one-sided 69-22 vote.

The American Federation of Teachers and the AFL-CIO had opposed the breakup of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare, while the unaffiliated National Education Association had strongly supported the move. The House vote splintered the usual coalitions with liberals and conservatives on both sides of the issue.

Under the new law, promptly signed by President Carter, the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare is being renamed the Dept. of Health & Human Services.

Most of its previous education functions will be assigned to the new Dept. of Education, which is to begin operations within the next six months as the 13th Cabinet department.

Pamphlet Describes Services of HMOs

The broad range of services provided by health maintenance organizations is explained in a new pamphlet titled Unions, HMOs and Comprehensive Health Care, published by the Group Health Association of America.

Copies of the pamphlet at $45 per 100 are available from the GHAA Communication & Information Dept. at 1717 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20036. A limited supply of free single copies is also available from the AFL-CIO Dept. of Publications, 815 16th St., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006.

Union Volunteers Aid In Disaster Clean-Up

Union volunteers spent long hours in Red Cross rescue, relief and clean-up operations in several southern states through most of September.

Their efforts began with Hurricane David and continued with Hurricane Frederick and tropical storm Henri.

Many of the union volunteers assisting in the Red Cross operations suffered property damage themselves in the storms, reported David Oliver, national director of the Red Cross Labor Participation Dept.

While Hurricane David mainly ravaged Atlantic Coast states early in the month, the destruction of Hurricane Frederick was concentrated in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. Numerous union families were affected in the highly organized regions around Mobile, Ala., and Pascagoula, Miss.

The impact of tropical storm Henri was hardest in southeast Texas, rivaling or surpassing the destruction of Hurricane Claudette earlier in the year that damaged the homes of many union families.

In a report to AFL-CIO Community Services Director Leo Perlis, Red Cross regional labor representative Douglas C. Poncelow said union volunteers were deeply involved in helping restore basic services, including plumbing and electricity. They assisted in setting up mobile and stationary feeding operations, staffed relief centers and case work offices and clean-up efforts.

Emergency funds were also raised through appeals from officials of state AFL-CIO federations in Alabama, Florida and Mississippi.

Poncelow said restoration of public services depended greatly on the efforts of members of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Communications Workers.

The Machinists purchased $4,600 worth of power chain saws for IAM members to use for the removal of debris and large trees.

Other unions participating in the relief efforts, according to reports to the federation's Dept. of Community Services, included the Longshoremen, Paperworkers, Sheet Metal Workers, Roofers, Steelworkers, Food & Commercial Workers, Carpenters, Clothing & Textile Workers and the Laborers.

Fuel Subsidy Termed Vital For Elderly

The National Council of Senior Citizens has urged Congress to increase funding for emergency fuel assistance programs for low-income families and the elderly this winter.

Executive Director William R. Hutton told the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee that the level of assistance can be a life-or-death matter for many older Americans.

If the winter is severe, Hutton said, thousands of elderly persons who can't affort soaring prices of fuel oil could be victims of accidental hypothermia. This condition, brought on by a drop in body temperatures, can strike the elderly at temperatures as high as 60 or 65 degrees, he testified.

Hutton termed the Administration's funding request for fuel subsidies inadequate.

As Recession Deepens:

Labor Protests Bid To Cut Jobless Aid

The AFL-CIO asked a Senate subcommittee to put off consideration of an assortment of "money-saving" proposals for changes in unemployment insurance standards and await the recommendations of the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation.

Most of the proposals drawn up by the staff of a Finance subcommittee headed by Sen. David L. Boren (D-Okla.) would reduce benefits or cut down eligibility.

"With unemployment clearly headed sharply upward," the AFL-CIO protested, "this is no time to adopt changes which would deprive large numbers of jobless workers and their families of the unemployment compensation payments they will desperately need just to meet bare living costs."

These are some of the changes the subcommittee staff proposed "to bring about cost-reducing improvements" in the federal-state unemployment compensation program:

- Require that benefits be discontinued after 13 weeks if an unemployed worker isn't willing to take a job at the federal minimum wage. At present, during the period covered by regular state benefits, a worker isn't required to take a job that is far below a level suitable to his or her qualifications and past earnings.
- Abolish the national unemployment trigger that makes extended federal benefits available nationwide during severe recessions and allow states to raise the unemployment trigger at which extended benefits would be payable in that state as high as they wish.
- Require disqualification for the duration of unemployment for workers who voluntarily leave their last job, who are fired for misconduct or who refuse a "suitable" job offer. Some states now allow such workers to receive benefits if their unemployment continues beyond a specified waiting period.
- Further prohibit or curtail unemployment benefits to seasonal workers and provide "incentives" for federal agencies to challenge unemployment insurance claims of former employees.

The AFL-CIO statement noted that the only one of the proposals presented to the subcommittee that would benefit any unemployed worker involves a modification of a scheduled change in the law that would reduce unemployment benefits by the amount of any pensions being received by the worker.

While the staff proposal would limit the reduction to the amount of a pension based on employment within the past two years, the AFL-CIO noted that an interim report of the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation had asked for outright repeal of the pension offset requirement.

Overall, the AFL-CIO said, the Senate subcommittee staff proposals "represent a major assault on the unemployment insurance system" and should not be seriously considered until the national commission has issued its final report and recommendations, and full congressional hearings can be held.

The AFL-CIO statement was submitted during a one-day hearing at which written comments were requested and oral testimony limited to a few minutes.



PROGRAM OPERATIONS of the African-American Labor Center to aid the development of trade union movements in Africa were reviewed at the annual meeting of the AALC executive board. From left are AALC Executive Director Patrick J. O'Farrell, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Vice Presidents Thomas W. Gleason and Frederick O'Neal. The AALC moved its headquarters from New York to Washington in August.

Federal Employees Get 7% Boost But Pay Issue Ties Up Congress

The nation's 1.5 million salaried federal employees and the 2 million persons in the armed services received a 7 percent pay raise this month—a compromise between the 5.5 percent the Administration had initially budgeted and the 10.4 percent that would have been due them under a frequently disregarded comparability formula linked to private sector salaries.

An additional 460,000 federal employees—hourly paid blue-collar workers—will receive a maximum 7 percent increase on the dates their pay is supposed to be adjusted to reflect local prevailing wage scales.

Both groups were held to a 5.5 percent increase last year.

A House-Senate snarl, still unresolved, has resulted in an unintended but apparently irrevocable 12.9 percent pay raise for federal judges. It left uncertain the pay status of members of Congress and some 22,000 high-level government executives whose pay was frozen last year.

The expectation is that the federal executives will end up with a 5.5 percent raise. On congressional salaries, the House has voted for a 5.5 percent raise but the Senate has rejected any congressional pay increase.

Ironically, the House-Senate deadlock could result in delaying paychecks for most federal employees, even though the amount of their raise is not involved in the dispute.

The spending authority of most government agencies expired with the start of the new fiscal year on Oct. 1, and the normally routine resolution authorizing continued spending has been snagged by the House-Senate battle over congressional pay raises and by a perennial dispute over restrictions on the use of federal funds to finance abortions.

If the deadlock is resolved soon after the House returns on Oct. 9, the inconvenience of the funding delay will be minimal. But a longer deadlock could mean delayed paydays for government workers and curtailment of agency programs.

If Congress doesn't resolve its differences over pay, House and Senate members would end up with a 12.9 percent raise under a 1975 law that was supposed to give them the same percentage raise each October that federal white-collar employees received. Congress voted to pass up its 5.5 percent raise last year and that amount, compounded, plus the new 7 percent raise would entitle them to 12.9 percent this month.

The increase has technically gone into effect, but an election-jittery Congress is certain to cut it back or rescind it before any paychecks are passed out.

Federal judges, however, are in a unique situation. The 12.9 percent raise went into effect for them as well. But Congress can't roll back their pay because the Constitution says the compensation of judges "shall not be diminished during their continuance in office."

Before the House voted to approve a 5.5 percent salary increase for themselves, AFL-CIO President George Meany sought to reassure congressmen that they wouldn't be committing "political suicide" by accepting a pay raise.

"American workers know that pre-inflation wage levels can not keep pace with the increases in living costs," Meany said.

"Members of Congress, like other workers, must have a raise so that their families can afford today's prices."

The nation's 600,000 postal employees aren't affected by the congressional actions. Their pay is set by collective bargaining with the U.S. Postal Service.

Attack on Cereal Firms Viewed as Job Threat

The Federal Trade Commission is ignoring the threat to workers' jobs and economic setbacks for local communities in its drive to break up plant processing operations of three major breakfast cereal companies, the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union warned.

Overall, some 2,650 jobs could be wiped out by the FTC action, including those of 600 RWDSU members employed by General Foods Corp.'s Post plant at Battle Creek, Mich. Other companies that are targets of the FTC proceedings are General Mills, Inc. and Kellogg Co., which employ 2,050 members of the Grain Millers at various locations.

In proceedings started seven years ago, the FTC accused Kellogg, General Mills, General Foods and Quaker Oats of monopolizing production and sales in the ready-to-eat cereal market. Quaker Oats was dropped as a defendant last year.

RWDSU President Alvin E. Heaps said in statement presented to a special hearing on Capitol Hill conducted by members of the House that the FTC action would not only affect RWDSU members, but would ripple through the economy of the entire community.

"The direct loss of jobs will be among the younger workers, those just beginning to establish families, beginning to acquire homes, beginning to settle down to productive lives in a community to which they owe their roots," Heaps said. His statement was presented by RWDSU Vice President Lenore Miller.

Heaps said the jobs impact will also hurt older workers who would be transferred to lower-paying jobs and would jeopardize the solvency of pension funds. He also expressed concern that the jobs would be shifted to non-union firms and to other parts of the country, leaving the established communities without needed job opportunities.

And despite the long trial process conducted by the FTC, unions have been barred from intervening in the hearings, he noted.

If the FTC can show that the companies have been monopolizing the market, Heaps said that other corrective measures to protect the public interest can be taken without making the workers of the three firms suffer.

Bill Asks Standards On Injury Benefits

A labor-supported bill to establish strong federal standards for state workers' compensation laws has been introduced by Rep. Edward P. Beard (D-R.I.), who is chairman of a House Subcommittee on Labor Standards.

Beard told the House that his bill closely follows the recommendations of the 1972 report of the National Commission on State Workers' Compensation Laws.

There is a "compelling need" to provide machinery to compensate victims of occupational disease, Beard said. He said the "most important" provision of his bill would authorize the Secretary of Labor "to establish mandatory occupational disease standards by which claims in every state can be judged on an equitable basis."

Senate Approves Bill To Cut Energy Delays

(Continued from Page 1)

the nation is snarled in red tape."

Labor's position was upheld on a key vote, when the Senate rejected a weaker substitute proposed by Senators Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.) and Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.).

Energy Committee Chairman Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) and Sen. J. Bennett Johnston (D-La.) steered the bill to passage. They accepted a compromise amendment intended to ease environmental concerns. It empowers the Secretary of Interior or the head of the Environmental Protection Agency to veto an energy board decision to disregard a state or local law that has been adopted after construction has begun.

Two House committees have already approved similar bills.

In another area, Congress found itself running behind its own timetable as the new 1980 fiscal year began on Oct. 1, with the House and Senate far apart on a budget resolution to set binding spending totals. A House-Senate conference will seek to resolve the differences.

In terms of program funding, the House-passed version was closer to labor's goals than the measure the Senate adopted.

The Senate version, for example, assumes that anti-recession public service jobs under Title VI of the Community Employment & Training Act will drop to 100,000 by the end of the fiscal year. The House version allows funding for double that number, and also provides more money for other CETA job programs.

The House budget would allow substantially more funding for state social services, for basic opportunity grants to college students from low-income families, for subsidized housing programs and for trade adjustment assistance to workers who lose their jobs because of increased imports.

It took two tries to get a budget resolution through the House. The first time around, the budget was unexpectedly defeated by a 213-192 vote as a group of liberals who considered the funding levels inadequate joined with a conservative coalition that considered the domestic spending levels too extravagant.

After some intensive lobbying and tradeoffs affecting other legislative issues, the Democratic leadership mustered a 212-206 majority for a slightly revised budget. All 154 Republicans who voted on the issue opposed the budget.

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Fed Credit Policy Stirs Slump Fear

The nation's commercial banks, reacting to the Federal Reserve Board's new strategy to control inflation, raised their prime rate to a new record, 14.5 percent, promising to make money even scarcer and more expensive for both businesses and consumers.

The steep jump in the prime rate was initiated by Chase Manhattan, the nation's third largest bank, and followed soon thereafter by Citibank of New York, Bank of America, and other major banking institutions.

Usually, the big banks jump their prime — the minimum interest charged on short-term loans to the most credit-worthy businesses—in increments of a quarter percent or a half percent. This time, however, the increase was a full percentage point. Some economists expressed the fear that the key rate would go even higher.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy A. Oswald pointed out that the Fed's move to tighten the money supply drastically is similar to that which occurred prior to the start of the 1973-75 recession. The credit crunch sparked the recession, making it much deeper than it would have been otherwise, he noted.

"Clearly, these latest actions are in that same category but are most likely much stronger, and are coming later in the business cycle," Oswald observed.

Most bankers and analysts predicted that the Fed's actions to stabilize the dollar by tightening the money supply would cause short-term interest rates to surge over the next few weeks and months.

The latest rush to increase the prime followed the announcement of Fed Chairman Paul A. Volcker that the central bank had raised its discount rate to a record 12 percent from 11 percent. The discount rate is the fee the Federal Reserve Board charges on loans to member banks. The increase, effective Oct. 8, was approved unanimously by the Fed's seven-member board.

The central bank also established an 8 percent reserve requirement for certain liabilities of the Fed's member banks and various other institutions. These liabilities include large short-term certificates of deposit, Eurodollar borrowings, and certain other funds. The 8 percent rule will require the banks to keep more of their funds in reserve and thus reduce the money available for loans.

The increase in the prime rate

(Continued on Page 8)

Building Trades Marshal Drive Against Union Foes



NEW SERIES OF COMMERCIALS promoting union label products produced by members of the Ladies' Garment Workers was taped for television by the union's chorus in New York. ILGWU President Sol C. Chaikin got into the act after the final taping session. The new commercials will be beamed on national network programs starting later this month.

Georgine Says Tide Has Turned

By David L. Perlman

San Diego—Leaders of America's building trades are ready to take the offensive against union-busting contractors, their right-wing political allies—and especially the powerful corporations that have been calling the tune in a conspiracy to turn the entire construction industry into a low-wage, open-shop preserve.

President Robert A. Georgine told delegates to the 60th convention of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. that the tide has turned and the building crafts have been strengthened by adversity.

With the help of a new organizing division, he reported, the building trades repulsed a move to make Los Angeles County an open-shop area.

The battle began when 275 building contractors withdrew from the master collective bargaining agreement and declared their intent to start using non-union subcontractors.

It ended, Georgine reported, with more than 10,000 additional workers in the area's construction unions and 95 percent of the construction work being awarded to union contractors.

"This effort must and will be duplicated all over the country," he said.

But Georgine told the delegates that the most dangerous enemies of their unions have been the big corporations that have been pulling the strings in the drive to des-

(Continued on Page 3)

Second Election Win:

Union Posts Victory At J.P. Stevens Plant

High Point, N.C.—Workers at J. P. Stevens's textile plant here overcame a massive campaign of firings, intimidation and harassment by management and picked the Clothing & Textile Workers as their bargaining representative in an election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board.

The election marked the union's second victory in its long drive to organize the giant firm. Stevens workers in Roanoke Rapids, N.C., voted for ACTWU in 1974.

In the election here, 68 workers voted for the union against 48 who voted for no representation. Another election at a Stevens plant in Allandale, S.C., is scheduled next month.

ACTWU charged that it won the High Point election even though the company "sought to gag workers' freedom of choice in this election with unlawful tactics." The union said that Stevens fired and issued warnings to union supporters, granted new benefits to workers, brought in vice presidents to talk to the employees, and "paraded a one-legged man on crutches around the facilities to tell the workers he had lost the leg because of a strike."

"What we witnessed here," declared ACTWU President Murray H. Finley and Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman, "was the continuation of Stevens's tactics designed to deter the workers from voting for union representation. It is a tribute to the High Point workers' courage that they stood up to the company and stood up for their rights."

Sol Stetin, senior executive vice president of ACTWU, called the victory "an encouraging forward step in the 16-year struggle by Stevens workers to win union representation."

But, he added, the High Point election represents "only one of many battles yet to be won."

ACTWU officials said they were ready to begin negotiating a contract on behalf of the High Point workers immediately. The NLRB was expected to certify the results of the election within a week.

NLRB Case Rulings Set New Record

The National Labor Relations Board issued 1,185 unfair labor practice decisions during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, the highest single year's total since the board was established in 1935, NLRB Chairman John H. Fanning reported.

The total does not include 338 decisions issued by NLRB hearing officers and adopted by the board in the absence of an appeal.

The total number of unfair practice cases in the 1978 fiscal year was 1,151. The cases involve allegations that companies or unions or both had violated provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, the basic U.S. labor law.

In addition, the NLRB issued 635 decisions in representation cases in the 1979 fiscal year. In the previous fiscal year, the board issued 616 such decisions.

(Continued on Page 7)

Congress Bars Tax On Fringe Benefits

Congress has instructed the Internal Revenue Service not to impose taxes on workers' fringe benefits.

The House pased the labor-supported bill on a 347-14 vote, extending the exemption for employee fringe benefits until June 1, 1981. Without the action, the IRS could have made the changes after Jan. 1, 1980, when the previous prohibition runs out.

The Senate earlier took a similar action through a provision in the appropriations bill funding the IRS operations. The Senate action fobids the IRS from using any of its funds to work on such changes in the tax code.

After the IRS first proposed such changes, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said in August 1977 that the "regulations would tax fringe benefits as small as the discounts retail workers receive when they make purchases in the stores where they work."

The council urged the IRS not to concentrate on "taxing insignificant benefits for low-wage workers" at a time when U.S. tax law is so much in need of a full-scale overhaul to remove tax shelters for the very wealthy.

In addition to the taxes on fringe benefits, the House bill also stops the IRS, until the same deadline, from making changes in the pro-

(Continued on Page 3)

Decline in Jobless Rate Runs Counter to Trend

A surprise drop of two-tenths of 1 percent to 5.8 percent in the nation's jobless rate last month does not mean that prospects of higher unemployment have been reversed.

Economists, including the Administration's, still expect that joblessness will rise between now and the end of this year and especially during 1980. President Carter's aides predict the rate will climb to 6.6 percent by December.

"I don't think you can assume we're off the hook," said William Cox, a Commerce Dept. economist. He noted that unemployment "tends to lag changes in production. Firms tend to cling to their employees" for a time even after production declines.

The Administration has forecast a 6.6-percent year-end jobless rate. The rate has fluctuated in the 5.6-to-6 percent range since August 1978.

Janet L. Norwood, who heads the Bureau of Labor Statistics which issues the government's monthly report on employment

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MUTUAL CONCERNS affecting workers are discussed by representatives of the Italian Union of Labor (UIL) and AFL-CIO officials at the federation's headquarters. Participants included, from left, Vice President Jack Otero of the Railway & Airline Clerks, President Thomas W. Gleason of the Longshoremen, Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, and UIL General Sec. Giorgio Benvenuto, fourth from left. The UIL is one of three major labor federations in Italy.

Oil Workers Prepare To Reopen Contract

Denver—The Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers pledged to "bargain vigorously" this fall when it meets the nation's major oil companies to reopen negotiations on wages and benefits.

The union's 12-member bargaining policy committee concluded a two-day meeting at OCAW headquarters here advising its 60,000 members in the oil and petrochemical industry that they should be prepared for possible strike action to achieve their goals.

OCAW President Robert F. Goss, who is chairman of the policy committee, cited the industry's "enormous profits" and the low, overall wage cost.

"Oil workers are not to blame for high costs of gasoline and other petroleum products," Goss pointed out. "The refinery wage cost remains less than one penny for a gallon of gasoline, even though the consumer pays more than $1 a gallon.

"It is oil industry profitability and government policies that have resulted in high consumer prices for petroleum products."

Under terms of a two-year agreement with the oil firms reached last January, OCAW will reopen negotiations early next month seeking a general wage increase, a fully paid uniform health-care benefits package, and an improved vacation schedule.

The policy committee said it had reviewed bargaining settlements in other major industries and found that, with the exception of the auto industry, "those settlements have been won through strike action. . . .

"They reflect clearly that the wages of workers must keep up with constantly rising living costs and that unions must negotiate in a collective bargaining environment free of government interference."

Labor-Backed Group Seeks Tax Justice

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland has urged all affiliates to support a new labor-funded organization, Citizens for Tax Justice, to help promote tax reform at the state and local levels.

The group, which has been endorsed by the Executive Council, seeks to turn back "right-wing demagogues" who "have seized upon the legitimate tax grievances of working Americans, and have used these grievances to organize support behind their broad anti-union anti-government, anti-public investment agenda," Kirkland said in a letter.

Kirkland, who represents the AFL-CIO on the organization's board of directors, said Citizens for Tax Justice, which is headed by Ira Arlook of the Ohio Citizens Campaign, "will help assure that labor's voice is heard and workers' interests forwarded."

President George Hardy of the Service Employees is treasurer of the coalition and William Hutton, executive director of the National Council of Senior Citizens, is secretary of the coalition. Besides Kirkland, other labor members of the board are Jacob Clayman, former president of the Industrial Union Dept., President William H. McClennan of the Fire Fighters and the Public Employee Dept., President Albert Shanker of the Teachers, President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers, President William Winpisinger of the Machinists and President Jerry Wurf of the State, County & Municipal Employees.

Unions End Walkout:

Wage Guarantees Won in Rail Strike

The Railway & Airline Clerks and the United Transportation Union ended their five-week strike against the Rock Island Railroad after receiving assurances that their members employed by the carrier would be paid the wage rate now prevailing on major American railroads.

BRAC President Fred J. Kroll telegraphed the union's Rock Island locals directing the 1,800 BRAC members involved to return to work on Oct. 5.

Kroll said he had received word from the Kansas City Terminal Co., the switching company chosen by the Interstate Commerce Commission to take over the troubled Rock Island, that it was prepared to resume operations on the railroad. In addition, Kroll said, the "directed rail carrier" (DRC) promised that all employees would be returned immediately to service on the jobs they held on Aug. 27, the day before BRAC struck. UTU workers struck on Aug. 29.

"We have now obtained all conditions that could be reasonably expected from the DRC," Kroll said. In returning to work, BRAC members will receive the current wage rather than the rate in effect on Jan. 1, which they had been receiving when they went on strike on Aug. 28.

The Kansas City Terminal Co., the substitute carrier, is owned by 12 large railroads. It has set its priorities on getting the grain-hauling lines in northwest Iowa started up.

Meanwhile, the emergency board set up by President Carter on Sept. 20 to investigate the facts and issues involved in the dispute between the Rock Island and the two unions continued to explore the situation. It planned to meet with BRAC officials on Oct. 13, and with UTU leaders on Oct. 15, after earlier meetings with officials of the railroad.

The chief issue at dispute is the question of retroactivity. Rock Island workers are now about 21 months behind the pay scales that other carriers have been paying. The line's refusal to pay the retroactivity which other carriers had paid helped touch off the strike.

Under the Railway Labor Act, the presidential factfinding board has 30 days to report its findings back to Carter.

Meanwhile, other possible operations problems loom on the bankrupt Milwaukee Road. An appeals court decision in Chicago has opened the way for the trustee of the line to spend his available funds only on the "core service" he is proposing to operate.

The trustee contends that the 3,200-mile core could be operated profitably if the other 6,600 miles of Milwaukee tracks were placed under a directed service order by the ICC.

OSHA Acts to Screen Workplace Complaints

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration has instituted a new procedure of weeding out minor complaints in an effort to concentrate its inspection resources on hazardous workplace situations.

Under the new policy that went into effect Sept. 1, OSHA will screen and evaluate worker complaints before inspectors are dispatched for on-site inspections. In the past, OSHA had responded with inspections to virtually all written and phoned-in complaints.

But according to a General Accounting Office report, relatively few hazards were found or serious violations of OSHA standards uncovered when many of the complaints were investigated. And because of its limited inspection staff, OSHA said it encountered a mounting backlog of cases. As a result, inspections of more serious violations and hazardous conditions were postponed.

AFL-CIO Occupational Safety & Health Director George H. R. Taylor commented that the new policy could make OSHA operations more effective without threatening the right of workers to complain about workplace hazards.

Taylor said labor representatives were consulted prior to the policy change and a number of their recommendations were incorporated into the new procedures.

Under the OSHA directive, a priority on inspections will be given to high-hazard industries, where entire facilities will be inspected. In low-hazard industries, inspections will be limited to the workplace area where a hazard may exist.

After a complaint is received by OSHA, the employer accused of a safety or health violation will be notified by letter. If the employer fails to respond to OSHA's letter, or if the person who filed the complaint informs the agency that no corrective action was taken, an inspection will be conducted.

OSHA will continue to conduct inspections in response to complaints that an imminent danger situation or extremely hazardous working condition exists. The agency said it will also conduct follow-up inspections of every 10th employer that responds to the agency's letter notifying him of a complaint.

Studies Center Project Seeks Improved Transit

The George Meany Center for Labor Studies has been awarded a $153,330 grant from the Urban Mass Transportation Administration to launch a project designed to improve the nation's bus, rail, and subway systems.

The funds will be used to start up a National Institute on Transit Technology & Innovation consisting of top leaders from labor, management, and government to direct research and to recommend innovations in transit systems. In addition, the grant will go toward training between 450 and 600 local representatives of the three AFL-CIO unions that are participating in the project, the United Transportation Union, the Amalgamated Transit Union, and the Transport Workers.

The training part of the program will focus on contract administration and grievance handling and will be offered at one-week sessions at the Labor Studies Center and at major universities over a 20-to-25-week period.

An executive board overseeing the project met in Washington on Oct. 10. Board members include AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland; ATU President Dan V. Maroney, Jr.; TWU President William G. Lindner, UTU Vice President Fred Hardin and Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., executive director of the Meany Labor Studies Center.

Hoehler noted that the industry and the public "will benefit from an approach in which a leading role is played by those who directly operate transit systems for the public."

The three participating union presidents have named liaison officers for the project. They are ATU Vice President Walter Bierwagen, TWU Vice President William Kirrane and UTU Vice President Kenneth Moore.

Convention Shift Supports Hostess Who Refused to 'Make Coors Hers'

Pueblo, Colo.—The Colorado State AFL-CIO convention was held at a Steelworkers local union hall here because a courageous motel employee refused to help promote Coors beer, the target of a continuing consumer boycott.

State AFL-CIO President Norman Pledger switched the meeting from the Ramada Inn, where it had been scheduled, after hearing an account of the dismissal of Patricia Montoya, a hostess and cashier at the motel.

She had been pressed by Coors sales representatives who were staying at the motel to wear a "Coors—Make It Yours" button.

Although not a union member, Montoya refused the repeated requests, finally explaining that she was boycotting Coors beer "as a matter of personal choice."

Management promptly fired her. The Pueblo central labor body investigated, confirmed the facts, and the state federation cancelled its convention just days before it was to begin. Steelworkers Local 2102 came through with an alternative hall.

Organizing and political action emerged as the themes of the meeting, attended by nearly 300 delegates, and the state federation approved a 5-cent-a-month per capita increase, earmarked for an expanded COPE operation.

In addition, all members of the 71 affiliated local unions and 14 councils will be asked to make a special $2 COPE donation in 1979 and 1980.

The delegates called a special recess to drive the 40 miles to Colorado Springs to demonstrate support of the striking members of Local 113 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers who are leading the fight for all Colorado Springs public employees in their efforts to organize.

After returning to Pueblo, the convention reaffirmed support of the Coors beer boycott and other products on labor's unfair labor list.

Georgine Sees Tide Turning:

Building Trades Marshal Drive Against Union Foes

(Continued from page 1)

power of billion-dollar corporations to pressure contractors into going non-union in order to bring down construction costs.

Georgine called on the construction crafts to form alliances with other victims of the abuse of corporate power and profiteering. A resolution brought to the convention floor by the department's executive council spelled out goals towards this objective. They include a corporate counterpart of the Landrum-Griffin Act to assure democratic decision-making in the governance of corporations, disclosure of pertinent information and strong curbs on wrongdoing.

The resolution called on building trades members to "join hands with other groups in our society who are the victims of the abuse of corporate power . . . to head off a total corporatist takeover in our land."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, in an address to the delegates, assailed the latest sharp rise in bank interest rates as "more than anything else, strangling the construction industry."

The new "National Accord" between labor and the Administration gives the trade union movement an opportunity to make its case, Kirkland said, and to participate in devising "effective policies that will address the nation's real problems."

Throughout the opening days of the convention, speakers talked with affection of a card-carrying member of the Plumbers & Pipefitters—AFL-CIO President George Meany—who, as Kirkland noted, had probably attended more of the department's conventions than anyone else present.

A special resolution presented by the department's executive council expressed the "gratitude" of union members for Meany's lifelong leadership for a better life for all Americans and for freedom throughout the world.

Of his achievement in building a united labor movement, the convention hailed him as "a good mechanic," which it noted is "the highest professional accolade a building tradesman could accord a brother building tradesman."

But Kirkland warned that there is no assurance that the trade union movement's voice will be heeded, "either by the Administration or Congress, unless we can demonstrate that labor itself is united and determined to bring about the changes that are needed."

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall assured the delegates that labor's voice is and will continue to be heeded—in the White House as well as in the Labor Dept.

President Carter was scheduled to address the convention the day after Marshall's appearance, and the Secretary of Labor suggested that the National Accord negotiated with the AFL-CIO could become the President's "greatest domestic accomplishment."

Reports to the convention highlighted the successful defense of the Davis-Bacon Act against right-wing assaults in Congress and the still-continuing struggle to preserve prevailing wage laws in the states.

Georgine warned bluntly that the battle in the states is "critical and urgent," with prevailing wage laws repealed in two states, saved by gubernatorial vetoes in two other states and under court or legislative attack in other states.

The battle will be intensified when legislatures now adjourned are reconvened early in 1980, Georgine warned. And he stressed that in this as in other issues, "it is crucial to win support outside of the labor movement."

If there was a cloud over a generally optimistic convention, it was the threat of deepening recession on a construction industry that, as Georgine noted, had been showing "faint signs in 1978 and 1979 of working its way out of its deepest depression in four decades."

As for the blame for inflation, one thing delegates were sure of was that no one could point the finger at the nation's largest industry.

In the face of soaring living costs, construction wages went up a modest 5.9 percent last year, up from only a 5.5 percent increase the previous year.



GREETINGS ARE EXCHANGED by Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), right, and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland prior to Kirkland's testimony before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee warning of pitfalls in a proposed amendment to the Constitution to require a balanced federal budget. Bayh is chairman of the subcommittee.

Utah Unions Warned Of Right-Wing Threat

Sale Lake City—The Utah AFL-CIO will have to work as hard to repel right-wing attacks on worker programs in the next session of the legislature as it will in pressing for needed improvements in benefits, delegates to the state federation's annual convention were told.

President Eddie P. Mayne warned that new attempts are being prepared by anti-union forces to repeal Utah's little Davis-Bacon law that requires payment of prevailing wages on state-funded construction.

The Republican-dominated legislature voted to repeal the law in this year's session, but the measure was vetoed by Democratic Gov. Scott Matheson. An aggressive campaign by labor turned back efforts to override the veto.

Right-wing attacks are also expected on apprenticeship standards and the state occupational safety and health program, Mayne noted. In addition to meeting these challenges, he said that labor will be fighting to expand workers' compensation and unemployment payments.

The federation is also focusing efforts on a petition campaign for a 1980 voter referendum to remove the state sales tax from food.

Two key constitutional changes approved by the 400 convention delegates provide for extending the term of the president-secretary-treasurer from two years to four and expanding the executive board from 12 members to 15.

Mayne was re-elected by acclamation, as were Vice President Cliff Green and the 12 incumbent board members. The three newly elected board members are Steve Booth of the Amalgamated Transit Union, Kenneth Robinson of the Machinists and Ray Marquez of the Communications Workers.

Resolutions of support were approved for the Coors beer and J. P. Stevens boycotts and the Oct. 17 nationwide protest against excessive fuel prices.

Major convention speakers included Gov. Matheson, AFL-CIO Regional Director James Baker, Steelworkers Treas. Frank McGee, COPE Regional Director LaMar Gulbransen and Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.

The first edition of the Utah AFL-CIO News Advocate was distributed at the convention. The newspaper, with an initial press run of 65,000, will be published periodically.

EPA Policy Challenged On Pesticide Hazards

The Environmental Defense Fund is appealing a government decision that would sharply curb challenges by unions and public interest groups on rulings affecting the use of dangerous chemicals.

The suit filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia is in response to action by Administrator Douglas Costle of the Environmental Protection Agency, who announced in August that only financially affected groups—meaning industry—could challenge the EPA regulation on a cancer-causing pesticide, chlorobenzilate.

The Environmental Defense Fund had charged that the EPA regulation was not strict enough to protect the public health or farm workers from exposure to the pesticide.

Chlorobenzilate is used primarily to fight insects on citrus fruits. In addition to affecting the health of the fruit pickers, the public interest group charged that residue from the pesticide remains in the fruit pulp that is fed to livestock, which in turn is hazardous to the public.

Before the EPA ruling was issued, the AFL-CIO Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health warned that such action would stray from the intent of the federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act.

George H. R. Taylor, the federation's job safety director, pointed out in a letter to Costle that workers and their unions would be shut out from challenging EPA regulations that affect workplace health conditions under the decision.

Taylor further noted that the ruling ignores past EPA practice of encouraging public participation in its decisions.

"This was based on the sound public policy that health and safety considerations are equally as important to be weighed as the economic interests of the registrants" and users of hazardous chemicals, Taylor said.

He further noted that the Agriculture Dept.'s refusal to ban the use of the carcinogen DDT led to the transfer of authority over pesticides to the EPA.

Bill Sought to Promote Plan for New Fishery

The AFL-CIO joined with the Maritime Trades Dept. in urging legislation intended to open up a new commercial fishing industry utilizing specially equipped vessels built at U.S. shipyards and staffed with American crews.

At stake is a lucrative harvest of fish caught and processed by foreign "factory ships" operating within the 200-mile U.S. fishing zone established by Congress and sold abroad.

The 1976 law establishing the fishing zone allowed foreign vessels under a permit from the Secretary of Commerce to harvest "underutilized" species of fish that have no significant domestic market and that U.S. commercial fishers don't seek.

The labor-supported bill, introduced by Rep. Leo C. Zeferetti (D-N.Y.) and 15 co-sponsors including House Merchant Marine Committee Chairman John M. Murphy (D-N.Y.), seeks to supplant the foreign fleets with an unsubsidized, privately-financed U.S. operation.

In a letter to Rep. John B. Breaux (D-La.), chairman of the Fisheries subcommittee, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young said the measure has the potential for creating needed jobs at sea and on shore for American workers, generating "substantial tax revenues" and improving the U.S. balance of payments through increased exports.

Sponsors of the bill say there are groups ready to invest in constructing advanced technology processing vessels needed for this type of operation if they could count on trained American crews willing to make a long-term commitment to a career that requires long periods at sea but provides good pay and benefits.

The legislation would utilize the foreign factory ships now harvesting in American waters to train U.S. crews, requiring them to take up to 50 percent trainees in exchange for being allowed to continue to operate in the U.S. fishing zone The enterprises willing to invest in the program would meanwhile have catcher-processor vessels built in U.S. shipyards.

Over a four-to-five year period, the changeover would be complete and, as the bill's supporters see it, a new U.S. industry would be borne.

At the House hearings, Executive Sec. Jean F. Ingrao of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. cited the jobs that would be created at shipyards building "several hundred large new vessels" as well as at sea.

She noted also the need that would be created for "shoreside construction of docks, storage facilities and processing plants, with benefits for construction workers, food workers and transportation workers."

Seafarers Vice President Charles Mollard said provisions for recruiting and training the specialized crews are essential to get the U.S. industry started. Once American vessels are in operation, he noted, they can be used to train replacement crew members and no special arrangements will be necessary.

No federal funds are sought for the legislation, Mollard stressed.

Congress Kills Fringe Benefit Tax Proposal

(Continued from Page 1)

vision that workers may deduct commuting costs to temporary worksites.

Also in the House, an 11-member subcommittee of the Ways & Means Committee recommended a bill that would protect workers from a reduction in unemployment compensation if they are drawing pensions. As of Mar. 31, 1980, a federal law is scheduled to go into effect requiring jobless benefits to be reduced by the amount a laid-off worker draws in pension.

The subcommittee action would remove that provision and leave the issue to the states. The bill is scheduled for action by the full Ways & Means Committee in the next few weeks.

A similar provision also is pending in subcommittee in the Senate, but it is part of a jobless benefit proposal by Sen. David L. Boren (D-Okla.) that the AFL-CIO finds otherwise totally unacceptable. Boren is chairman of a subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee.

In protesting that measure, the AFL-CIO noted that an interim report of the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation called for the outright repeal of the pension offset requirement.

That commission was the topic of another action during the week as President Carter signed a bill extending its life to July 1, 1980, plus 90 days to finish work on its report.

Taming Technology

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING has a key role in meeting the human challenges of innovation and technological progress at the workplace—and this role must be expanded and strengthened.

At the same time, national full employment programs must assure an economic climate in which collective bargaining can flourish. And these national programs must help solve the social and human adjustment problems, created by new and innovative bargaining.

If the economy is healthy and expanding, new work opportunities will develop and the benefits of technology can be enjoyed by all. Indeed, with full employment, business would be encouraged to innovate, and to introduce new technology, since there would be a market for their products.

In the absence of full employment, however, rapid and thoughtless technological change can only exacerbate social problems, especially through the displacement of workers—particularly minorities and women who are just beginning to achieve job levels which permit them to enjoy the benefits of technology.

BUT WHEN WE'VE SAID THAT, we must concentrate our attention on people and accommodating technology to people and making it serve people. When we've looked at its dangers and the need to develop a strategy to deal with its inexorable growth, we have only dealt with our fears and our concerns for its negative potential.

There is immense potential for using technology to make work processes more interesting (not less), and to make work more challenging and more satisfying (not less).

There is immense potential for using technology to reduce the work week, to encourage educational and self-development opportunities, to enlarge our interest horizons, and to improve the opportunity to enhance the human spirit.

The potential for misusing technology is equally immense.

Clearly, technology is itself neutral, and the only question before the house is how we put it to use. If applied badly, it's a savage beast. If we put it to use with a meanness of spirit, an intent to enlarge profits, to further enrich those already abundantly well off, we'll suffer its consequences.

If we apply it with a soaring spirit, if we see it as making possible the enrichment not of the few but of the many—as creating the opportunities finally to help the least, the left-out and the lost—then people will be able to look back in 50 years and say we did well taming the savage beast.

—From AFL-CIO American Federationist, September 1979.

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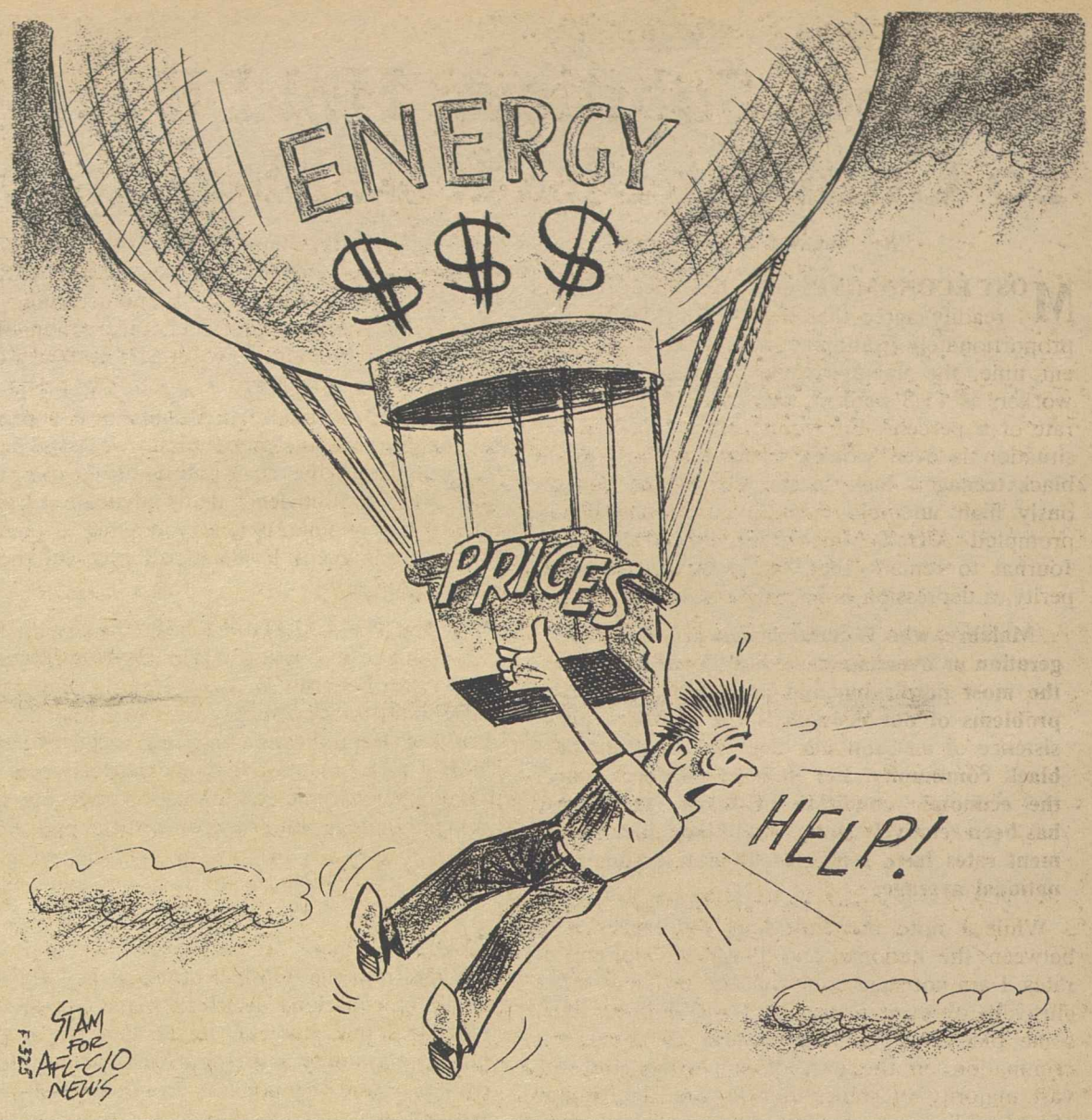
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A Threatening 'Bomb':

Defections Raise Soviet Fears Over Restless Ethnic Groups

By Gus Tyler

THE RUSSIANS SAY that they have cancelled the American tour of the Moscow Symphony Orchestra because the Soviets could not reach proper business arrangements with Columbia Artists who had booked the company for a series of concerts. U.S. State Dept. officials have been quoted as saying that the cancellation "was not unexpected after the rash of defections."

Whatever the truth is, quite inevitably the decision to halt this great opportunity for the Russians to show off their talents to a wide American audience had to stir speculation about Russian fear over defection.

It started with the decision of a star in the Bolshoi Ballet not to return to his native land. That fairly significant move became a highly dramatized international affair when the defector's wife was swiftly whisked away to be flown back home, when U.S. officials halted the departure, when days of negotiations between America and Russia ensued. Although the incident was ultimately resolved (sort of) the case of the dancing defector became a global conversation piece.

That was followed by the defection of two of Russia's most famous ice skaters, who preferred to stay in Switzerland rather than return to the USSR. That was followed by the defection of two more in the Bolshoi Ballet who refused to go home. Apparently, defection was becoming contagious.

The defectors were all people who grew up under Soviet rule, since the Bolsheviks took power 60 years ago. They were honored in their homeland; they were well paid. Yet they wanted to breathe the free air of the West, to escape the stifling strictures of the Soviet Union —whether for artistic or political reasons.

Now, the Russians have cancelled the tour of the Moscow Symphony. Whatever their protestations, they can not be unconcerned about defection.

The real fear is not that Russia may lose a fiddler, a hoofer, or a skater here or there, but that these individual actors are but dramatic foreshadowings of the sullen mood of all those Russians who would break loose if they could. Millions of them are racially closer to China than Russia; others are closer to Mohammed than Marx; ethnic minorities—who are a clear majority of the Russians—see the present rulers of the Kremlin as nothing more than the hated heirs of the once Russifying czars.

The multi-millions may be a "bomb" more threatening to the Communists than any bombs in our nuclear stockpile. If young performers, raised in the closed culture of Russian totalitarianism and rewarded with pay and praise, want out, then how can the Red rulers feel secure that the restless "peoples" won't defect in the event of a war?

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'We Must Make Labor's Voice Heard'

Economists tell us that every one percent increase in unemployment adds $18 billion to the federal deficit—$12 billion in lost tax revenues and $6 billion in new outlays for unemployment compensation and welfare benefits.

The same economists tell us that each one percent increase in general interest rates costs the government alone $1 billion a year more to service the national debt.

And yet, the nation's banks have raised interest rates 35 percent in the last year, while your wages rose 5.6 percent.

These are a few of the facts that we intend to bring before the Administration in the effort to devise effective policies that will address the nation's real problems and real needs.

We propose to make labor's voice heard, strong and clear. But it may not be heeded, either by the Administration or the Congress, unless we can demonstrate that labor itself is united and determined to bring about the changes that are needed.

That is why the first task before us is to strengthen our unity and solidarity in every way we know how. We need to enlist every local union, every bargaining unit, every union member.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, in an address to the Building & Construction Trades Dept. convention in San Diego.

Policy Changes Essential:

Political Solutions Hold Key To Combat Black Joblessness

By Norman Hill

MOST ECONOMISTS and government officials readily agree that black people suffer disproportionately from unemployment. At the present time, the unemployment rate among black workers is 11.3 percent, compared to an overall rate of 6 percent. For young black workers, the situation is even worse—about one-third of all black teenagers lack decent jobs. These dangerously high unemployment levels among blacks prompted Alfred Malabre of the Wall Street Journal to remark that "amid America's prosperity, a depression is in progress."

Malabre, who is certainly not prone to exaggeration or overstatement, has identified one of the most perplexing and potentially explosive problems of our economy—the stubborn persistence of an economic depression within the black community. For at least 10 years now, the economic condition of black Americans has been relatively static. And black unemployment rates have remained at least double the national average.

While I note the enormous differences here between the national and black unemployment rates, I am not suggesting that the problem is exclusively or even primarily a racial one. True, some blacks are jobless because of racial discrimination on the part of employers. But the vast majority of jobless blacks are the victims of color-blind economic policies which destroy thousands of unskilled, semi-skilled and service jobs irrespective of racial considerations.

As happened during other recessions, workers in construction, manufacturing, and unskilled positions experience the highest unemployment rates. Consider these statistics: In June the unemployment rate for construction workers (black and white) was 9.6 percent, the rate for manufacturing workers was 7.7 percent, the rate for common laborers was 10.3 percent, and the rate for service workers was 7.2 percent. By contrast, the jobless rate for white-collar workers was 3.4 percent, and the rate for technical and professional employees was only 2.5 percent.

These statistics, I think, unmistakably demonstrate that unemployment discriminates by class rather than color. In short, black unemployment is so high today because the vast majority of black workers are concentrated in occupations and industries—automobile manufacturing, services, retail trade, apparel, and construction—that are especially vulnerable to drastic cutbacks during economic slowdowns.

How can the black community best approach the unemployment issue? First, we must begin by recognizing the class-nature of the problem. Such a recognition leads us to advocate a broad-range of economic policies designed to reduce the unemployment levels of all blue-collar and service workers.

IT MAKES LITTLE SENSE, for example, to talk about solutions to high black unemployment when the Federal Reserve Board deliberately tightens the money supply or when both Democrats and Republicans commit themselves ritualistically to a balanced budget irrespective of the prevailing economic conditions, or when our government enters into trade agreements which destroy thousands of jobs in manufacturing industries, jobs which are the hopes of many black people.

All of these recession-creating policies emerge from the political process; they are the result of conscious decisions made by elected officials. Thus, it seems to me that we in the black community must approach the problem from a political standpoint. In other words, we must begin now to build a strong, united political constituency for full employment. To build such a constituency, we must increase the political muscle of the black community by registering people to vote and by stressing the importance of supporting candidates who are unambiguously committed to the goal of full employment.

The process of social change does not end with an electoral victory; it begins at that point. We must press our demands every day; we must out-organize and out-lobby the political groups that oppose full employment policies. And we must constantly strengthen our political power at the community level so that both our friends and enemies will be aware that the black vote counts.

Norman Hill is executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute.

Common Commitment to Goals:

National Accord Puts Focus On Critical Economic Issues

THE HISTORIC NATIONAL ACCORD reached between the AFL-CIO and the Carter Administration defines the common commitment of the parties to basic economic goals and spells out broad steps to reach those goals, AFL-CIO Economist Rudy Oswald noted in a network radio interview.

For the first time, the central issues of inflation, recession, international trade and energy have have been "put together in one place" and dealt with as they inter-relate with one another, Oswald pointed out. He said that this kind of approach can help assure that there is an understanding of the basic issues that need to be addressed and sharpen the focus on the kinds of policies and programs that will bolster the overall economic environment.

Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, Oswald said that the Pay Advisory Committee established as an outgrowth of the accord will make it more feasible to develop fair and equitable wage guidelines than has been the case under the procedures of the Council on Wage & Price Stability.

The 7 percent wage increase ceiling was developed at a time when Administration officials were predicting a 6 percent inflation rate for this year, while inflation has actually run at a rate that is "double that earlier forecast."

Oswald said a major flaw of the COWPS mechanism was that it was shaped by a group of people within that organization, with "no public participation." He said development of a fair and workable program should draw on the labor and business communities and the public for input. "The directly-affected parties should have a voice in determining these conditions," he said noting that "now they will, under the new Pay Advisory Committee."

Oswald said that while the AFL-CIO still believes that "a mandatory controls program would more effectively take the bull by the horns" than a voluntary program, the federation has agreed to cooperate in every possible way to give the new system a chance to work. "We have offered to participate, to the best of our ability, to try to achieve the goal of mitigating" inflationary increases that are "plaguing all Americans."

Reporters questioning Oswald on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post and Robert Barr of U.S. News & World Report. The interview is broadcast weekly by Mutual radio.

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Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE IDEA BEHIND the WIN, or "work incentive" program, sounds like a good one to many people: provide work and social services to the needy, thereby enabling family breadwinners to get off the welfare rolls.

A recent report to Congress on WIN marks the 10th anniversary of the program and offers some insight into the nature of WIN as well as its successes and failures.

WIN began in 1968 in response to concern over rising welfare rolls and the accompanying tax burden. Initial funding began in mid-July of 1968 and, by the end of June 1970, all states were in the program.

Here is an outline of the way WIN works:

- All those seeking or receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (welfare) who are at least 16 years of age must register for WIN unless they are exempted for health or other specific reasons.
- Job training and placement services, as well as support services such as child care, are offered. Employment services are provided through the WIN sponsor, usually the state public employment service. Social services are provided or arranged for by the state welfare agency.
- Refusal by a WIN registrant to accept offered employment or preparation for employment "without good cause" can result in deregistration from the program, which may be followed by a reduction of the family's AFDC cash grant.

In its first decade, WIN—jointly administered by the Departments of Labor and Health, Education & Welfare—moved more than 1 million persons off the welfare rolls and into jobs. Meanwhile, state agencies recorded welfare grant reductions in excess of $645 million on an annual basis as a result.

In Fiscal 1978, WIN job entrants started at an average wage of $3.32 an hour. Approximately three of four WIN registrants were women. Of those who found jobs through WIN, the majority ended up with clerical or service jobs. The women's average entry wages were $2.97 an hour compared to $4.01 for male WIN job entrants.

In fairness, it should be noted that WIN registrants are hard to place. The proportions of women, minorities and individuals who dropped out before high school graduation are all substantially higher in WIN than in the general labor force. These groups historically have occupied the lower rungs on the employment ladder.

SOME CRITICS ARGUE that the WIN program perpetuates the pattern by failing to provide permanent career opportunities for program participants. One explanation may be the shift in emphasis created by amendments passed in 1971, which stressed immediate job placement as opposed to classroom training and other aides to employability.

Critics charge this mandate, coupled with monetary incentives—including tax credits for employers who hire WIN registrants—combine to force participants into low-wage jobs where working conditions and benefits are poor and opportunities for advancement are limited or nonexistent.

If, as critics charge, WIN helps employers get cheap labor, does the program at least achieve its primary goal of getting people off welfare? In many cases, it does not. Of the WIN registrants who entered jobs in Fiscal 1978, an estimated 40 to 50 percent continued to receive AFDC assistance.

The WIN 10-year report points to new directions, including programs to enable WIN's female registrants to enter non-traditional, higher-paid jobs. This type of change is a step forward. However, substantial underlying problems remain.

Certainly, people willing and able to work should be helped to do so, but a program that steers the poor and unskilled into low-wage, dead-end jobs can be exploitative, and that helps neither them nor society.



A COMMON COMMITMENT to basic economic goals by the AFL-CIO and the Carter Administration is the central focus of the historic National Accord reached by the parties, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, center, said on Labor News Conference. He was questioned by Frank Swoboda, left, of the Washington Post and Robert Barr of U.S. News & World Report. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs interview is aired weekly on the Mutual radio network.

Jobless Rate Decline Runs Against Trend

(Continued from Page 1)

and unemployment, told the congressional Joint Economic Committee that she was having difficulty getting a firm fix on the economy's direction.

"For some time now, the economic indicators . . . have been difficult to read and, in many cases, have put out mixed signals," she said. Although she did not offer any predictions of future joblessness, she said the September figures did not "provide evidence of any sharp declines in labor market activity."

In any case, 5.8 percent is a very high rate of unemployment by historical standards and the highest level at the start of any previous recession in the nation's history.

Virtually all of the September decline in unemployment took place among adult women, especially married women. The jobless rate for adult women fell to 5.5 percent from 5.9 percent in August.

The unemployment rate for part-time workers also dropped slightly. Little or no change occurred in most other worker categories, including adult men, teenagers, and full-time workers.

Black joblessness dropped to 10.6 percent from 11 percent in August but still was more than double the 5.1 percent rate for white workers.

The total number of unemployed workers fell 164,000, or 2.7 percent, to 6 million in September. Total employment rose by 610,000 to 97.5 million, with most of the new jobs taken by teenagers and adult women. The labor force also rose in September, up 450,000 from August and 2.5 million higher than a year earlier.

Soaring Energy Prices Felt Across Economy

Sharp boosts in energy costs are largely responsible for ballooning prices confronting inflation-weary Americans. The impact of energy costs is felt throughout the economy, riddling the price structures for all goods and services.

In last month's survey of wholesale price changes, the Bureau of Labor Statistics attributed the lion's share of the 1.4 percent increase in producer finished goods to higher petroleum prices. These pushed up other industrial prices, particularly in products derived from petroleum such as synthetic fibers and paint materials.

A breakdown of September increases in various energy-related elements showed the following:

	Month's Increase	*Year's Increase*
Gasoline	**6.2%**	**52.5%**
Kerosene	**7.7**	**70.7**
Fuel oil	**7.9**	**72.8**
Commercial jet fuel	**8.0**	**57.3**
Liquefied petroleum gas	**10.9**	**47.7**
Lubricating oil materials	**12.6**	**54.5**

In addition, increases in crude energy materials for the month occurred in natural gas, up 3.2 percent, and crude material, up 9.4 percent.

Longshoremen Upheld On Container-Handling

The Longshoremen scored a key legal victory in the union's battle with the National Labor Relations Board over the legality of restrictions on the handling of containerized cargo by non-longshoremen.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled that the NLRB committed "reversible legal error" by ignoring facts showing that the stuffing and stripping of containers is similar to the work traditionally performed by longshoremen. Chief Judge J. Skelly Wright and Judge Spotswood W. Robinson voted to overturn NLRB rulings invalidating containerization practices at the ports of New York, Baltimore, and Hampton Roads, Va.

In its opinion, written by Judge Wright, the court said that rules on loading and unloading container ships, negotiated by the union and shipping firms, were a "reasoned response to the difficult problem of technological innovation" and "an example of the self-government contemplated by Congress when it left the bulk of industrial problems to be resolved in the private sector."

The shipping firms have supported the ILA in its efforts to overturn the NLRB rulings.

At issue were contract provisions designed to stamp out a practice known as "shortstopping" when shippers' loads destined for an owner more than 50 miles from port are stripped at trucking terminals within 50 miles of the port. The 1974 rules on containers set liquidated damages of $1,000 per container for violations of the requirement.

Stronger Voice:

Consumer Council Created by Carter

Consumers will have a stronger voice in the workings of federal agencies under a new Executive Order signed by President Carter.

The order establishes the Consumer Affairs Council, made up of special representatives from the regulatory agencies, in an effort to integrate the consumer viewpoint in policy decisions. Carter appointed Esther Peterson, special assistant to the President for consumer affairs, as chairman of the council.

The creation of the council is the outgrowth of recommendations from an 80-member task force that included a number of representatives from organized labor. Among them were Evelyn Dubrow, legislative director of the Ladies' Garment Workers; Jacob Clayman, former president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.; Legislative Rep. Arnold Mayer of the Food & Commercial Workers and Legislative Rep. Kenneth Kovacs of the Steelworkers.

Dubrow, who serves as chairman of a special AFL-CIO subcommittee on consumers, said the Executive Order should give people a better chance to talk to federal agencies.

Carter and Peterson noted that while the council was not designed to fill the role envisioned for the labor-backed Consumer Protection Agency that Congress failed to create last year, it would complement it.

The order requires all federal agencies within 60 days to establish consumer programs headed by senior-level officials. After a review by Peterson, the programs will be put into effect 30 days later.

Five key points covered in the order call on the agencies to:

- Set up identifiable, accessible professional staffs of consumer affairs personnel.
- Establish procedures for the "early and meaningful" participation by consumers in the development and review of all agency rules, policies and programs.
- Produce and distribute materials to inform consumers about their agency responsibilities and services, and to provide a role for consumer participation.
- Provide education and training for staff members of their consumer programs.
- Establish procedures for systematic handling of consumer complaints.

Brewery Council Re-Elects Officers

Pittsburgh — Twenty-three local unions directly affiliated with the AFL-CIO took part in the second annual conference of the AFL-CIO Brewery Workers Council.

Delegates re-elected the council's three officers, President Robert Carpin of Leechburg, Pa., Sec. Kenneth Mueller of Milwaukee and Vice President Don Speer of St. Paul, Minn. The local unions represent nearly 11,000 brewery industry workers.

Wyoming Labor Maps Promotional Campaign

Casper, Wyo.—"I'm Union—Damn Proud of It" is the theme of an extensive education, public relations and political action program adopted by the Wyoming AFL-CIO convention.

To finance the program, the 115 delegates unanimously passed a 10-cent per capita tax increase and overwhelmingly approved standby authority for an assessment of up to $5. Hats, patches, decals and tee-shirts emblazoned with the slogan are also being sold to underwrite the program.

"The key to this effort will be improved education of union members on the issues and their increased involvement in registration and get-out-the-vote drives," said Keith Henning, who was reappointed executive secretary following election of a new executive board. A research and education director will be added to the staff and education seminars for rank-and-file members are being scheduled in several areas of the state.

A 20-month newspaper and radio advertising program was also approved to explain the role of unions in Wyoming communities and in the state's economy. With the assistance of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept., the state federation will continue its program started this summer of placing booths in county fairs and the state fair.

Henning said the campaign is in response to business attacks on government regulations to protect consumers and the rights of working people to organize, bargain collectively and work in a safe place for a reasonable wage.

AFL-CIO President George Meany sent a message to the convention calling the program "a model for other state federations."

National COPE Director Al Barkan also praised the new program and the enthusiasm of the delegates in committing the state federation's affiliates to providing the financing necessary to carry it out. Barkan warned of the massive big-business and right-wing drive to eradicate the labor movement and urged the delegates to rally local union members to the fight.

A convention resolution calling for inclusion of labor history in Wyoming schools received an immediate affirmative response from Lynn Simons, superintendent of public instruction, who offered the assistance of her department in providing materials to teachers.

Other convention speakers included Firefighters President William H. McClennan, Gov. Ed Herschler, State Supreme Court Justice Robert Rose, Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. and Allen Zack, assistant director of public relations for the AFL-CIO.

New officers elected are President Tom Lee of the Communications Workers and Vice Presidents Charles Boyle of the Steelworkers and Willis Meeks of the Carpenters.

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Laborers' Leader W. Vernie Reed Dies

W. Vernie Reed, secretary-treasurer of the Laborers for the past four years and a member of the union's executive board since 1961, died of cancer Oct. 5. He was 64.

Reed had been a member of the LIU since 1936 and held a number of offices with Local 252 in Tacoma, Wash., before being appointed an international representative in 1958. He also served in key positions with the Tacoma Building & Construction Trades Council, the Western Washington Laborers' Council and the Washington State Building & Construction Trades Council.

He joined the LIU headquarters organizing staff in 1960 and later that year was named director of the department of organization and jurisdiction. Reed was elected a vice president of the international the following year.

He was serving as first vice president in 1975 when the union's executive board elected him unanimously to succeed Terrance J. O'Sullivan as secretary-treasurer. He was elected to a full five-year term at the union's convention in 1976.

Reed was also a vice president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., Metal Trades Dept. and Maritime Trades Dept., and served as a member of the National Joint Board for the Settlement of Jurisdictional Disputes.

AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, in a letter to Reed's widow, recalled him as "a decent, compassionate man who gave the labor movement much more than could ever be repaid."

Survivors include his wife, Norma, four children and 10 grandchildren. Funeral services were held at St. Patrick's Church in Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 9.

A memorial service will be held in Washington, D.C., later this month.

New Institute Launches Arts Outreach Effort

A $1 million arts, education and science outreach effort is being launched by the new cultural arm of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees.

The aims of the project, sponsored by the DPE's Labor Institute for Human Enrichment, are to bring workers and their families a better understanding of the arts and technology, while aiding those working in the field to better serve the public.

The institute has plans to spend about $1 million a year in providing research, planning, training and administrative services to unions developing programs to broaden the non-working lives of their members.

Support for the institute's project is coming from the DPE's 26 affiliates and several federal agencies, including the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation and the Labor Dept.

DPE Executive Director Jack Golodner described the efforts of the institute, which was created last year, as a logical step by the labor movement to help close the cultural gap for American workers.

"The arts and humanities are still too often regarded as the sole province of the wealthy, and the plans of the scientist beyond understanding by the people who will be most affected," Golodner said.

Through the institute's services to unions, Golodner said workers will be aided in "overcoming the social and institutional barriers that have kept them from fully exploring and understanding these aspects of their world."

The institute already has programs under way aimed at combating employment problems and improving work standards in the performing arts and curbing occupational health hazards in science and education.

The institute is governed by a 21-member board headed by Albert Shanker, who also is president of the Teachers and the DPE.

Annual Competition:

ILPA Contest Cites Labor Publications

The nation's labor press has undergone continuing and "significant" improvement in recent years, the judges of the 1979 International Labor Press Association journalistic awards contest observed.

"There is much better writing, photography, layout and use of type and graphics," the judges commented. "In sum, (there is) much better editing in today's labor press than was evident some years ago."

The judges selected 130 winners from 1,126 entries in the 1979 contest, noting that there were more winners and more entries than the year before.

Bob Master was named winner of the 1979 Max Steinbock Award. The award, named for the late president of ILPA, honors "the best journalistic effort which exemplifies a humanistic spirit." Master won the award as author of "The Human Toll at Stevens," which appeared in the September 1978 issue of Labor Unity, publication of the Clothing & Textile Workers.

Judging the 1979 ILPA contest were Fred Frailey, senior editor of U.S. News & World Report; Richard Hindle, Dept. of Labor Studies, Pennsylvania State University, currently on assignment with the George Meany Center for Labor Studies; Dean Ruth, retired editor of the Machinists (who took no part in judging any of the entries from the union) and Paul Williams, a public information officer with the U.S. Dept. of Labor.

Following is a list of winners in the overall general excellence categories:

International and national publications — Newspapers of 100,000 or more circulation: first award, The Machinist; award of merit, Steel Labor, Steelworkers; awards of honor, ACTWU Labor Unity; Oil, Chemical & Atomic Union News.

Magazines of 100,000 or more circulation: first award, American Educator, Teachers; award of merit, The Butcher Workman, Meat Cutters; awards of honor, The Advocate, Retail Clerks; UA Journal, Plumbers & Pipefitters.

Newspapers of less than 100,000 circulation: first award, the NMU Pilot, Maritime Union; award of merit, the Guild Reporter, Newspaper Guild; award of honor, Seafarers Log.

Magazines of less than 100,000 circulation: first award, Canadian Interchange, Railway & Airline Clerks; award of merit, Air Line Pilot; award of honor, Bricklayers Journal.

Newsletters: first award, IUE Health & Safety Bulletin, Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers; award of merit, AFGE Washington Letter, Government Employees; award of honor, IAM Report from Headquarters, Machinists.

State and local central body publications—Publications with 17 or more issues per year: first award, Union Advocate, St. Paul, Minn.; award of merit, California AFL-CIO News; awards of honor, St. Louis Labor Tribune; Racine Labor, Racine, Wis.

Publications with less than 17 issues per year: first award, Ontario Labor; award of merit, Northern California Labor; awards of honor, Focus, Ohio AFL-CIO; Labor News, Texas AFL-CIO.

Local union publications—Publications with 15,000 or more circulation; first award, Chicago Union Teacher; award of merit, Engineers News, Operating Engineers, San Francisco; awards of honor, Local 324 Reporter, RCIU, Buena Vista, Calif.; Union Leader, RCIU, Silver Spring, Md.; Utility Reporter, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Walnut Creek, Calif.; and The Voice of 770, RCIU, Los Angeles.

Publications with 7,500 to 15,000 circulation: first award, the Detroit Teacher; award of merit, Forefront, Meat Cutters, Jamaica, N.Y.; awards of honor, Local 509 News, Service Employees, Boston, and Two Bits' Worth, Hotel & Restaurant Employees, Washington, D.C.

Publications with 2,500 to 7,500 circulation: first award, '09 Express, Steelworkers, Baltimore; award of merit, Los Angeles Firefighter; awards of honor, United Action, SEIU, Oakland, Calif., and Ten/Twenty News, Communications Workers, St. Louis.

Publications with less than 2,500 circulation: first award, Guild Forum, Newspaper Guild, Washington; award of merit, News & Views, Machinists, Wellsville, N.Y.; awards of honor, the Allentown Teacher, Allentown, Pa.; College Union Voice, Teachers, Chicago; UpDate, Sheet Metal Workers, St. Louis.

Machine-duplicated publications: first award, the Yonkers Teacher, Yonkers, N.Y.; award of merit, Action Bulletin, Teachers, Hartsdale, N.Y.

Regional publications—Publications with less than 20,000 circulation; first award, MFT Action, Minnesota Teachers; award of merit, FLM Joint Board Tempo, Meat Cutters, New York; awards of honor, the Federation Paper, Massachusetts Teachers, and the Skipjack, Seafarers, Piney Point, Md.

Publications of 20,000 or more circulation: first award, 1199 News, Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union, New York; award of merit, Bay State Employee, State, County & Municipal Employees, Boston; award of honor, Public Employee Press, AFSCME, New York.

Awards also were made for special performance in writing, layout, cartooning, photography and use of graphics.

Labor Board Case Rulings Hit New Peak

(Continued from Page 1)

The case totals are based on figures compiled by the board for the 1979 fiscal year. The agency's complete annual report will be issued next March.

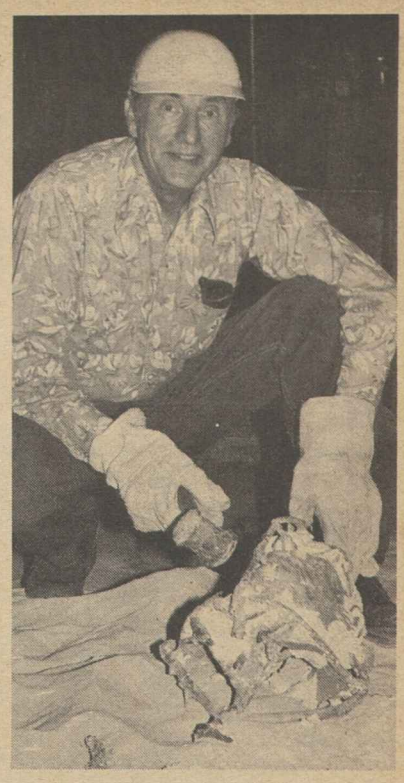
The NLRB does not initiate cases. It processes charges and election petitions filed by workers, unions and employers with the agency's 50 regional and field offices throughout the United States.

More than 55,000 cases of all types were brought before the NLRB in the 1979 fiscal year, a record total. Of these, approximately 40,000 were unfair practice charges.

About two-thirds of the charges are dismissed or withdrawn. Only a third are found to be meritorious cases in which there is reasonable cause to believe that federal labor law has been violated.

In the remaining cases, an intensive effort is made to bring the parties together with the regional director to settle the dispute.







CERAMIC MOLD for a bronze bust of AFL-CIO President George Meany is readied for casting (above) by sculptor George Bassett, right, and foundryman Jonas Ingvaldson, a member of Steelworkers Local 6803 at Albert Lea, Minn. At right, foundrymen Lawrence Culbert and Ingvaldson position the crucible over the mold. Bassett prepares to remove the cast, upper right. The life-size bust of Meany is expected to be completed in time for unveiling at the AFL-CIO convention in Washington next month. The bust will later be placed in the lobby of the AFL-CIO headquarters. Bassett, a former school teacher, also farms a 180-acre tract near Winnebago, Minn. He has done sculptures of a number of notable persons, including Minnesota's late Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey and Russian author Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

Delegates Set Labor's Goals In Vermont

Montpelier. Vt.—Delegates to the Vermont State AFL-CIO convention here approved a higher per capita, set policy for the coming year, and elected officers.

There was unanimous approval of a five-cent increase in monthly per capita payments, effective Oct. 1. The former rate was 20 cents a month. The increase was needed because of higher operating costs, President Robert E. Clark reported.

Clark and Sec.-Treas. Ralph E. Crippen were re-elected to new terms. Howard Clay was elected executive vice president, replacing Lindol Atkins, who chose not to run again.

The 100 delegates at the four-day meeting approved a series of resolutions, including a measure urging the state government to use its surplus to insure that all Vermonters have enough heating fuel this winter.

Other actions called for limitations on mandatory overtime, changes in the state workers' compensation law, and state observance of Memorial Day on the day that the federal government observes the holiday.

Speakers included President Joseph Keenan of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept., AFL-CIO Regional Director John F. O'Malley, Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Rep. James M. Jeffords (R-Vt.), and Gov. Richard Snelling.

The delegates raised $400 to support the Farm Workers' lettuce strike.

Funding for Expansion Adopted In Connecticut

New Haven, Conn.—Delegates to the Connecticut AFL-CIO annual convention approved a 2-cent per capita tax increase to help finance the state federation's expanded education program and COPE activities.

The action by the 550 delegates raises the monthly per capita payment to 26 cents. One cent of the boost will go into the general fund and the other is earmarked for the political action fund, raising the monthly COPE contribution to 7 cents per member.

With the increased general revenues, the state federation will hire a full-time education director.

Four of the five top officers were re-elected without opposition, including President John J. Driscoll to his 10th consecutive two-year term.

The convention also elected Betty L. Tianti secretary-treasurer to succeed Walter M. O'Connor, who did not seek re-election. Tianti, 50, a member of the Clothing & Textile Workers, has served as the state COPE director since 1974.

Earlier, she had been president of a textile workers local in Danielson, Conn., a TWUA organizer and the union's assistant COPE director. Tianti is the first woman elected a general officer of the state federation.

O'Connor, who has been secretary-treasurer since 1975, has joined the state board of mediation and arbitration as a mediator.

The convention reaffirmed the state body's long-standing commitment to press for state tax reform by providing relief to workers from regressive sales and property taxes through a progressive income tax system. Connecticut remains one of the few states in the nation without an income tax.

Major speakers at the three-day convention included Democratic Gov. Ella T. Grasso, Assistant President Gus Tyler of the Ladies' Garment Workers, Associate COPE director John Perkins and AFL-CIO Regional Director John F. O'Malley.

Labor Board Opens N.Y. Office for Judges

New York—The National Labor Relations Board formally opened a New York office for administrative law judges as a first step in decentralizing NLRB's division of judges.

The office, temporarily situated at 16 Court St. in Brooklyn before moving permanently to Manhattan, has an initial complement of seven hearings officers. The NLRB intends to expand the staff to 18 judges.

Edwin H. Bennett, 49, has been designated by the board to serve as associate chief administrative law judge in charge of the New York office. He has been regional attorney for the NLRB in its New York regional office.

Delay Unjustified:

Standards Pressed For Job-Injury Aid

New York—State governments have demonstrated that they won't voluntarily remedy deficiencies in workers' compensation programs and there is no longer any justification for delaying federal standards, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman said.

Seidman told a convention of state workers' compensation administrators that proposals for further study of the issues amount to "simply an excuse for inaction."

There have been repeated studies of compensation programs for job-related injuries and illnesses, Seidman stressed. He noted that study panels in both 1977 and 1978 arrived at "essentially the same conclusions" about the deficiencies of state programs that the National Commission on State Workmen's Compensation Laws had reached in 1972 after its two-year study.

No state has yet complied with all the commission's "essential recommendations," Seidman noted. While "New Hampshire is close to full compliance, Oklahoma barely has a start."

As further evidence of the need for federal legislation, Seidman noted that several states have actually rolled back coverage and are "further away from compliance" with the recommendations from state programs than they had been.

In the absence of a federal law that would establish uniform compensation standards, states are subject to pressure to hold down or roll back benefits in order to attract industry. In fact, Seidman said, the argument does not hold up since there is little correlation between insurance premiums and gains or loss of firms.

Regardless of the facts, Seidman noted, the argument is still being made. "The assumption seems to be that people should be so anxious for jobs that they would risk health and life to have them."

Seidman noted the reluctance to move toward adequate coverage of occupational disease because of the potential cost involved. The result of that gap, he stressed, is that the costs of occupational disease are now borne by the victims themselves and by other government programs, including social security and welfare.

The United States does less to compensate victims of occupational disease than most other western nations, Seidman noted. One reason, he suggested, is that the profit interest of private insurers results in an "extraordinary degree of contested occupational disease claims."

Making the case for exclusive state funds for workers' compensation programs, Seidman cited these statistics:

"Private insurance carriers contest 12 percent of all claims and 44 percent of permanent total disability and death claims. Self-insurers contest 17 percent of claims and over 70 percent of claims for permanent total disability and death.

"By way of contrast, state funds contest only 6 percent of claims and 30 percent of permanent disability and death claims."

One byproduct, he noted, is that money that could go into benefits is spent in litigation.

Seidman cited these statistics:

He stressed the contrast with the situation in Washington State, where "for every dollar paid in premiums to the exclusive state fund, an injured worker will draw about $1.05 in benefits. That is possible," he said, "because investment earnings more than offset the entire expense of administering the program."

Seidman expressed concern that the bill being considered by the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee has been so weakened from previous versions that the AFL-CIO "cannot support it in its present form."

Unless Congress shows that it is prepared to move ahead with effective standards, Seidman warned, states will feel no pressure to improve their programs and "the drift and even retrogression now occurring can be expected to continue."



DISTINGUISHED SERVICES award of the Association of Labor-Management Administrators and Consultants on Alcoholism is presented to UAW Vice President Pat Greathouse, second from left. Joining in the presentation ceremony were, from left, President Thomas Turner of the Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO, John McManus of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services, and Jack Hennessy of the Longshoremen.

HRDI Exceeds Goals For Job Development

Expanded operations of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute in 1978 helped boost job development and placement activities well over its previous year's levels, HRDI said in its annual report to the Labor Dept.

During the year, HRDI opened five new local offices for a total of 59, which serve 36 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

The institute also launched two new programs, one to meet the training and placement needs of handicapped persons and the other to focus on reducing the high unemployment rate among performing artists.

Throughout the year, the report noted, HRDI continued to operate its long-existing services of job development and placement, employment counseling, technical assistance to labor organizations and community groups, along with special programs for native Americans, youths, veterans, ex-offenders and apprenticeship outreach efforts.

In its primary contractual area with the Labor Dept. under a $7 million federal grant, HRDI said that 29,502 jobs were developed through its area representatives. This is a 5,000 increase over 1977 and exceeds its annual goal of 20,000 by 48 percent.

The report noted that 10,347 persons were also placed in jobs through HRDI's local offices during the year.

Overall, the institute continued to provide services to numerous labor groups across the country, the report said. This effort included HRDI assistance in local employment and training activities involving $30 million of federally funded programs under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

Of the 10,347 unemployed or economically disadvantaged persons who were placed in jobs last year, HRDI said more than 6,000 were members of minority groups. The placements included 1,249 ex-offenders, 1,957 veterans, 489 handicapped persons, and 601 women in non-traditional jobs. Nearly 60 percent of the total placements were in union jobs.

The report noted that for persons placed in union jobs the average hourly wage was $4.92, compared with $3.73 an hour in non-union placements.

In eight years of operations since 1971, HRDI pointed out that it has developed 195,000 job openings and placed 75,000 workers in jobs.

Fed Squeeze On Credit Seen Feeding Slump

(Continued from Page 1)

had an immediate effect on the stock market, which took a dramatic drop as investors engaged in heavy selling.

Treasury Sec. G. William Miller told a meeting of the American Bankers Association that the latest Fed actions were necessary to quell price rises, which have been running at more than 13 percent at the consumer level and even higher at the wholesale level.

President Carter publicly backed the Fed's moves to curb credit, saying at a press conference that he intends to do "whatever it takes to control inflation."

In other economic developments, the Commerce Dept.'s August index of leading indicators was unchanged after slipping a revised two-tenths of 1 percent in July, falling three-tenths of 1 percent in June, and inching up one-tenth of 1 percent in May. The index is regarded as a measure of future changes in the economy.

In another indication of a sluggish economy, the Commerce Dept. reported that new construction declined in August at the steepest rate since January. Public and private construction put in place during August totaled $229.2 billion at an annual rate — a drop of 1.5 percent from July.

The biggest falloff came in the public sector, where construction declined by 4.1 percent. Private construction fell eight-tenths of 1 percent. The drop in public construction followed a 10.9 percent upswing during July.

Meanwhile, the government reported that sharply higher oil prices and increases in other imports in August widened the nation's trade deficit with the rest of the world by $2.36 billion — the largest monthly gap between American imports and exports since a $2.48 billion deficit in May.

During the first eight months of 1979, the U.S. trade deficit totaled $15.22 billion, compared with $21.92 billion during the same period last year.

Clayman Named to Head Senior Citizens Council

Jacob Clayman has been named to succeed James Carbray as president of the National Council of Senior Citizens. The NCSC general board selected Clayman, who retired last month as president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., after Carbray announced his intention to step down.

Clayman will fill Carbray's unexpired term, which runs through next June when the 3.5 million-member organization elects a full slate of officers at its convention in Cincinnati.

Carbray said his reasons for resigning were based on his health and that of his wife. He said he would remain actively involved in NCSC affairs by working out of the organization's West Coast office in Los Angeles.

Clayman has worked closely with the NCSC while serving in leadership positions with the IUD since 1960. Clayman also has been active in consumer and civil rights groups for a number of years.

In 1968, Clayman was elected the founding president of the Consumer Federation of America and continued to serve the CFA as a vice president for several years. He also has served on the board of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

Clayman will be installed at a dinner meeting of the NCSC board Oct. 22, which will also be a tribute to Carbray for his long service to the council.

Gentry Named for Labor Dept. Post

John N. Gentry will be nominated by President Carter as Under Secretary of Labor, the White House announced. Gentry will replace Robert J. Brown, who resigned to become a member of the National Mediation Board.

Gentry currently is the chief labor-management relations adviser to the chairman of the Council on Wage & Price Stability. In the 1960s, he held a number of positions with the Labor Dept. during the term of Sec. W. Willard Wirtz, including deputy assistant secretary for labor-management relations and executive assistant to the under secretary.

Cement Union Hits Move To Shift Safety Coverage

The real issue of proposals to exempt stone, sand and gravel miners from the protection of the federal Mine Safety & Health Act is "lives versus profits," a union official told Congress.

Sec.-Treas. Richard Northrip of the Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers said the union represents some 25,000 miners in the stone mining industry and "it would be a direct threat" to their safety and health to exclude them from the tough new law.

Northrip and Thomas Balanoff, the union's research director, testified before the House Subcommittee on Health & Safety at oversight hearings on the law.

Bills in both the Senate and the House would transfer coverage of the stone mining industry from MSHA to the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

Northrip said the union has followed the campaign to exempt the industry from the mine safety law and believes the arguments for exclusion are "very ambiguous and not based on the realities of the industry."

He said employers are claiming the stone industry is different from underground mining, the hazards are less severe and the mine safety law imposes undue economic hardships. He took issue with all these arguments.

Northrip said the surface mining of stone, sand and gravel also involves the use of explosives, rotary and percussion drills, bulldozers, scrapers, power shovels, dragline excavators and front-end loaders.

On safety, Northrip offered data showing that the fatality and injury rates in stone, sand and gravel mining are higher or comparable to the rates for surface mining of coal and metals.

The stone mining industry, he said, includes such corporate giants as U.S. Steel, Bethlehem Steel, National Steel, General Dynamics, National Gypsum, Pfizer and Georgia-Pacific. Cement plants built near quarries are owned by Lone Star Industries, Martin Marietta, Medusa, General Portland Cement, Penn-Dixie and other big firms, he added.

"The real issue before Congress," Northrip told the panel, "is one of lives versus profits."

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Illegal, Totalitarian Tactics Mark New Union-Busting



VICTORY CELEBRATION culminates the Steelworkers' long struggle to win bargaining rights for some 15,500 workers at the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., Virginia's largest private employer and one of the world's largest shipyards. Owned by Tenneco Inc., the giant yard had fought for 21 months to overturn the USWA's January 1978 representation election. A federal appeals court has upheld the victory, and the company said that it will not further appeal.

Labor Documents Role of Consultants

Management consultants who hire out to union-busting employers are bringing totalitarian tactics to America's workplaces, the AFL-CIO charged at House hearings.

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, testified that employers are being advised to deliberately violate federal laws if necessary to the goal of a "union-free environment."

Techniques used to keep unions out have been as blatantly illegal as not hiring blacks and Puerto Ricans because they tend to be pro-union, he said. And they have been as sophisticated as devising skillfully worded surveys to get a desired response and thus give workers the impression that they have had a role in shaping management decisions that in fact had already been made.

Kistler was an opening day witness at hearings called by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), whose Subcommittee on Labor-Management Relations is exploring a broad range of management pressures on workers. Other union witnesses were scheduled to cite examples of management tactics in organizing campaigns and deal with other phases of the hearings such as the use of lie detectors.

Kistler welcomed the subcommittee hearings into what he termed "this new industry dedicated to frustrating federal labor policy" and urged that the panel summon a number of management consultants for direct questioning.

To a shocked panel, he quoted the cynical advice given at one consultant seminar:

". . . It is my strong finding that blacks tend to be more prone to unionization than whites. Now you have EEOC (Equal Employment

(Continued on Page 8)

Oil Firms Win Round In Congress

Congress struggled to shape an energy policy out of the assortment of bills moving at varying speed through the legislative process, but the only clear winner thus far appeared to be the big oil companies whose already huge profits are being fattened by the phaseout of price controls.

The House rejected by nearly 2-1 margins labor-supported moves to continue price controls on oil produced in the United States. The effect will be to allow oil producers to continue to boost the price at which they sell oil from existing wells until it reaches the artificially high levels imposed by the oil-exporting OPEC nations.

Then, the House voted 191-188 to abolish all price controls on gasoline and end authority for allocating supplies during periods of scarcity.

The House was to have another opportunity to vote on the gasoline decontrol amendment and the AFL-CIO strongly urged that it reverse the vote. Otherwise, the federation warned, the next gasoline shortfall "will not only bring about long

(Continued on Page 8)

18-Member Pay Panel Appointed

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and five other representatives of organized labor are among 17 members named by President Carter to the Administration's new Pay Advisory Committee.

The committee will advise the Council on Wage & Price Stability in the development of a voluntary pay standard for the second year of the Administration's anti-inflation program.

The panel, headed by former Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop who had been appointed earlier, held its

(Continued on Page 2)

At Newport News Shipyard:

Steelworkers Win Recognition Fight

Newport News, Va.—The Steelworkers hailed a federal appeals court decision upholding the union's election victory at the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. nearly two years ago, and looked forward to negotiating a first contract for the shipyard's 15,500 workers.

In effect, the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals directed the shipyard's owner, Tenneco Inc., to recognize the USWA as the collective bargaining representative. Shipyard President Edward J. Campbell said that the firm would not appeal the finding.

"We now recognize the United Steelworkers of America as the bargaining agent for our production and maintenance workers," he said. "We will begin good-faith negotiations as soon as practicable in an effort to agree upon an equitable contract."

The next step in the union's long, drawn-out efforts to represent the workers calls for the Steelworkers to make a formal demand upon the company to negotiate.

USWA President Lloyd McBride said that the union had fully expected the court to rule as it did.

"This is the fourth time that one legal agency or another has said the election was a true reflection of the employees' wishes to have a union," he said. "We are pleased with the ruling on the one hand, and concerned on the other that the workers' democratically expressed desire can be frustrated so long while the weakness of the labor law is exploited.

"At long last perhaps the company is ready to abide by the spirit

(Continued on Page 2)

Kirkland Asks Shelter For Credit Need Areas

If the country is going to rely on restrictive monetary policy to fight inflation then steps should be taken "to shelter areas of great social need" from the "chill winds" of tight money, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland declared.

He told reporters in a Washington interview session that the recent action of the Federal Reserve Board in raising interest rates was "the wrong move at the wrong time." He added that "the pure, deliberate and startling increase in just the price of money is going to compound the problem rather than solve it."

The federation is concerned with the special needs of housing and urban affairs and the assurance of continued access to money at reasonable rates for these areas, he stressed, in line with the spirit of the National Accord worked out with the Administration.

He recalled that the accord spe-

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Labor Calls for Curbs On Oil Company Greed

By James M. Shevis

The most urgent business facing Congress is to curb the "insatiable greed" of the big oil companies that are "squeezing the economy dry, accelerating inflation, and ripping off the American people," the AFL-CIO charged.

In a telegram from Federation Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, read at a Big Oil Protest Day demonstration outside the Capitol, organized labor declared its full support of a national drive to reverse the surging rise in energy prices.

"The oil giants must not be allowed to further damage the national interest," Kirkland declared.

The prime sponsors of the protest day—the Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition and the Progressive Alliance—coordinated similar demonstrations in over 100 cities throughout the country to pressure the government into reimposing price controls on domestic oil and natural gas.

"We are appalled at the recklessness of House members who voted

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Court Upholds Steelworkers Shipyard Vote

(Continued from Page 1)

of this nation's labor law," McBride said.

The long legal wrangling over representation of the Newport News workers goes back to a National Labor Relations Board election at the shipyard on Jan. 31, 1978. The USWA won the election over the unaffiliated Peninsula Shipbuilders Association by a vote of 9,093 to 7,548. PSA had represented the workers since 1939.

NLRB certified the Steelworkers as bargaining agent on Oct. 27, 1978, but the company appealed the board's ruling, alleging irregularities in the election. Although the NLRB rejected the firm's challenge, a federal court reversed the agency's decision, saying the board erred in failing to hold hearings on the allegations.

The Steelworkers, weary of the endless litigation, struck the shipyard on Jan. 31, 1979, but called off the walkout on Apr. 23, deciding that the wisest course of action was to await the court ruling.

In its opinion enforcing the NLRB order, the three-judge appellate court said:

"Overall, we think that the board's order directing the company to bargain is supported by substantial evidence and it and the proceedings leading to its adoption were without legal error."

The court also dismissed the petition for review filed by the Peninsula Shipbuilders Association, which lost the 1978 election to the Steelworkers. This means, in effect, that the PSA will not be allowed to appeal the court's ruling.

The shipyard is Virginia's largest private employer, building many of the Navy's nuclear ships and submarines.



RECOGNITION OF LONG SERVICE to the labor movement by Sol Stetin, center, senior executive vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, was made at a testimonial dinner in New York. Proceeds from the dinner will be used for the construction of a wing addition to the Labor Education Center at Rutgers University that will be named for Stetin. Joining in congratulations were, from left, ACTWU Executive Vice President Scott M. Hoyman, President Murray H. Finley, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and ACTWU Sec.-Treas. Jacob Sheinkman.

Lives vs. Profits Test Key to Benzene Case

The trade union movement and the federal government joined in asking the Supreme Court not to sacrifice workers' lives to employer profits.

At issue is whether the Occupational Safety & Health Administration must apply a cost-benefit test to a standard it had issued limiting exposure to benzene—a common chemical that is a medically proven cause of leukemia and other sometimes fatal illnesses.

The AFL-CIO, the federation's Industrial Union Dept., and a number of affiliated unions joined with OSHA in urging the Supreme Court to reinstate an emergency standard issued in 1977 that a worker could not be exposed to more than one part benzene per million parts of air (1 ppm). The previous standard allowed 10 parts of benzene, but OSHA found that the higher level did not adequately protect workers from leukemia, genetic damage and often-fatal anemia.

Benzene is used largely in the petroleum, chemical and steel industries, and the American Petroleum Institute sued to block enforcement of the tighter standard.

Its argument was that the cost of meeting the standard would be prohibitive, and the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals agreed to the extent of ruling that occupational health standards should meet a "cost-benefit" justification.

During a 90-minute oral argument before the Supreme Court, union and government attorneys contended that so long as the proposed standard was technically feasible, lives and health should not be sacrificed to keep costs down.

The controversy, however decided, is seen by both sides as having a major impact on OSHA standards in other areas.

During the legal debate, Justice John Paul Stevens commented to an industry lawyer, "If you win this case, someone may die as a result."

According to medical researchers, there is a long latency period—often as long as 20 years—before health damage to workers can be detected because of their exposure to higher levels of benzene.

Union safety and health experts have repeatedly warned that further delay in the implementation of the new standard would have a serious impact on workers' health and increase the number of deaths caused by the toxic chemical.

First Meeting Held:

Six Labor Members Named to Pay Panel

(Continued from Page 1)

first meeting on Oct. 17. The tripartite committee includes an equal number of members representing labor, business, and the general public.

Carter announced formation of the board on Sept. 28, saying he wanted to broaden participation in the government's inflation-fighting program. The panel will submit recommendations in the following areas:

The basic pay standard; an inflation assumption for evaluating cost-of-living provisions; a threshold for the low-wage exemption; treatment of step increments and tandem relationships, and appropriate adjustment for workers not covered by cost-of-living protections.

The committee members and the sectors which they represent are:

Labor—In addition to Kirkland, President William Wynn of the Food & Commercial Workers, Ironworkers President John Lyons, Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride, Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons, and UAW President Douglas Fraser.

Public—John T. Dunlop, chairman; Prof. Phyllis Wallace, Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Robben W. Fleming, president of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; Arvid Anderson, chairman, Office of Collective Bargaining, New York City; Prof. Lloyd Ulman, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California; Robert Nathan, chief executive officer, Robert R. Nathan Associates, an economic consulting firm.

Business—President Heath Larry, National Association of Manufacturers; President Jesse Hill, Atlanta Life Insurance Co., Charles R. McDonald, Chairman, Council of Smaller Enterprises, and president, McDonald Equipment Co.; Chairman John T. Conner, Allied Chemical Corp.; Norma Pace, senior vice president, American Paper Institute; and Philip M. Hawley, president, Carter Hawley Hale Stores.

Alternates will be named later for the business and labor representatives.

Alfred Kahn, who heads the Council on Wage & Price Stability, the agency charged with administering the President's anti-inflation program, has said that while the Pay Committee's role is advisory he expects that it will have a strong influence on policy formulation.

The President also has announced that he will appoint a five-member Price Advisory Committee, with an all-public membership to be announced shortly.

Dunlop, who is currently a Harvard University professor, served as director of the Cost of Living Council during the Nixon Administration. He is highly regarded in labor circles, and his term as Secretary of Labor in the Ford Administration was described by AFL-CIO President George Meany as among the "most distinguished" in the nation's history.

Wage-Inflation Myth Exploded by Banker

The perception among many businessmen and in parts of the general public that labor costs are at the root of the nation's inflation problem is unsupported by the facts, Tilford Gaines, chief economist of the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co., points out in the bank's monthly newsletter.

"Take-home pay usually lags behind the rate of price inflation, which could not be the case if pay increases were the cause of inflation," Gaines observes.

"In the past year, for example, weekly take-home pay of production workers rose by 7.4 percent while the consumer price index rose by 11.3 percent."

Gaines's article supports what the AFL-CIO has been saying all along.

Senate Asked to Stop Disability Benefit Cut

A House-passed bill that would curtail future social security disability benefits would doom many families to poverty and should be rejected by the Senate, the AFL-CIO urged.

The federation's statement to the Senate Finance Committee noted that the disability trust fund is running a surplus. "Thus, there is no pressing financial need to adopt proposals which would impose unnecessary suffering on disability beneficiaries."

Under the House bill, younger workers who become totally disabled would no longer be able to drop out five years of low earnings in computing their benefit entitlement, and virtually everyone who becomes disabled before age 47 would receive less than under present law. Rigid benefit ceilings would penalize especially young workers with families.

The AFL-CIO acknowledged that there are some desirable work incentive features of the House bill but said these "can and should be passed as separate legislation," not tied to the benefit cuts.

That's also the position taken by all major organizations of disabled persons and more than 100 organizations joined in a social security coalition, the statement noted.

The committee also has before it another House-passed bill that would make it easier for disabled persons on the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program to try to return to work. It is not tied to any reduction in benefits and the AFL-CIO called for its prompt approval.

On proposals to reduce benefits, the AFL-CIO statement stressed that the social security program is a form of social contract between the government and its citizens.

"That doesn't mean that changes should never be made," the AFL-CIO said. "But it does mean that they should be made only after careful thought and study and extensive public debate." These elements were lacking when the House adopted the disability cutback bill, the federation said.

Oshinski Named to Head Steel Union Organizing

Pittsburgh — John L. Oshinski has been named organizing director of the Steelworkers to replace Elmer Chatak, who was elected secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. at its recent convention.

Oshinski had been organizing director and an executive board member of the Allied & Technical Workers, District 50, prior to its merger with the USWA in 1972. He has been on the USWA legislative staff in Washington for the past seven years.

In announcing the appointment, USWA President Lloyd McBride said the union's organizing strategies will continue under Oshinski's leadership, with particular emphasis on Du Pont Co. plants.

Calendars Offer Message on Voting

A 1980 wall calendar featuring illustrations by Norman Rockwell and carrying the AFL-CIO message on voter registration and participation in the election process is now available.

The calendar project is jointly sponsored by the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept., the Committee on Political Education and the Dept. of Education.

Space is provided on the calendars for messages from unions purchasing the calendars in bulk quantities. Order forms may be obtained from the Union Label & Service Trades Dept.

Laborers Elect Coia Secretary-Treasurer

Vice President Arthur E. Coia has been elected secretary-treasurer of the Laborers to succeed W. Vernie Reed, who died Oct. 5.

Coia's succession to the post was announced by LIU President Angelo Fosco and the union's general executive board.

Coia began his career in the labor movement 40 years ago in Providence, R.I. He held virtually every post in Local 271 there, including that of president and business manager. In 1954 he was appointed an LIU international representative and, 15 years later, regional manager of the union's New England and Eastern Canada region.



ARTHUR E. COIA

In 1971, he was elected 8th vice president of the union and was serving as 5th vice president when elected secretary-treasurer on Oct. 10.

Among the positions Coia has held are chairman, Rhode Island Laborers' Training Trust Fund; chairman, New England Laborers' Training Trust Fund; trustee, LIU pension fund, and chairman, Central and Eastern Canada pension fund.

Coia also served on several governor's commissions, and received the Italian-American Charitable Society's Gold Medal Award in 1974. His son, Arthur A. Coia, serves as business manager of the Rhode Island LIU council and international representative of the union.

To Carry Out Programs:

Building Trades Plan for '80s Linked to Political Action

By David L. Perlman

San Diego—Expanded political action is a key ingredient of the program for the 1980s adopted by the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. at its 60th convention here.

Delegates endorsed a broad range of measures to strengthen the economy, make the United States energy-sufficient and bring down mortgage rates that have priced millions of families out of the housing market.

The convention called for strengthening job safety, for preserving the Davis-Bacon Act and comparable state prevailing wage laws, and for enactment of overdue labor law reform and common site picketing rights.

But none of this can be achieved, the convention stressed, unless the trade union movement and its allies thwart an attempt by labor's foes "to buy control of Congress and the state legislatures."

The resolution warned that business and right-wing groups are building a "$100 million political kitty aimed at our destruction."

The political action blueprint adopted by the building trades calls for a "massive educational campaign" among union members to alert them to this threat.

It urged that every building trades contract provide a voluntary checkoff for union political action programs, and that every local have an active COPE committee to seek 100 percent participation and to carry out voter registration drives.

Another major convention resolution looked to jointly administered pension funds as a still largely untapped source of investment in union construction projects and in support of union labor in nonconstruction industries.

Too many union-negotiated funds are managed by financial institutions that invest in anti-union corporations, the resolution warned.

The convention approved separate resolutions endorsing all forms of energy development designed to end the nation's reliance on imported oil, and directed the department to combine them into a comprehensive statement.

Delegates also gave a strong endorsement to legislation moving through Congress that would establish an Energy Mobilization Board to cut red-tape delays and resolve conflicts between environmental and energy goals.

President Robert A. Georgine and Sec.-Treas. Joseph F. Maloney were re-elected to new four-year terms by acclamation, and the convention approved a three-cent rise in per capita, to 16 cents a month.

Instead of the previous 10-member executive council, the convention approved a governing body made up of the presidents of the 16 affiliated unions. Each would also be a vice president of the Building & Construction Trades Dept.

The governing body, in turn, would select a six-member administrative committee that would consult regularly with the department president. Another change authorizes the governing body to set and adjust the salaries of the department president and secretary-treasurer, which previously had been specified in the constitution.

The building trades also adopted resolutions supporting legislative goals of industrial unions such as curbs on plant closings and relocations and reaffirming support for the boycott of J. P. Stevens products "until this company deals fairly with its workers."

It welcomed the hearings on management pressures on workers being held by a House subcommittee chaired by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.).

Thompson was one of a galaxy of prominent speakers that included President Carter and two of his Cabinet members. Thompson termed the attacks on Davis-Bacon part of an assault on all labor standards, and he strongly supported the approach to pension plan insurance affecting multi-employer plans that the building trades are supporting.

Two leading civil rights champions received standing ovations from the delegates. Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the NAACP, and Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, reaffirmed the close unity of interests of the black community and the trade union movement. It is an alliance, Rustin stressed, based on mutual need.

In addition to AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, whose addresses were covered in the previous week's issue of the AFL-CIO News, major speakers from labor and government included:

- AFL-CIO COPE Director Al Barkan, who brought delegates to their feet with a call to arms against "the open-shoppers and the union-haters who think the time is right to destroy us."
- Moon Landrieu, the new Secretary of Housing & Urban Development, who voiced optimism at a resurgence in the nation's central cities but expressed concern that "as interest rates increase, construction slows down."
- Teamsters President Frank E. Fitzsimmons, who promised "full cooperation" in the expanded organizing program of the building trades.

The three-day convention, held in a tent erected on the grounds of San Diego's Islandia Hyatt House, represented some 4 million workers in 16 unions. Delegates were present also from many of the 376 local and 33 state Building & Construction Trades Councils in the United States, and the 34 local and seven provincial councils in Canada.

The presidents of the 16 affiliates who will serve on the new governing board are: John H. Lyons, Iron Workers; Thomas F. Murphy, Bricklayers; S. Frank Raftery, Painters; Charles H. Pillard, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Joseph T. Power, Plasterers; Harold J. Buoy, Boilermakers; Martin J. Ward, Plumbers & Pipefitters; William Sidell, Carpenters; Angelo Fosco, Laborers; J. C. Turner, Operating Engineers; Edward J. Carlough, Sheet Metal Workers; Andrew T. Haas, Asbestos Workers; Everett A. Treadway, Elevator Constructors; Pascal Di James, Tile, Marble, Terazzo union; Roy E. Johnson, Roofers; Joseph P. Ricciarelli, Granite Cutters.



STANDING OVATION honors Ray Marshall as President Carter opens his speech to the building trades convention in San Diego by summoning to his side "one of the finest Secretaries of Labor who ever served."



KEYNOTE SPEECH by President Robert A. Georgine to the 60th convention of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. warned of increased corporate power and urged unions to build coalitions with other concerned groups. The convention was held in a tent erected on the grounds of a San Diego hotel.

Carter Bars Sacrifice Of Jobs to Inflation War

San Diego—President Carter renewed a commitment to full employment and promised delegates to the building trades convention that he will not "fight inflation with your jobs."

While urging "fiscal discipline" to curb inflation, the President stressed that "we cannot and will not permit" America's workers to make all the sacrifices.

The President declared his willing acceptance of the "obligation" imposed by the Administration's national accord with the AFL-CIO "to protect jobs and to aid the poor as they struggle with inflation."

Carter was interrupted by a standing ovation midway through his speech when he proclaimed solidarity with the trade union movement on key labor legislation issues.

He pledged to fight any anti-labor bills and to resist all attempts to gut the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law. "And you can count on it," he told the delegates.

On continued support for labor law reform and common site picketing rights, the President said, "I don't intend to give up on this."

Carter, speaking in the large tent where the 60th convention of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. was being held, asked labor's help in getting an effective windfall profits tax bill through the Senate.

He told the delegates that the windfall revenue is essential to finance the massive energy program necessary to reduce dependence on foreign oil.

"We need more American oil, American gas, American coal, American fuel to run our homes and factories," the President urged.

But as the Senate Finance Committee reshapes the House-passed bill, "the oil companies are pushing for loopholes that could give them nearly $100 billion of this proposed tax," Carter warned. "This would be at the expense of programs to help the poor pay rising energy costs, to expand public transportation and to develop synthetic fuels. This we cannot permit."

The new technologies and expansion of energy programs needed to make the United States more self-reliant would create 145,000 new jobs just in the construction phase, Carter said.

As for the $70 billion that the United States expects to spend for oil imports next year, the President commented, "Just imagine how many new jobs that money could create here in the United States."

This was President Carter's first appearance before a union group since the signing of the national accord, and Carter said its terms fulfill a promise he had made to AFL-CIO President George Meany last January that labor would be "at the table when my Administration made any major decisions about economic matters."

Of Meany's impending retirement, Carter told the applauding convention that "your strength today is a tribute to the dedication of President George Meany to a free, democratic, patriotic and responsible labor movement. . . . Every American owes George Meany a debt of gratitude."

Teachers Win Key Election In New Mexico

Albuquerque, N.M.—The Teachers won a major victory in the Sunbelt, defeating an unaffiliated union for bargaining rights for 4,850 teachers and related personnel in the Albuquerque school system. The system is the state's largest.

AFT Local 1420 garnered 2,375 votes to 1,701 for the incumbent Albuquerque Classroom Teachers Association, an affiliate of the National Education Association. Twenty-five teachers voted for no representation.

Local President Carol Mignot thanked the AFL-CIO for its "invaluable support" throughout the representation drive. AFL-CIO staff members made a significant contribution, "particularly in the elementary schools, where many teachers still carried around a peculiar set of stereotypes about organized labor," she said.

AFT President Albert Shanker, noting the need of an effective union, said that the victory "proves yet again that teachers get organized and seek effective representation for the same reasons other workers do: respect, decent pay, and some say in how their jobs are organized."

The Undercover Spoiler

WE ESTIMATE that in two-thirds of all NLRB elections, lawyers and labor-management consultants are involved in planning strategy and in directly influencing workers—not just in providing legal or technical advice.

Employer associates have expanded their traditional functions to include anti-organizing assistance. Colleges and universities regularly sponsor or cosponsor training programs for employer representatives to show them how to exploit the fears of workers and convert those fears into a rejection of collective bargaining. Community groups such as the Chamber of Commerce now play a more direct role in this process. State and local government associations are providing facilities and services for educating government employers on how to thwart collective bargaining.

Recognizing this trend, more and more lawyers and labor-management consultants are entering this market to make a quick buck. Even established law firms have developed substantial programs for directing the anti-organizing campaign, post-campaign surface bargaining, and strike activities of the employer—all with the goal of maintaining or introducing a union-free status. They are no longer simply practicing law.

Enterprising lawyers have left the big firms to establish their own firms as specialists in opposing employee efforts to unionize. A spate of such firms has sprung up in just the past few years. They range in size from single practitioners to 75 professionals, mostly lawyers. The labor-management consultant field is big business with typical fees running from $500 to $800 per day per agent.

IN CAMPAIGNS where we have been able to ascertain total dollars spent, as much as $270,000 has been paid in labor-management consultant fees by the employer. One major firm collects in excess of $600,000 per year in tuitions alone from employers who attend seminars to learn how to keep employees from organizing.

These staggering sums could be paid to workers in the form of improved wages and fringes. In addition, the American taxpayer frequently winds up footing the bill for these payments. Legal fees, of course, are tax-deductible as a business expense.

The vast and sophisticated complex of labor lawyers and labor-management consultants that has developed is usually unknown to the audience at whom their efforts are directed—the employee. Their anonymity frequently is preserved throughout an entire campaign. The worker knows he or she has been the object of tremendous pressure and intensive propaganda against his effort to develop a collective voice for dealing with the employer. But typically, all literature is signed by company officials and campaigning is done through supervisors. There is a presentiment that someone is guiding the effort but little hard evidence of involvement.

If the labor-management consultant participation is difficult to pinpoint, the vast sums of company money paid to him, and the taxpayer's frequent subsidization of such payments, remain more often than not entombed in conspirational silence.

—From testimony by AFL-CIO Organizing Director Alan Kistler.

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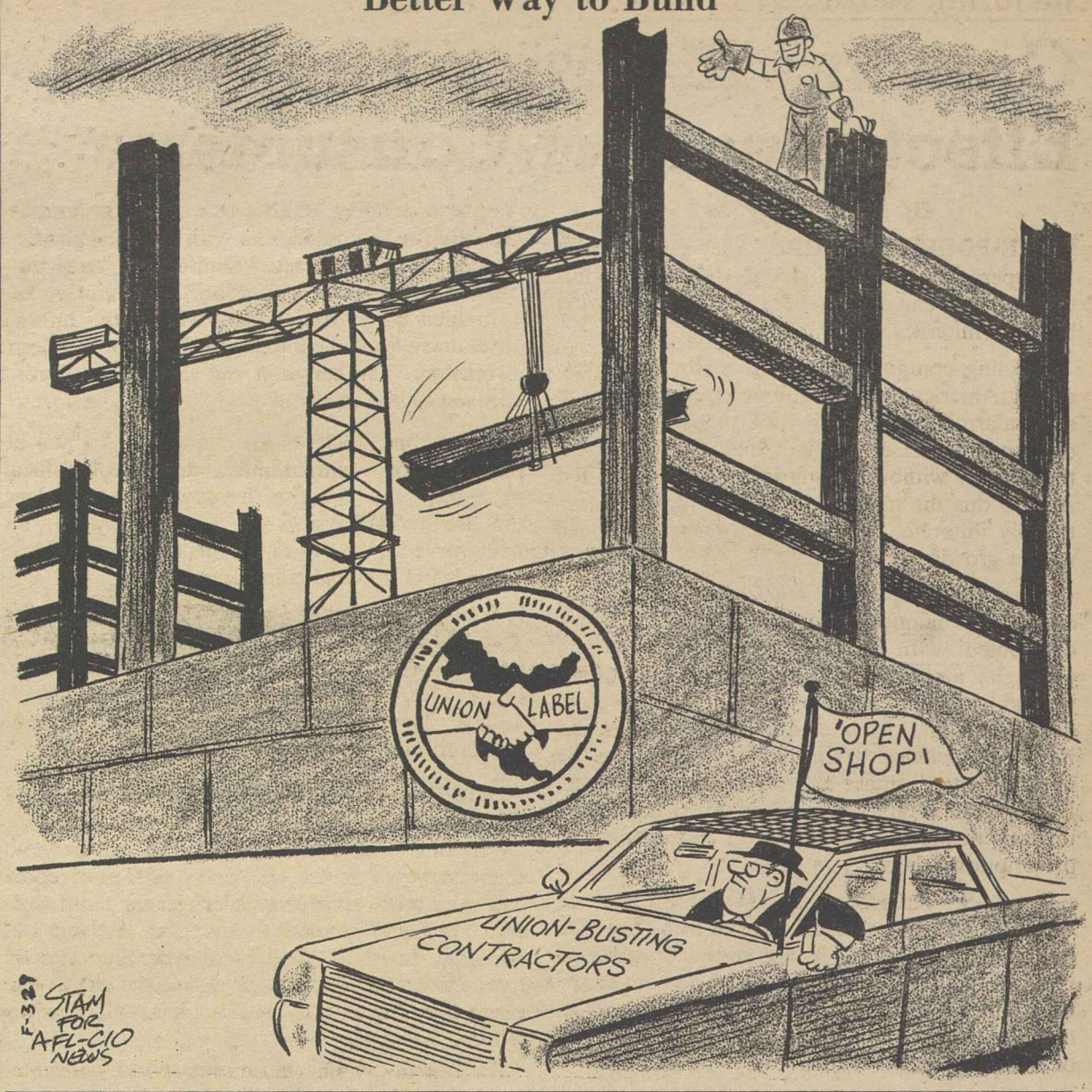
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Better Way to Build



The Lesson of the Balanced Economy:

Grim Memory of 1929 Crash Haunts Nation 50 Years Later

By Gus Tyler

FIFTY YEARS AGO—October 1929—the stock market toppled and dumped the American people into the deepest economic disaster in our nation's history. One third of the nation was out of work; once solid citizens lined up in the cold with an empty bowl to get a free ladle of soup; some of the loftier personages, unable to face failure, tossed themselves out of their lofty office windows.

From that punishing period—1929 to 1933—we learned a lesson: to keep our economy in balance by making sure that we did not allow the structure to get top-heavy by an accumulation of wealth at the pinnacle and an accumulation of poverty at the base.

We applied that lesson when Franklin D. Roosevelt entered the White House in 1933. He was confronted with an irrational circumstance: we had all the elements necessary for a viable and vital economy and yet we were a nation sick unto dying.

We had plenty of capital. Indeed, if we include plant and machinery as capital—as any decent economist does—then we had too much capital, for the factories were standing idle.

We had plenty of labor: too much of it, with one out of every three looking for a job.

We had plenty of raw material. Indeed, we had so much of it that we were destroying it to keep the bottom from falling out of the market. Cotton farmers were grateful for the boll weevil that destroyed their crops.

We had plenty of managers who knew how to put a business together and run it.

We lacked only one thing: an adequate market. People, just plain people, who earned their living by wages and salaries, did not have enough in their pay and their pockets to buy up the prodigious quantities that our economy was able to produce.

We were top-heavy. Wealth was accumulating at the top, used for investment and speculation. But there just was not enough buying power at the bottom to absorb what we were producing: the base was weak.

In the Roosevelt years we found a way to restore some balance. By the use of its taxing and borrowing powers, the government was able to place more dollars in the hands of worker families. In the administrations that followed FDR, the same formula was followed—more or less.

As a result, from 1933 to 1974 there was no depression—not even a major recession. But with the coming of Nixon, there came a generation that knew not the Great Depression or the lessons we so painfully learned. Once more, the ancient aphorisms are echoed by people without memory or learning. Once more, they call for measures to enrich the rich: to allow prices to rise, to allow corporate taxes to fall, to allow profits to swell while worker buying power sinks.

Must we resuffer the madness of 50 years ago before we recover our economic sanity?

'A Mighty Alliance' Must Be Kept Alive

I have personally been very grieved in these last few weeks as the media have talked about the growing tension between the black and the Jewish communities.

Those of us who have been involved in the fight for human progress and civil rights progress recognize that there has been a marvelous and a mighty alliance between the black and the Jewish communities, between the black and other minority communities, between blacks and the labor movement.

Unless we can keep that alliance alive, much of what we have fought for can be wiped out.

Organized labor . . . is the cutting edge of help for every man and woman who works in this country, regardless of the color of their skin.

I came from Memphis, and I remember in 1937 when they were trying to organize, I thought that the nearest thing to black folk must have been labor organizers, because they beat the hell out of them like they did us.

I saw them beaten, knocked down and bloodied. And those of us who live today are the heirs of the promise and keepers of the dream of those who have passed on.

—Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the NAACP, to the convention of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept.

Reading, Math Skills Drop:

Growing Illiteracy Hampers Effectiveness of Consumers

By Sidney Margolius

THE POOR PAY MORE. They pay more in supermarkets, drug stores, lending institutions and at car dealers because of the growing blight of illiteracy.

Reading comprehension and math skill levels among American schoolchildren continue to drop at an alarming rate. Each year, thousands of students are processed through high schools across the country without having learned the three Rs. Add to this the millions of adults who are functionally illiterate, and American society is faced with a growing crisis.

Even relatively minor reading and math difficulties can hamper people as consumers. When confronted with labels, instructions, product packaging and other information, a person unable to read with skill cannot properly make consumer decisions. Legal documents such as contracts and insurance policies, trying as they are, can be impossible to decipher by the incompetent reader. Further, the inability to read could be hazardous to one's health if unable to read instructions on prescription labels.

Peter S. Jennison, in his introduction to "Getting People to Read," asserts that "over 20 million Americans age 16 and over are unable to read with understanding at least 10 percent of the questions on standard application forms such as those for a driver's license, a personal bank loan or Medicaid.

In one survey financed by the U.S. Office of Education, the University of Texas extension division found that one in five adults is educationally "incompetent" in dealing with ordinary consumer activities and less than half are really skilled.

Additional costs, ultimately borne by the consumer, result from the millions of dollars spent by industry on remedial reading programs for their employees.

School budgets, bloated by the affects of inflation, face the growing possibility of being slashed by proponents of tax cuts. The effect of these "economies" on local school remedial reading programs may be disastrous.

There are some encouraging signs, however, in the fight against illiteracy. Public libraries across the nation have developed programs to improve reading skills. One such program, usually run in conjunction with the local public library, is the Literacy Volunteers of America Inc., a non-profit corporation. Free tutoring is provided on a one-to-one basis by the tutors who have participated in an 18-hour training workshop. This program and similar ones have proved to be successful.

Tutors and students are matched as much as possible for compatibility and geographical proximity. They choose the day, time and place that are mutually convenient. Community libraries have served as the most frequent meeting places. Teaching is free and confidential.

Schools also can be called to see if they have such a program. The national office of the Literacy Volunteers of America is at Midtown Plaza, 700 East Water St., Syracuse, N.Y. 13210. They are recipients of several federal grants to help in their work.

SUBSTANDARD MATH SKILLS also have an obvious harmful effect on the consumer's ability to deal with everyday problems. In general, those surveyed in the University of Texas report had even more trouble with consumer math than with reading. Comparison shopping, figuring out the unit price of food, understanding interest rates on credit amounts or doing the arithmetic needed to balance a checkbook are impossible without adequate skills.

In today's complicated money world, consumer competency has become vital for making the most of your money and protecting your family against economic exploitation.

A second report by the Texas group in cooperation with educators around the country suggested some of the things consumers need to know to cope with basic activities. Among them are:

- Awareness of the basic principles of money management, including the basics of consumer decision-making.
- Building a consumer vocabulary to understand what business and government officials mean by various words.
- Ability to convert weights and measures using measurement tables and simple arithmetic.
- Ability to use catalogues, consumer guides and other reference books for shopping and for comparisons.

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Samuel Sees New Challenges:

Trade, Full Employment Tops Industrial Union Dept. Agenda

THE AFL-CIO INDUSTRIAL Union Dept. will continue its traditional role of exploring new areas of union activity and developing the skills and techniques to deal with them, newly installed IUD President Howard D. Samuel declared.

Noting that IUD-affiliated unions "span a wide variety of trades, occupations and activities," Samuel said that the department's structure gives it the kind of flexibility needed for "experimentation" in areas that range from basic organizing and collective bargaining to concentrated legislative action in special problem areas. He said that he expects the drive for a full-employment economy and balanced international trade policies and practices will be top items on IUD's agenda.

Samuel stressed that although passage of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act was a major gain, "there is a lot more to be done" to achieve the goals of assuring that there is a job opportunity for every American who is able and anxious to work.

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Samuel said that the labor movement stands at a "watershed," facing grave challenges from major elements of the business and conservative communities that are aimed at crippling or destroying American unions. The labor movement has the strength and vitality to deal effectively with that threat, he declared, adding that the IUD will play a major role in tackling that challenge.

Samuel scored the announced drive of the National Association of Manufacturers and the Business Roundtable for what they call a "union-free environment," pointing out that the only places in the world where there are so-called "union-free environments" are the "Central African Empire . . . Saudi Arabia . . . the Soviet Union and its satellites." He said that it's hard to believe that "distinguished American business leaders" would want the United States to pattern itself on those countries.

Samuel renewed the call for a balanced approach to international trade problems. "International trade is here to stay and here to grow," he asserted, noting that the volume has nearly doubled over the last five years and now makes up about 9 percent of the gross national product. He said that there must be more effective U.S. trade laws and policies to minimize the adverse impact of imports and maximize the benefits that can flow from expanded export opportunities.

Reporters questioning Samuel on the AFL-CIO-produced public affairs program were Michael Posner of the Reuters news agency and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc. The interview is broadcast weekly over the Mutual radio network.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THERE WERE 24.1 MILLION persons 65 years of age and over in 1978, up from 20.1 million in 1970. In the 1976 presidential elections, 62 percent of the elderly voted, a turnout more than 10 points higher than the national average. In the November 1978 congressional elections, those 65 and over outvoted all age groups under 45 years—56 percent to 53 percent.

Older men outvoted women by 63 percent to 51 percent but, because women outnumbered men by 4.5 million in 1978, older women cast 1 million more votes than men that year.

Which way will the elderly go in 1980? Their voice could be decisive because the economic and social forces now buffeting all Americans will shape the political issues of the coming campaign and the elderly are directly affected.

High-level inflation continues to undermine living standards and soaring fuel costs will burden many this winter, especially those on fixed incomes, such as the elderly. A recession deeper and longer than anticipated will throw millions more out of work, probably displacing many among the elderly employed.

And discussions within the Carter Administration and in Congress over trimming social security benefits are certain to arouse the elderly voter.

What is the condition of this politically active elderly citizen?

The Census Bureau recently issued an updated profile of the social and economic characteristics of the elderly as of 1978 and this is how they fared:

- Population: The number of persons 65 and over rose by 20 percent since 1970, from 20 million to 24 million. The number of women has increased faster and they now outnumber men, 14.3 million to 9.8 million.
- Family status: About 63 percent of the elderly lived in families and 30 percent lived alone, with 6 percent institutionalized.
- Education: Nearly half of those 65 and over never attended high school, but the proportion who did attend will rise as better-educated persons move into the retirement years.
- Voting and registration: Apathy may afflict other voting groups, which show a decline of 10 percent over the past eight elections, but the elderly group has declined only 4 percent in presidential elections.
- Job status: Nearly 2.5 million persons 65 and over were employed in 1978. Service industries employed the largest proportion, 40 percent; retail trade was next with 21 percent and manufacturing employed 11 percent.
- Income: Men 65 and over who earned income in 1977 had a median income of $5,526 compared to $12,243 for men 55 to 64 years old. Women 65 and over had a median income of $3,087 compared to $4,533 for women 55 to 64 years old.
- Poverty status: One of the more remarkable changes among the elderly in the 1970s was that about 1.5 million were helped out of poverty thanks to social security improvements.

The Census Bureau reported that the total number of Americans below the poverty income level remained about the same —25.4 million in 1970 compared to 24.7 million in 1977. However, the elderly in poverty were reduced from 4.7 million to 3.2 million—from 25 percent of the total to 14 percent.

A Census Bureau expert pointed out that while the poverty threshold was raised to keep pace with the inflation rate, the elderly gained because the indexing of social security to the inflation rate kept them even while substantial benefit hikes improved their income levels.

- Housing: About 15 million households were maintained by the elderly in 1978 and 3 of every 4 were owner-occupied. This could mean that property tax relief would aid the elderly. But if taxes become too burdensome, they might be found in protest.
- Health: Persons 65 and over in 1976 could expect to live an additional 16 years on average, 14 years for men and 18 for women. By far the major cause of death in 1976 was heart disease. On the average, 7 of 10 elderly visited a doctor in the previous six months.



EXPLORING NEW AREAS of union activity and developing the skills to deal with them will continue to be the thrust of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., newly installed IUD President Howard D. Samuel, center, said on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Harry Conn, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Michael Posner of the Reuters news agency.



PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FEDERATION President John J. Kraemer congratulates Teachers President Albert Shanker following the latter's remarks at PEF's founding convention. With them is PEF Sec.-Treas. Constance Cabell. The 500 delegates to the convention adopted an official constitution and bylaws, and drew up policy during their five-day meeting.

Contractors, IBEW Agree On Fund Case

A two-year-old antitrust case involving the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), and three contractor members of the National Constructors Association (NCA) has been settled, IBEW President Charles H. Pillard announced.

Pillard expressed pleasure that the contractors now have settled their disputes and expects the parties to be able to re-establish the amicable working relationship that had existed in the industry for many years.

The case, filed in the United States District court for the District of Maryland in August 1977, originally was brought by the NCA and certain members of the NCA, charging IBEW and NECA with violating antitrust laws by allegedly conspiring to cause national contractors to pay into an industry fund.

The fund, called the National Electrical Industry Fund (NEIF), is administered by a board of trustees made up solely of electrical contractors. IBEW does not participate in its administration.

The fund was established as part of a national agreement between the union and NECA. The agreement provided for an increase in pension benefits for IBEW members, among other things.

IBEW and NECA filed counterclaims against NCA and a number of its members. NCA is a trade association composed of the largest national contractors in the construction industry. Members of NECA are primarily small electrical contractors performing work in only one locality.

The terms of the settlement provide for payments to NEIF by the three NCA contractor members, Ebasco Services, Stone & Webster Engineering Corp., and United Engineers & Constructors, Inc., for the administration, development, and implementation of craft skill training programs for journeyman electricians, apprentice electricians, and electrical craft supervisors.

The three contractors will be given the opportunity to select a trustee to serve on NEIF's board of trustees. In addition, the contractors will be able to have a representative serve on a panel of the Council on Industrial Relations in any case involving one or more of the contractors.



N.Y. Public Federation Holds First Convention

Kiamesha Lake, N.Y.—Delegates to the founding convention of the statewide Public Employees Federation drew up and approved a constitution for the 47,000-member government workers' union, elected officers, and dealt with policy resolutions.

PEF, which is affiliated with two AFL-CIO unions, the Teachers and the Service Employees, represents New York state government workers in professional, scientific, and technical capacities. It won bargaining rights for them in a disputed 1978 election over an unaffiliated civil service association.

The new union received strong expressions of support from leaders of the two parent unions, AFT President Albert Shanker and SEIU Vice President John J. Sweeney. The two were joined by other labor officials, including AFL-CIO Regional Director Michael Mann and President Raymond R. Corbett of the New York State AFL-CIO.

Federation President George Meany, in a telegram to PEF's leadership, congratulated the union on its founding convention, and said that its 47,000 members "will provide welcome strength to the trade union movement in the Empire State.

"On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I welcome you and extend my warmest best wishes to you and your members," Meany said.

Shanker emphasized the importance of AFL-CIO affiliation for PEF, not only in its efforts to win a contract for its members but also in dealing on the national scene with such problems as inflation and discriminatory wage guidelines.

Shanker reminded the 500 delegates, who represent workers covered by more than 2,700 job titles in some 20 state agencies that they held tremendous political power. Any politician seeking statewide or local office will be vitally concerned in winning PEF's support, he said.

"Together with the combined strength of Service Employees in the state and your affiliation with the New York State United Teachers," he said, "PEF has a great opportunity to win decent salaries and working conditions for its members and become an important ally in the labor movement."

Sweeney discussed the magnitude of the problems facing public employees today, citing the threat of a runaway constitutional convention, an anti-tax bandwagon, and anti-government platforms.

Elected president of the organization was John J. Kraemer. Constance Cabell was chosen secretary-treasurer. Both had been serving as interim officers since March.

In addition, Salvatore Monaco, Angelo Massa, and Joseph Salerno were elected vice presidents. Twelve regional coordinators were also picked, and 52 executive board members representing each of the 20 state agencies.

The union's struggle for recognition began in 1971. Four years later, it narrowly lost an election to the unaffiliated Civil Service Employees Association, which since has merged with the State, County & Municipal Employees.

The fight for recognition continued, however, and PEF gained an overwhelming victory in April 1978. Various challenges and court procedures delayed final certification of PEF as bargaining agent until last March in a unanimous decision of New York state's highest court.

The five-day convention had its share of battles and compromises over the proposed constitution and bylaws. When the document was finally approved, however, Kraemer said that he was confident that PEF had an instrument "that reflects the needs of the members and one which we can all live by.

Kirkland Pledges Aid:

Labor Backs Drive To Cap Oil Prices

(Continued from Page 1)

to license gasoline retailers to raise prices without limit," Kirkland said. "We will do all we can to bring about reversal of that vote and restoration of price controls industry-wide." A day earlier, the federation formally urged the House to reconsider its Oct. 12 vote to end gasoline price controls.

"With or without controls, we are convinced that a strong excess profits tax—no less than 80 percent—is essential to America's goal of energy independence," Kirkland said.

All across the nation, Kirkland's sentiments were echoed at other demonstrations, rallies, teach-ins, petition drives, and congressional district meetings. AFL-CIO affiliates participating in the Campaign for Lower Energy Prices included the Machinists, Operating Engineers, Sheet Metal Workers, Steelworkers, Communications Workers, Woodworkers, Food & Commercial Workers, Service Employees, State, County & Municipal Employees, Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, Clothing & Textile Workers, and the Industrial Union Dept.

The protests included a demonstration at the American Petroleum Institute's headquarters in Washington, signing "Big Oil Discredit Cards" in Cleveland and Chicago, and a rush-hour "honk-in" at Carter-Mondale campaign headquarters in Concord, N.H. There was even an evening vigil—replete with candles—at oil company facilities in Detroit.

The campaign aims at bringing grass-roots pressure to reimpose price controls on domestic crude oil, natural gas, and home heating oil; appoint a special prosecutor to investigate shortages and insure that the refineries work at full capacity, and establish a taxpayer-owned energy corporation.

The theme for the day of protest was embodied in the acronym, STOP—Stop the Oil Profiteers. During the demonstrations, consumers, senior citizens, trade union members, and farmers vented their anger and frustration at rising fuel prices. Energy costs over the past 12 months rose 55.9 percent, the government reported recently.

IAM President William W. Winpisinger, who is head of the Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition, said that "people throughout the country are clamoring for a comprehensive energy plan that doesn't push them toward economic disaster. . . .

"We say that the way to deal with phony shortages is not to reward the oil companies with higher prices and higher profits, but to force them to stop causing shortages and to prosecute them when they do."

Executive Director William R. Hutton of the National Council of Senior Citizens, who is secretary-treasurer of the coalition, said of the demonstration at the American Petroleum Institute, Big Oil's lobbying arm: "We are marching against the API because it is the symbol of the immense power that the oil industry wields in Congress.

"Because of API pressure, the President and Congress lifted controls on crude oil this year, just as they lifted controls on home-heating oil in 1976. Well, Congress and the President have been listening to the API and the demands of the oil companies far too long.

"It's time they started listening to the people for a change."

From API headquarters, buses powered by alcohol fuel took the 2,000 demonstrators—many of them elderly retirees on fixed incomes—to the Capitol where a dozen speakers addressed the issue of high energy prices.

Service Employees President George Hardy, charging that "the oil companies stink to high heaven," accused the industry of "robbing us blind." He noted that profits in the industry were skyrocketing at 116 percent.

Among the large contingent of senators and congressmen present, Sen. Howard M. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) and Rep. Toby Moffett (D-Conn.) announced that earlier in the day they had introduced a joint bill in Congress, the Citizens' Energy Act of 1979, calling for the remedial legislation sought by the protesting groups.

Also speaking were Jacob Clayman, the former Industrial Union Dept. president who recently was named president of the National Council of Senior Citizens; Dr. Barry Commoner, the environmentalist; Sen. Thomas Eagleton (D-Mo.), and Representatives Charles A. Vanik (D-Ohio), James Oberstar (D-Minn.), Elizabeth Holtzman (D-N.Y.), John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.), Eugene V. Atkinson (D-Pa.), Mario Biaggi (D-N.Y.), Harold Ford (D-Tenn.), and Jonathan B. Bingham (D-N.Y.).

IAM Charges Coercion By Corporate PACs

Corporate political action committees violate federal election law by intimidating employees into contributing to the political funds, the Machinists union charged.

The IAM and several stockholders in major corporations filed a formal complaint with the Federal Election Commission, charging the laws are being systematically violated by corporations that use threats and "psychological intimidation" to force their employees to give to PACs. The law requires that such contributions be made voluntarily.

The stockholders include IAM Sec.-Treas. Eugene Glover, a trustee for the union pension plans which invest money in many major corporations.

The complaint specifically names 10 corporate violators and supplies supporting data to demonstrate that the mandated voluntary nature of contributions "is not and cannot be met." The 10 companies cited as typical abusers are: Dart Industries, Eaton Corp., General Electric, General Motors, Grumman Corp., International Paper, Union Camp, Union Oil, United Technologies and Winn-Dixie.

Corporations have "enormous power" over career employees, who in most cases have no contractual job protection and instead depend for advancement "entirely upon corporate good will," the complaint said. Unions have no comparable economic power over career employees for building "massive political treasure chests," it charged.

For 1978, some 812 corporate committees had been formed to funnel contributions of some $17 million to political candidates. As of last month, there were 1,364 corporate PACs.

Steelworkers Back Coalition for SALT

The Steelworkers declared the union's backing for a grass-roots campaign to promote citizen support for Senate ratification of the SALT II arms-control treaty.

Also active in the Americans for SALT coalition are the Clothing & Textile Workers and the UAW.

"SALT II is an absolutely essential step in restoring sanity to the arms situation," said USWA Vice President Leon Lynch at a Capitol Hill press conference. Lynch represented USWA President Lloyd McBride as the coalition launched its national drive for broad citizen support for the treaty.

Unionists Reappointed To Trade Advisory Unit

Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride and UAW President Douglas Fraser were reappointed as members of President Carter's Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations.

The 45-member panel was created by the Trade Act of 1974 as the private-sector adviser to the President on all trade negotiations. The committee and its subordinate general advisory groups represent the industrial, labor, and agricultural sectors of the economy.

In Railroads, Printing, Telephones:

Sharing of Technology Gains Union Response to Change

Three major industries—railroads, telephones, and printing—have undergone revolutionary technological change for more than a generation.

Invariably, as a series of articles in the American Federationist bears out, the union response has been and continues to be to bargain a fair share of the payoff from increased productivity for the workers involved while protecting them against the impact of job loss or downgrading.

In one article, President Fred J. Kroll of the Railway & Airline Clerks, points out that employment in the rail industry has dropped 35 percent since the end of World War II—the greatest post-war decline of any major American industry.

In related articles, President Glenn E. Watts of the Communications Workers and Vice President William Schroeder of the Graphic Arts Union discuss the employment situation in their industries.

The articles in the AFL-CIO monthly magazine are taken from presentations by the three union leaders at a St. Louis conference on automation.

To some extent, as Watts observes, the entire issue of technological change can be summed up as "coping." He points out that "coping with the rapid introduction of technological change is a major problem of our modern day."

Schroeder notes that the GAIU has never attempted to reject the technological advancements available to the industry but has stressed education, training, and retraining to cope with the situation. Programs have been established in more than 60 cities where apprentices receive related training and journeymen are upgraded or retrained for jobs in other areas of the industry when their former jobs become outmoded.

In addition, GAIU has established an early retirement program, which enables workers to retire at age 60 if they desire. In many cases, that decision may be prompted by the changing technology and where the worker no longer has the desire to make that change, Schroeder observes.

CWA's ways of coping with changing technology included observance this summer of what it called Job Pressures Day to get management as well as the public to focus on the pressures arising from technological improvements. By drawing attention to the impact of changing technology on workers, "we are seeking to better identify those pressures, because without first stopping to analyze the basic problem we cannot devise solutions," Watts notes.

The industry is a prime example of how technology reshapes the workplace and changes job content. The dial telephone system has become a symbol of what automation can mean to the lives of literally hundreds of thousands of men and women workers.

In the 1940s, telephone operators made up almost half the telephone workforce. At the end of World War II, the dial system was widely introduced and workers began to lose their jobs as a result. Today, telephone operators comprise no more than 25 percent of the workforce in the telephone industry.

Watts points out that CWA welcomed automation as a lever for higher wages, longer vacations, shorter hours, and ultimately greater security for workers. But, "we insisted on a fair share of the distribution of the increased wealth as a result of the increased productivity from mechanization and automation. . . . At the same time, we were pushing for union-management cooperation to solve the problems that were emerging."

By the mid-1940s, CWA was negotiating protective clauses in its contracts with the Bell Telephone System under the heading of technological change though real technology was not actually on the scene.

The union sought shorter hours, interdepartmental and intercompany transfers, including payment of transfer expenses; higher pension benefits and lower optional retirement ages; more liberal termination payments for those who lost their jobs to technological changes, and other protections.

Kroll says that BRAC, like CWA, also does not oppose technological, operational or organizational changes per se.

"We just want to ensure the adequate protection of adversely affected employees. While justice has always been on our side in this struggle, it took us many long years to convince the carriers of that," Kroll observes.

The employment decline in the railroad industry is attributable in large part to the effects of technological change both within the industry and outside it, he notes. Internally, the major changes have included introduction of the diesel to replace the steam engine; the development and use of sophisticated machines for track maintenance, and the establishment of automated, centralized traffic control centers which did the work of thousands of telegraphers, operators, and others involved in communications.

And, of course, the computer was introduced in the 1950s, changing the quantity and quality of the rail industry's workforce perhaps more than any other single innovation—including the diesel.

"In just 23 years, it has forced the phaseout of many old clerical jobs and introduction of new jobs to do the same work that are fewer in number but which require more highly skilled workers," Kroll observes.

In addition to these internal developments, the impact of technological change in competing modes of transportation also has come into play. The railroads' advantage in freight traffic has sharply declined in favor of the trucking industry. Improvement in air, water, and pipeline transport has further weakened the railroads' competitive edge. And the widespread use of the automobile has had an even more dramatic impact.

Before World War II, the railroads accounted for 75 percent of all inter-city passenger travel. With the post-war growth in popularity of the auto, this declined rapidly until today railroads carry less than 8 percent of all such traffic, while the car carries 85 percent.

The impact of these developments outside the industry has contributed to mergers, service cutbacks and, in some cases, bankruptcies. And, as with those developments within the industry, they all have the same negative impact on employment levels.

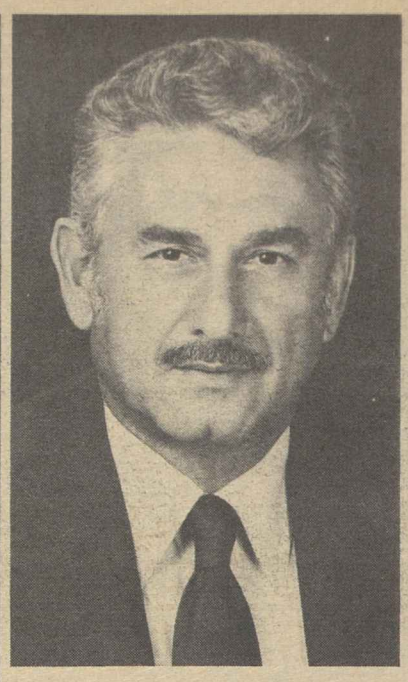
"They have often been at the heart of some of our toughest fights," Kroll notes.

"At the bargaining table, we have held fast to the position that the cost of any change—whether it aims to benefit a company, an industry, the economy or society as a whole—should not be borne by that particular group of employees which is most directly vulnerable to such a change."

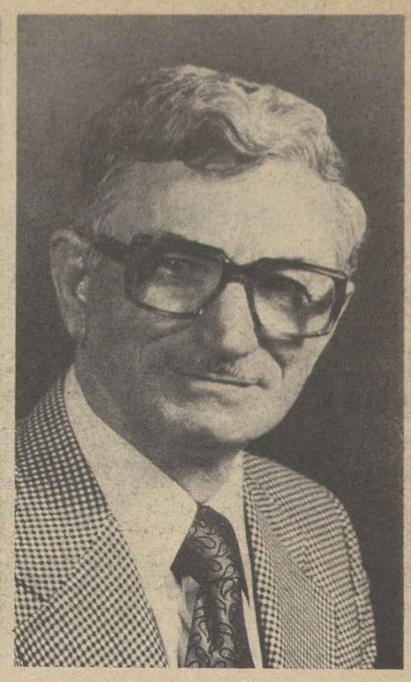
GAIU's Schroeder notes that substantial change is constantly underway in the graphic arts industry as a result of technological advancement.

The new technology has made some of the graphic arts equipment tremendously expensive and beyond the reach of many privately owned companies, for instance. As a result, there are more mergers, closings, and sales of operations to corporations, multinational corporations, and conglomerates.

Many companies have relocated plants or branches in the Sunbelt or in rural areas, Schroeder adds, thus presenting new challenges to those who seek to protect the rights, skills, and livelihoods of people who work in the industry.



WILLIAM SIDELL



WILLIAM KONYHA

Sidell to Retire, Konyha To Lead Carpenters

President William Sidell of the Carpenters announced that he will retire at the end of the year and, under provision of the union's constitution, will be succeeded by 1st Vice President William Konyha.

Sidell, 64, has held the top office of the Carpenters since March 1972, when he assumed the presidency following the retirement of M. A. Hutcheson. Sidell was elected to a full four-year term in 1974 and a subsequent three-year term last year.

He has been an AFL-CIO vice president since 1972 and is chairman of the Executive Council's Committee on Housing.

Sidell's retirement was announced at a meeting of the Carpenters' executive board in San Diego.

Konyha, who also is 64, will assume office on Jan. 1, 1980. He has served as 1st vice president since January 1974 when he filled the vacancy created by the death of Herbert C. Skinner.

Konyha has been active in the union for more than three decades, becoming an apprentice in Local 1180 in Cleveland in 1932. Six years later, he became a union organizer. After service in World War II, he returned to Local 1180 and advanced to the presidency.

He was appointed a general representative of the Carpenters in 1952. His work at that time was directed primarily to representations at the atomic energy plant in Waverly, Ohio.

Konyha served as president of the Ohio State Council of Carpenters from 1962 to 1972, and helped launch a state pension program and health and welfare program covering most of the state. He is a former vice president of the state AFL-CIO, and was elected a member of the union's executive board in 1970.

Sidell moved up through the ranks of Local 721 in Los Angeles, serving in a series of elected offices including president and business agent. He became secretary-treasurer of the 55,000-member Los Angeles County District Council of Carpenters and held office in the California State AFL-CIO as well as the state and county building trades councils.

Sidell was elected to the Carpenters executive board in 1962, and became a vice president two years later.

AFL-CIO Gives Views On Social Security Tax

The AFL-CIO pressed Congress to use general income tax revenues to avoid a scheduled increase in the social security payroll tax rate, but said direct worker-employer payments should remain an essential part of the system.

Under no conditions, the federation insisted, should Congress turn to a "value-added" form of national sales tax in order to finance social security benefits.

The AFL-CIO's statement to a House Ways & Means subcommittee stressed that the 45-year-old program has served the nation well, and that while some changes are needed, attacks on its financial stability have been "irresponsible and exaggerated."

It reiterated the AFL-CIO's belief that direct work-related payments serve a useful function of establishing benefits as an earned right of workers, "not a gratuity."

But the AFL-CIO statement also expressed concern that the payroll tax is "regressive," resulting in low- and middle-income workers paying a higher portion of their income.

"We are particularly concerned by the payroll tax increases scheduled for January 1981 and thereafter," the AFL-CIO said. Present law will raise the current 6.13 percent tax on covered income paid by workers and employers to 6.65 percent in 1981, and in a series of further step-ups to 7.65 percent by 1990.

Allowing such increases to go into effect would worsen unemployment and stimulate inflation, the federation warned. "We should, therefore, turn to general revenues based on the progressive income tax to help finance the social security system."

Some members of Congress have proposed switching to a value-added tax, under which a sales tax imposed at each step of manufacturing, processing and marketing is ultimately paid by the consumer.

Such a tax is even more regressive than the payroll tax, the AFL-CIO stressed.

The federation said it does not favor suspending further increases in the taxable wage base—the amount of earnings subject to the payroll tax. The original intent of the social security law was that virtually all wages should be covered, the federation noted.

Kirkland Asks Shelter For Credit Need Areas

(Continued from Page 1)

cified that those at the "bottom rungs of the ladder" should be spared the burdens of sharing in the austerity that may come from the battle against inflation.

Reviewing the lengthy discussions and meetings that led to the national accord, Kirkland pointed out that the basic problem stemmed from the Administration's approach which involved granting labor an audience or consulting in part with it but not including unions in negotiations, "the exchange of considerations," that could lead to an understanding.

He said that President Carter's statements at the Building & Construction Trades Dept. convention in San Diego that he would not fight inflation by having workers lose their jobs reflected the accord in general terms and concrete programs will be discussed.

"I take what he said as a statement consistent with our understanding, and he was in effect reporting to the group his view of the accord and the importance that he places on it. And I think he was consistent."

The interview ranged over other areas dealing with the future of the trade union movement, Kirkland's candidacy for the AFL-CIO presidency to succeed George Meany and questions of organizing in the South.

Furniture Workers Get New Training Contract

The Furniture Workers will help 300 workers in nine states get on-the-job training under a $384,000 Labor Dept. contract renewal.

The union will recruit 225 persons from among the handicapped, veterans, youth, women and minorities. Employers will provide another 75 already working in the furniture industry with training to upgrade their present job skills.

Opposed by Business:

House Limits Funds From PAC Groups

The House reacted to an explosive growth in the number of corporations and special interest groups dispensing campaign funds and voted to limit the total contributions a candidate may receive from political action committees.

The restrictions apply equally to funds from union and corporation sources, but the AFL-CIO supported the ceilings while business and right-wing organizations lobbied vigorously against it.

Only candidates for the House would be covered by the measure, which was adopted as an amendment to legislation authorizing funds for the Federal Election Commission. But business groups—some of which reportedly threatened to deny funds to any House member who voted for the contribution limit—are expected to try to block Senate concurrence on the legislation.

As passed by the House, a candidate could not receive more than $70,000 in total contributions from all political action committees for a primary and general election combined. An additional $15,000 would be allowed to candidates who have to go through a runoff primary election.

The present limit of $10,000 that any single PAC may contribute to a candidate would be dropped to $5,000 for a single election, a total of $6,000 for a primary and general election combined, and a top of $9,000 if a runoff were needed. Other provisions would close some potential loopholes and bar credit arrangements designed to circumvent limitations.

The basic amendment had bipartisan sponsorship—Representatives David R. Obey (D-Wis.) and Rep. Tom Railsback (R-Ill.). But the House Democratic leadership supported it and the Republican leadership opposed it.

On the 217-198 vote for the Obey-Railsback amendment, 188 Democrats and 29 Republicans supported it and 124 Republicans and 74 Democrats opposed it.

During the debate, Majority Leader Jim Wright (Tex.) said the contribution curbs were needed because "a seat in the House of Representatives ought not to be like a seat on the New York Stock Exchange, up for sale to the highest bidder."

Republicans opposed to the bill argued that limiting PAC contributions would make it more difficult to unseat an incumbent.

Since the Senate has already passed a counterpart to the funding authorization for the Federal Election Commission, the legislation would normally go routinely to a House-Senate conference committee. As the contribution restrictions do not apply to Senate candidates, a seldom-broken custom would dictate that the Senate not interfere with House-passed matters applying only to that body.

But with the intensity of business opposition, Capitol Hill observers expect heavy maneuvering and possible filibuster threats to block immediate appointments of conferees and to delay further action as long as possible.

Oil Firms Win Round On Energy Legislation

(Continued from Page 1)

lines but skyhigh prices that will strangle this nation at the pump."

Meanwhile, the Senate Finance Committee continued to drastically weaken the Administration's windfall profits tax measure that is supposed to recoup some of the added billions oil companies will pocket from decontrol and use the money to develop new energy sources, expand mass transportation and provide a measure of relief for lower-income households.

The committee bill is expected to reach the Senate floor by early November and many of the battles will be refought there. But actions already taken would make the windfall tax a temporary measure, saving the oil companies billions of tax dollars in future years, and would dissipate a large part of the revenue in an assortment of tax credits for individuals and businesses leaving such massive development programs as synthetic fuel production to compete with other programs for general revenue funding.

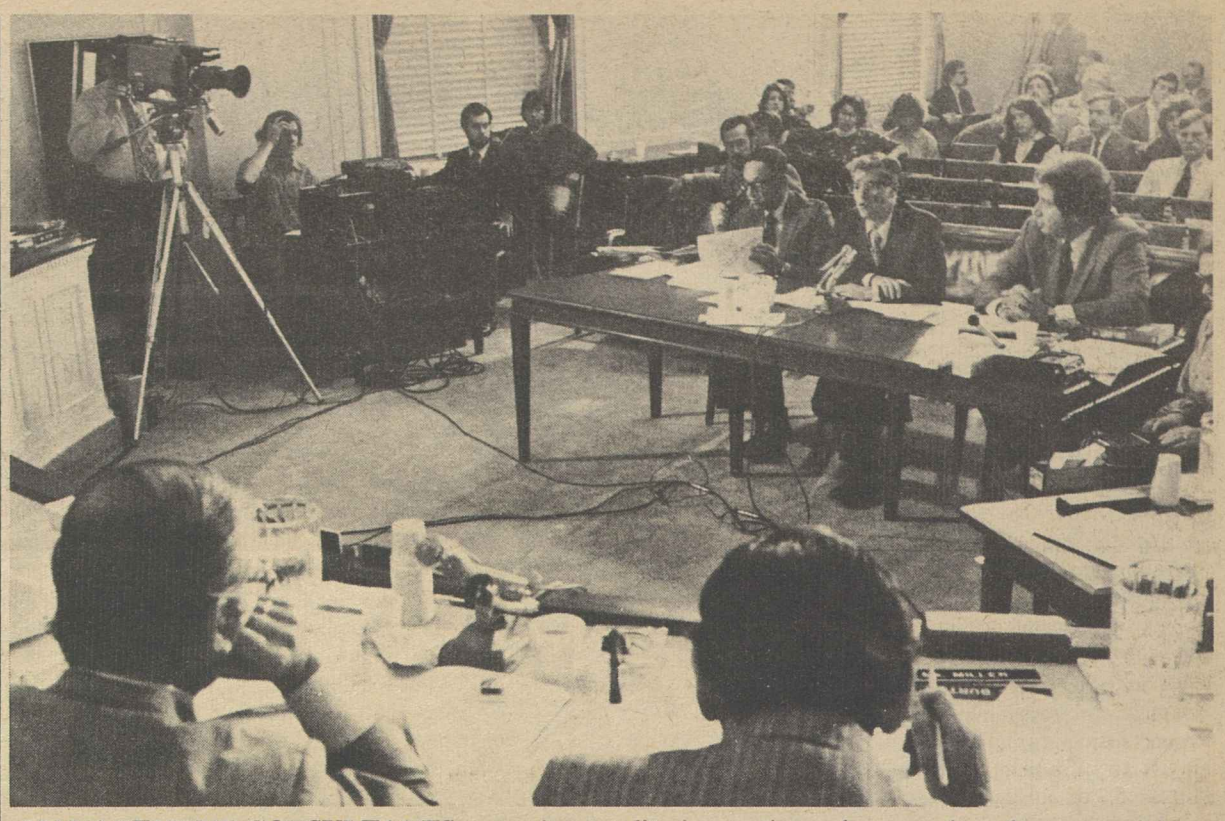
While figures were changing daily as the committee put its version of the windfall tax profits bill into final shape, it appeared that the bill would generate about $65 billion in revenues over the next decade—an amount $40 billion less than the version the House passed and $55 billion below the Administration proposal.

On other major energy bills:

- The Senate has approved legislation to set up an Energy Mobilization Board with powers to speed decisions on construction permits for non-nuclear energy facilities such as refineries, synthetic fuel plants and pipelines. Two House committees have reported separate versions of the bill.
- The House has approved authorization for a major synthetic fuel development program. The Senate hasn't acted on that legislation yet, but it did amend an appropriations bill to earmark funds for alternate fuel development.
- An intricate compromise involving standby authority for the President on gasoline rationing was put together by a House-Senate conference. The Senate approved it and the House was expected to do likewise.
- The Senate sought to untangle a parliamentary snarl and assure funds for heating fuel subsidies for low-income households regardless of the fate of the windfall tax legislation.

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MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS are using totalitarian tactics to keep workers from organizing, Alan Kistler testified at House hearings. Kistler, the director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, is flanked by Legislative Director Kenneth Young and attorney Jules Bernstein.

Kistler Documents New Drive For 'Union-Free' Environment

(Continued from Page 1)

Opportunity Commission) these days, and you have to follow EEOC. There is no reason for you to be heroes about this and interested in abstract justice of upraising the downtrodden, so don't be heroes about the whole goddamn thing and fill up the workforce with blacks. If you can keep them at a minimum, you are better off."

Nor are blacks the only minority to be denied jobs because they are considered potential union supporters.

Kistler quoted the same consultant as saying, "I feel the same way about Indians that I do about blacks" and "stay the hell away from Puerto Ricans."

At a more sophisticated level, Kistler cited strategies involving pretended consultations with workers, a management-institued grievance procedure "based on rules only the company has the right to establish," and a stick approach of intimidation when the facade of democracy doesn't work.

Kistler termed the tactics "analagous to the methods of control used in totalitarian countries where in place of elections, there are plebiscites; in place of legislatures that make real decisions, there are assemblies; in place of unions, there are labor fronts whose mission is to frustrate genuine worker democracy."

Behind all this, he stressed is "a repressive apparatus" and when workers won't accept substitutes for industrial democracy the management consultants "take off the velvet glove" and go in for "full-fledged union-busting."

Kistler described to the subcommittee how management first works on supervisors to bring them into line either by flattery or by making it clear that their own jobs depend on their active participation in fighting a union organizing campaign.

"Supervisors are expected to report exactly what is happening in their department, describe each person's response to company propaganda, and suggest what can be done to influence reluctant employees," Kistler testified.

While the supervisor might be given a for-the-record instruction not to violate federal labor law, "in practice, the consultant's pressure for results leads to more severe violations such as threats, intimidation, promises, surveillance and discipline."

Employees willing to do management's bidding and oppose a union organizing campaign receive "warm and generous managerial support," Kistler said, and full access to the various parts of the plant.

But union activists are isolated and harassed. "The pretense that this discipline of pro-union supporters is work-related gets thinner as the campaign mounts," Kistler said. In many cases it culminates in firing union leaders "as the final demonstration" of the employer's power.

Kistler told the panel that the "growth industry" of management consultants has generated a surge in labor law violations. Over the past 11 years, he noted, formal complaints issued by the NLRB general counsel against employers have tripled.

Management consultants have also been responsible for a jump in decertification elections, Kistler charged, even though it is illegal for management to instigate or encourage decertification of a union.

He cited a course offered by a management consulting firm on "de-unionization," which includes such topics as "planting the seeds" and "bargaining to impasse" as a "Prelude to Union Ouster."

Many lawyers have turned to management consulting, Kistler noted, some setting up their own consulting firms and others operating as part of an established law firm.

While data are scarce because most consultants evade reporting obligations under the Landrum-Griffin Act, Kistler said identified spending for labor-management consultant fees in a campaign to prevent organization has been as high as $270,000.

Ironically, he said, the taxpayer often winds up footing the bill since legal fees are tax deductible. And tax funds have directly gone to finance anti-union activities by federal contractors who charge as a business expense such items as $500-a-person fees to attend anti-union seminars and lost worktime for captive audience meetings of employees.

Urging Congress to use its investigative powers to uncover the widespread flouting of both the intent and language of federal labor law, Kistler said most Americans are unaware of what has been going on. The AFL-CIO is convinced, he said, that the manipulations of consultants "cannot stand the light of public scrutiny."

House Panel Kills Rail Car Imports

A House Ways & Means subcommittee has "indefinitely postponed" action on a labor-opposed bill that would have suspended the tariff on imported railroad freight cars, threatening to decimate another U.S. industry.

The AFL-CIO had testified that passage of the legislation would threaten the jobs of more than 63,000 American workers in the rail car construction industry.

Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.), who led the fight to kill the bill, followed up with a letter to the President's special trade representative declaring that members of Congress would strongly object to any move to negotiate tariff concessions that "we have refused to do by legislative action."

Labor, Black Leaders Meet With Israelis

A group of seven American labor and civil rights leaders is completing a weeklong discussion in Israel of current problems with the leaders of Histadrut, the Israeli Federation of Labor.

The group, led by AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William Pollard, met also with government leaders and other groups. The invitation from Histadrut to the labor-civil rights leaders was extended many months ago and Pollard stressed that it did not result from the visit last month of leaders of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference or the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson with leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The group included Frederick O'Neal, president of the Actors & Artistes and an AFL-CIO vice president; Robert Powell, vice president of the Laborers; Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; John J. Smith, assistant to the president, Steelworkers; Ronald Brown, vice president of the National Urban League; Althea Simmons, director of the NAACP in Washington.

The group was met and welcomed in Tel Aviv by Yehrucham Meshel, general secretary of Histadrut, and his fellow officers.

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Interest Rates Hit Record, Oil Industry Profits Soar

House Shift Keeps Gas Price Curb

The House retreated in the face of consumer outrage and voted 225-189 against ending price controls on gasoline.

Its action eradicated an earlier 191-188 vote for decontrol that would have allowed retail gasoline prices to jump immediately to whatever the market would bear. It also would have ended the government's authority to allocate gasoline supplies to alleviate shortages.

Under present law, controls will end on Sept. 30, 1981.

The AFL-CIO had lobbied vigorously to reverse the decontrol vote, which came on an amendment to a bill authorizing funds for Dept. of Energy programs.

Gasoline prices have already soared 52 percent in a year, and AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young warned House members that decontrol would touch off a new round of increases and the next shortage would push prices out of sight.

House Democratic leaders supported the attempt to reverse the vote, and final action on the Dept. of Energy bill was several times postponed.

The vote had been expected to be hairsbreadth close—as was the first vote. But the tide switched dramatically in the face of third quarter reports of enormous oil company profits.

Supporters of decontrol could argue that ending price ceilings at the gasoline pump do not necessarily mean more profits for the oil companies. But emotionally the issues were linked, and the turnabout on the final rollcall was greater than anticipated.

On the showdown, 202 Democrats and 23 Republicans voted to retain controls. The decontrol amendment was supported by 128 Republicans and 61 Democrats.

Ironically, the House in earlier action on the same bill had rejected a labor-supported attempt to stop the phaseout of controls on crude oil produced in the United States. The effect of the phaseout is to simultaneously push up prices of all petroleum products to consumers and add dramatically to the already huge profits of the oil companies.

Under the parliamentary situation that prevailed, amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole, such as the gasoline decontrol provision, could be subjected to a final rollcall vote. But defeated amendments could not be brought up again.

(Continued on Page 7)



AT HOUSE HEARINGS, Lloyd Laudermilch, left, tells how the corporate management of a Las Vegas hospital sought to pressure him to become a labor spy. He testified as part of the panel shown here, including Robert H. Fox, business manager of the Operating Engineers local that represents the hospital maintenance workers; Operating Engineers President J. C. Turner, and Steven D. Schlossberg, governmental affairs director of the UAW.

Blacklist Still Alive:

Anti-Union Tactics Mask Old Weapons

The blacklist is not a relic of the past and strategies employers use to resist union organizing campaigns are sometimes only a thin veneer less blatant than the open warfare of an earlier era.

These are some of the conclusions that emerged from three days of congressional hearings into management pressures on workers. The hearings, by a House Labor subcommittee headed by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), spotlighted the behind-the-scenes role of management consulting firms and trade associations that advise companies on how to stay "union-free" or help firms convert from union to open-shop operations.

As described by union and public witnesses, the carrot-and-stick approach can be as innocuous as advising a supervisor to "pat someone on the back each week" and talk to the employee about something personal. "Make a note of the date when you talked to this guy" and go through the list of employees in order.

It can also be as direct as the advice given in one trade association seminar that a strategy to keep unions out starts with "screening carefully your job applicants." Even though an employer can't directly ask an applicant if he was a union member, a careful check of past employment could reveal if there is a "history of work by that employee in a union shop or on a union job site. It's as simple as that. You know the union plants, the union construction contractors. A simple check would have shown that employee's bias."

Both of these examples were from documents presented in testimony by President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept.

A panel introduced by President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers included a maintenance employee at a Las Vegas, Nev., hospital who testified to the direct in-

(Continued on Page 2)

Add Fuel To Windfall Tax Drive

Booming oil profits in the third quarter of the year underscored the need for congressional enactment of a strong windfall profits tax on the petroleum industry as one major company after another announced extraordinary earnings for the period.

The industry reaped the unusually high profits during the July-September quarter when supplies of gasoline, diesel oil and jet fuel were severely curtailed in the United States.

Exxon Corp., the world's largest oil company, reported a 118 percent earnings gain over the quarter, lifting profits to a record $1.15 billion, the first billion-dollar quarter in the company's history. The Exxon surge in earnings came on a relatively moderate rise in total sales, up 29.8 percent to $20.65 billion.

For the first nine months of this year, Exxon's profits were up 53 percent to $2.9 billion from last year.

The AFL-CIO has urged Congress to adopt a strong excess profits tax of no less than 80 percent. The funds generated by the levy would be used to develop new energy sources, provide more mass transit facilities, and lessen the impact of high energy prices on poor Americans.

Other major oil companies also hit the jackpot in the third quarter. Gulf Oil Corp. and Conoco Inc. posted gains of 97 percent and 134 percent, respectively. Standard Oil Co. (Indiana) had a 49 percent

(Continued on Page 7)

Banks Push Prime To 15 Percent

The record 15 percent prime interest rate posted by many of the nation's big banks means that consumers will be paying more for mortgage money and that business borrowings will cost more.

"It will add to inflation. It will make money less available, and worsen the impending recession," AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald warned.

The latest boost in the key lending rate—the interest that banks charge their best business borrowers for loans—came only a week after the industry increased the prime by a full percentage point to 14.5 percent. Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. of New York, the country's fifth largest bank, led the way, followed immediately by other large banks in New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia.

The upward pressure on the prime and other interest rates has been generated by the Federal Reserve Board's new policies reducing credit availability in an attempt to curb inflation.

On Oct. 6, the Fed raised its discount rate to a record 12 percent and established an 8 percent reserve requirement for certain liabilities of its members. The 8 percent rule requires the banks to keep more of their funds in reserve and thus tends to reduce the money available for loans.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall predicted that the Fed's tighter credit policy likely will dampen employ-

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Shorter Workweek Pushed to Spur Jobs

Jobs that America needs to bring down unemployment should be created by moving towards a 35-hour workweek and raising overtime pay rates, the AFL-CIO urged at House hearings.

Research Director Rudy Oswald supported amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act that have been introduced by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) and 12 co-sponsors. Their bill would:

- Reduce the present 40-hour workweek to 37½ hours on Jan. 1, 1981, with a further drop to 35 hours two years later.
- Require that employers pay double time, instead of the present time and one-half rate for overtime hours.
- Specify that an employer cannot require a worker to stay overtime unless the Secretary of Labor has certified that an emergency exists.

Oswald told a House subcommittee headed by Rep. Edward P. Beard (D-R.I.) that employers now find it cheaper to schedule regular overtime work than to hire additional employees.

One reason, he said, is that fringe benefits have become a much more important part of compensation since the wage-hour law was adopted more than 40 years ago.

Since the overtime requirement just applies to cash wages, an em-

(Continued on Page 7)

Furniture Pact Paces IUD's Southern Drive

West Jefferson, N.C.—A multi-union organizing effort led by the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. has resulted in a historic first contract at a furniture plant here—and raised prospects of more victories to come.

The contract between the Furniture Workers and the Phoenix Chair division of Thomasville Furniture Industries, Inc., provides substantial wage and benefit gains for the 500 covered employees.

Harold McIver, IUD organizing director, hailed the agreement as a major breakthrough in the southern furniture industry and the climax of a long drive at the West Jefferson plant. He said the IUD, the Furniture Workers and the Upholsterers will accelerate organizing efforts at other units of the Thomasville chain. The firm employs a total of about 5,000 persons at 21 plants in North Carolina and Virginia. It is a subsidiary of Armstrong Cork.

The organizing effort among southern furniture workers has been a major focus of IUD field work during the past two years. It has been carried on in close collaboration with the Furniture Workers' and Upholsterers' organizing staffs.

The one-year contract was negotiated by a local union committee with assistance from Joseph Campagna of the IUD coordinated bargaining division and UFWA Sec.-Treas. Lowell Daily. It produced major economic advances for the employees of the firm, including a

(Continued on Page 2)



FIRST ANNIVERSARY of a strike against the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader is marked by a rally at the New York headquarters of Capital Cities Communications, the firm that operates the Pennsylvania daily. The ranks of three busloads of strikers and supporters from Wilkes-Barre were joined by other union members in New York to swell the demonstration to more than 1,000 persons. Four striking locals of the Newspaper Guild, Typographical Union and the Printing & Graphic Communications Union, are publishing an interim daily called the Citizens' Voice.

Massachusetts Labor Elects New Leaders

Boston—The 1,200 delegates to the 22nd Massachusetts State AFL-CIO convention chose a new president and secretary-treasurer in spirited contests that highlighted the four-day meeting.

Two slates emerged for the presidency, held previously by William J. P. Cleary, who chose not to seek a second two-year term. At the same time, James P. Loughlin, for 18 years secretary-treasurer, decided also not to run again.

Arthur Osborn, executive vice president of the organization and president of Local 1505 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers at Raytheon, headed one team while Peter di Cicco, president of District Council 2 of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, led the other.

Paul Quirk, former president of Service Employees Local 509, John Prendergast of the Machinists, and Frank Farrell of the Steelworkers all were candidates for secretary-treasurer.

After a long night of counting ballots, the results saw Osborn the winner over di Cicco, 111,470 to 103,250. Quirk was declared winner over his two opponents, netting 105,064 votes to 102,256 for Prendergast and 5,479 for Farrell.

In the race for the two executive vice presidents' posts, John J. Barron of the Food & Commercial Workers and Joseph M. Lydon of the State, County & Municipal Employees outpolled two other candidates. In addition, a dozen new vice presidents were elected.

Following the elections, the new officers were sworn in by Regional Director John F. O'Malley. Meanwhile, di Cicco appealed the election results to the organization's executive board, and Osborn named a five-member panel to investigate the matter. The panel is slated to report its findings by late November.

Delegates and speakers at the convention lauded both Cleary and Loughlin for their contributions to the labor movement.

The annual meeting also dealt with 63 resolutions, ranging in subject from energy and national health insurance to tax abatement for the elderly, binding arbitration for firefighters and police, and protection of the rights of public employees at the University of Massachusetts. The policy measures constitute the state federation's legislative program for the 1980 session of the Massachusetts legislature.

Another highlight of the session was a march to the State House to protest the high price of utilities and energy and to urge the governor and legislature to take all necessary steps to see that adequate heating oil is available at reasonable prices this winter for Massachusetts residents.

Sen Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), Gov. Edward J. King, Lt. Gov. Thomas P. O'Neill, III, Atty. Gen. Francis X. Bellotti, Rep. Margaret M. Heckler (R-Mass.), and John F. Parker, minority leader of the state Senate, led the list of political speakers.



First Contract Gives Impetus To IUD Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

9½ percent wage increase, an additional paid holiday, and improved pension and health care benefits.

In Washington, IUD President Howard D. Samuel and Sec.-Treas. Elmer Chatak hailed the successful contract negotiations as a "welcome first step toward raising the economic standards of furniture workers—and indirectly, of other industrial workers—in an area that has for too long been a haven for low-wage, non-union companies.

"We believe that the agreement with Thomasville Furniture will mark the beginning of better times for thousands of southern workers. We are equally convinced that the increased buying power this contract will make possible will not only benefit the wage earners at the Phoenix Chair division, but will have positive economic benefits for other companies of the Southeast and the communities in which their plants are located."

Blacklist Still Alive:

Anti-Union Tactics Mask Old Weapons

(Continued from Page 1)

volvement of the corporation that operated the hospital chain in an attempt to decertify Operating Engineers Local 501.

The employee, Lloyd Laudermilch, told how he was carefully coached on how to initiate a decertification petition, required to pass on to management an assessment of the "pro-company or pro-union" positions of each employee, and told that if he pulled it off the company would be able to use him as a union-busting specialist in other organized hospitals, where he would be hired as a worker but would actually be an undercover agent of management.

The business manager of Local 501, IUOE Vice President Robert H. Fox, told the subcommittee that present labor law has no adequate remedy for "this type of illegal and very profitable activity." He urged debarment of "unscrupulous consultants" from practice before the NLRB and "vigorous prosecution" for perjury and obstruction of justice in NLRB proceedings.

On the same panel, UAW organizer Joel D. Smith presented a transcript of a tape recording he had made of advice given to employers at a seminar of the West Coast Industrial Relations Association, Inc.

The quotes are from the association's founder, Fred Long, who is described in promotional literature as having a "track record" that "includes over 500 non-union campaign victories and decertification of 56 incumbent unions" with a claimed "victory percentage" of over 95 percent.

Long's first bit of advice was to delay a National Labor Relations Board representation vote as long as possible.

Thus, when the NLRB representative suggests a consent election within 30 days, "You tell the Board, 'no way.' " The appropriate bargaining unit "should include the warehouse . . . should include the truck drivers . . . should include our office clerical or whatever the hell else you can come up with in your imagination."

Then, "we litigate the various issues involved in the bargaining unit. . . . There are always issues. . . . You don't give a damn whether you win or lose. . . . I have yet to see a situation where time worked against the employers in an election."

The advantage of delay, Long suggests, is that "all of that initial fervor cools off" and the union's momentum is lost.

And before the vote is scheduled, a company can hire "relatives" or other persons who would be safe non-union votes for regularly scheduled part-time jobs. Thus, for the equivalent of one 40-hour week employee, "you picked up five votes."

As for pro-union workers, "you can can a lot of people for conduct unrelated to their union activity."

Service Employees Local 880, which has been actively organizing hospital workers in Massachusetts, brought in several witnesses with first-hand experience in campaigns where hospitals used a management consulting firm to fight organization.

Nancy Mills, who came up against the consulting firm of Modern Management Methods first as a rank-and-file employee at the Boston Hospital for Women and then as an organizer in the union's campaign at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton, Mass., gave this evaluation:

"Flagrant violation of the federal labor laws is commonplace in a 3M campaign, but these violations are not usually committed by the consultants themselves."

Fear and pressure, she testified, are the major weapons. "Consultants concentrate on scaring the front-line supervisors; then it's up to them to scare the workers."

A former employee of the St. Elizabeth's dietary department, Anna Cucchi, spelled out some of the details of what she termed "the constant bombardment by your supervisors."

Thus, "we would get hounded about how terrible it would be for us if the union got in. We would lose our free meals, they told us; we would have to pay for our uniforms. . . . We would have to go on strike. . . . I was always getting called into the supervisor's office and being singled out for questioning."

UAW Governmental Affairs Director Stephen I. Schlossberg urged the subcommittee to follow up on the hearings, which he said have merely covered "the tip of the iceberg."

Georgine expressed concern that buses of workers' rights have greatly intensified in the 10 years since Congress last held hearings on anti-union labor relations consultants.

It is no coincidence, he suggested, that during this period "unfair labor practices of all kinds have skyrocketed" as the use of union-busting specialists has grown.

"Our records show that out of 6,000 organizing campaigns of 10 or more workers, two-thirds involve some form of outside anti-union expertise," Georgine testified. "Union-busting is now a major American industry with annual sales well over half-a-billion dollars."

Union Assails Use of 'Lie Detector' As Device to Intimidate Workers

Not all instances of improper management pressures on workers arise out of union organizing campaigns, the House Subcommittee on Labor-Management Relations was told.

So-called lie detector tests—utilizing polygraph devices and voice stress analysis—amount to "an assault on human dignity," the Food & Commercial Workers (UFCW) charged.

Many of the union's 1.3 million members work in stores where employers increasingly pressure workers to submit to polygraph questioning and often routinely require such tests of job applicants.

Michael Tiner, the UFCW's assistant government affairs director, said the union would favor outlawing such job testing even if the devices had been proven highly reliable. But in fact, he testified, the error rate is unacceptably high, and most firms have found that the chief value of the devices is to get employees or job applicants to disclose prejudicial and often irrelevant information that can be used against them.

In actual polygraph questioning, he testified, workers have been questioned about such matters as "their sex lives, religious and political beliefs, how they feel about their spouses, parents and chlidren—and often on union activities."

Louis Harris, whose polling firm questioned a sampling of more than 2,000 people on privacy issues, told the subcommittee that a nearly 2-1 majority of Americans feels "real concern about threats to their personal privacy."

In the direct employment area, Harris said his survey found that a majority of the public favored making it illegal for employers to listen in to the conversations of employees to find out what they think of supervisors and managers, to install closed circuit television to check on how fast workers perform, and to ask job applicants to take a lie detector or psychological test.

On all these questions, Harris noted, a majority of employers in the survey group disagreed with the general public and supported the right of a firm to engage in such practices.

In another area of management pressure, testimony by Southerners for Economic Justice expressed concern that management consultants using behavior modification techniques to sway workers against unions are perverting "healing therapies." Thus, Michael Russell testified, "workers are subjected to behavioral and emotional manipulation—not by doctors or licensed therapists, but by supervisors, foremen and personnel managers."

Another public witness, Prof. Thomas M. Kerr of Carnegie-Mellon University, expressed concern that workers are not really getting a free choice to determine whether they want union representation.

Kerr, who testified on behalf of Americans for Democratic Action, said management consultant firms have "methodically exploited" the "fears and insecurities" of workers.

He urged government agencies to do a better "watchdog" job of assuring that labor-management consultants fulfill their reporting obligations under the Landrum-Griffin Act and that government taxpayer dollars that are supposed to reimburse hospitals for patient care under Medicare and Medicaid don't go to finance anti-union campaigns.

Proposition 4 'Straitjacket':

New Scheme to Curb Budget Facing Voters in California

San Francisco—California voters will go to the polls on Nov. 6 to decide whether to put another tax-cutting, spending-limitation law on the books, a statute which, if adopted, could encourage similar moves elsewhere in the country.

Proposition 4, which its supporters have dubbed "the Spirit of 13" after the ballot proposition that stood California's tax structure on its head last year, is strongly opposed by organized labor and heavily favored by big business interests. Polls have indicated that about 60 percent of the state's voters support the proposal.

The complex state constitutional amendment is designed to clamp a permanent lid on state and local government spending. In scope and intent, Proposition 4 goes beyond government spending limits such as those now on the books in Texas, Tennessee, Michigan, and Arizona.

It would fix state and local spending at 1978-79 levels, adjusted for inflation and population growth. Budget surpluses would be returned to the taxpayers within two years, through either lower tax rates or reduced user fees.

To exceed its ceiling, a governmental unit would have to obtain a majority vote of the people, and the increase would be automatically rolled back after four years unless the voters renewed it. In an emergency, government could exceed the limit without a vote but would have to "repay" the excess, subtracting it from future appropriations within three years.

All governments in California, including school districts and special districts—more than 5,000 jurisdictions in all—would be covered.

The measure, promoted by Paul Gann, co-author with Howard Jarvis of Proposition 13, which cut property taxes in California by 57 percent last year with two-thirds of it going to business interests, is opposed by the California State AFL-CIO, the League of Women Voters, and the California Tax Reform Association.

Supporting the amendment are the Chamber of Commerce, the California Farm Bureau Federation, the California Association of Realtors, the Bank of America Corp., the Southern Pacific Co., and others.

Its critics call the proposal "a straitjacket on government" while Gann and his supporters call it a reasonable restraint on government growth.

President William H. McClennan of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. charged recently that California voters are being shortchanged by "politically intimidated public officials who, in the wake of Proposition 13, are afraid to speak out against the disastrous consequences wrapped up in Proposition 4."

Summing up the fears of many in organized labor, McClennan went on to say:

"With the national economy clearly headed for another period of stagflation—higher unemployment and continued double-digit inflation—the prescription spelled out in Proposition 4 to limit government spending is obviously the wrong medicine at the wrong time because it will wipe out jobs and compound the problems of core cities."

Even if the times were good, McClennan said, the formula proposed in Proposition 4 is unfair.

"Proposition 4 fails to recognize that the character and resources of California's 58 counties and 417 cities, as well as many of its 3,800 special districts, differ significantly," he observed. Some, for example, are commercial, some industrial, and some primarily residential, he noted.

"The Gann formula is too inflexible to be applied uniformly to all without catastrophic results, including slashes in fire, police, school, hospital, library, and other vital services," McClennan charged. "Despite the popularity of the idea of curbing government spending that's reflected in the polls on this issue, thoughtful voters should take a good, hard look at this scheme and vote it down."

The impetus for Proposition 4 came from a campaign by its supporters to "finish the job" begun by Proposition 13. That proposition, passed in June 1978, limited property taxes to 1 percent of market value and rolled back assessments to their 1975-'76 level. Local governments made program cuts to adjust to the resulting $7 billion revenue loss. In the process, over 100,000 state and local jobs were eliminated, and some sources say the number may go as high as 200,000 next year.

Neither Gov. Edmund Brown nor Los Angeles Mayor Thomas Bradley has publicly taken a stand on the issue, but San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein has labeled Proposition 4 "overkill." Her press spokesman, Mel Wax, points out also that it would be "grossly unfair to a city like San Francisco, which is actually losing population but has an enormous demand for public services."

One major deficiency of the measure, Wax says, is that it ignores the heavy commuter traffic which expands this city's daytime population by a quarter-million and thereby strains the city's resources to the limit.

San Jose Mayor Janet Gray Hayes said that she fears Proposition 4, if enacted, would put a possible chill on development.

John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California AFL-CIO, who signed the ballot argument against the amendment, points out that loopholes in the measure will still permit user fees, service charges and admission taxes to be levied, and that Proposition 4 will not eliminate government waste or allow governments to respond to emergencies without severe penalty.

"Proposition 4 puts the power to decide how spending limits will be met right back into the hands of the very same officials who have yet to prove they know how to cut waste," Henning asserts. "They find it much easier to cut services than to cut fat."



FIRST MEETING of the new 18-member Pay Advisory Committee is opened by President Carter at the White House. The President is flanked by R. Heath Larry, left, representing business, and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, who heads the list of six labor members on the panel. Former Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop is committee chairman.

Oregon Labor Presses Curb on Timber Exports

North Bend, Ore.—Comprehensive timberland legislation at the federal and state level is needed to alleviate the adverse economic impact on workers and their communities resulting from plant closings, delegates to the Oregon AFL–CIO convention stressed.

In a series of resolutions, the convention called for a federal ban on the export of unprocessed logs and opposed the locking up of more timberlands in federal recreation and wilderness areas.

The 398 delegates, meeting at the Woodworkers' union hall here, also voiced support for the development of a sound nuclear power program to help give the nation energy independence and assure economic growth. The convention stressed that legislation is vital for nuclear waste management programs and urged the streamlining of licensing procedures to spur the construction of nuclear power plants.

On statewide concerns, the convention called for the resignation of Roy Green, director of the state workers' compensation department, because of his failure to dispose of substantial holdings in Oregon's largest private insurance carrier dealing in workers' compensation coverage.

The delegates called for federal legislation to improve social security benefits and to lower the retirement age, including a measure that would prohibit states from using social security disability payments to offset workers' compensation benefits. Oregon is one of the states that have enacted legislation to tap social security benefits for workers' compensation claims.

The state federation's three full-time officers—President Robert E. Kennedy, Sec.-Treas. Glenn E. Randall and Nellie Fox, director of political education and legislation—were re-elected without opposition to new terms of office.

In other action, the convention went on record in support of national health insurance, a quality child care progam, strengthening of the U.S. merchant marine and shipbuilding industries, food stamps for strikers and their families, curbs on job-destroying imports, and payroll checkoff of contributions for union political action funds. Delegates also reaffirmed their support of boycotts against J. P. Stevens, Coors beer and the Seattle First National Bank.

Major speakers at the five-day convention included Oregon Gov. Victor Atiyeh, President William Wynn of the Food & Commercial Workers and Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.

Fire Fighters Reach Atlanta Hiring Accord

Atlanta—Fire Fighters President William H. McClennan commended parties to an agreement on racial balance in this city's fire department for their "determination and common sense" in reaching a solution.

The agreement, reached by local and national representatives of the union with a black group, Brothers Combined, and city officials, provides for the orderly hiring and promoting of qualified persons, both black and white, to staff the Atlanta Fire Dept.

The agreement ended a stalemate of many years arising from litigation brought by Brothers Combined and the IAFF. McClennan noted that, because of the dispute, there had been no promotions among officers and a halt to new hirings had created some 300 vacancies in the ranks.

The accord is formalized in a consent order signed by all parties as well as by attorneys for the U.S. Dept. of Justice. The consent order ends any practice which has the "purpose or effect of unlawfully discriminating against any present or future employee or any applicant or potential applicant for employment."

Under the "mutually acceptable terms" of the consent order, the city will seek on a one-time basis to promote blacks to 50 percent of the current vacancies in the positions of lieutenant and captain. After that, promotions will approximate their representation in the pool of applicants for those positions. The pool, it was stipulated, should have "an approximate relationship to the racial mix of the appropriate workforce" as reflected in the actual interest in the community in getting firefighter positions.

In future hirings, the city pledged to recruit and hire applicants so that within three years the representation of blacks and whites among new hires will approximate the racial balance of new hires in the years 1970-75, a period when a federal court found no evidence of discrimination.

In addition, the city will issue a clear policy statement that it will not discriminate racially in any way in hiring firefighers. Residence in Atlanta will not be a condition of employment.

McClennan singled out Mayor Maynard Jackson for his help in reaching the agreement, and called it "good for the firefighters, both black and white, and a major benefit for the people of Atlanta."

UFW Asks Support Of Lettuce Boycott

Continued cooperation of trade unionists to bypass purchases of non-union iceberg lettuce is still essential for the survival of the Farm Workers, the UFW said.

Although the union made major gains this year in negotiating new contracts with a number of key California lettuce growers, it pointed out that 11 growers have still not signed agreements.

The UFW is asking all consumers to check for the union label on lettuce boxes in their supermarkets and to raise the issue with the store manager if there is none.

The current focus of the boycott is on the Bruce Church Co., which markets lettuce under the Red Coach label. The UFW has charged the company refuses to bargain in good faith.

Linda Tarr-Whelan Joins Carter Staff

Linda Tarr-Whelan, who has worked in the trade union movement and state government on career training and equal employment opportunities for women, has been named a deputy assistant to President Carter.

In her new post she will report directly to Sarah Weddington, a member of the President's senior staff, and will serve as liaison with women's organizations and work on issues affecting women.

Tarr-Whelan served as director of program development and an area director for the State, County & Municipal Employees for nine years before becoming administrative director of the New York State Dept. of Labor. She was a cofounder of the Coalition of Labor Union Women in 1974.

Meany Hails Matos On Release by Cuba

AFL-CIO President George Meany expressed "joy and relief" on behalf of the American labor movement at the release of Huber Matos, Cuba's best-known political prisoner.

Now 60 years old, Matos was arrested on Oct. 21, 1959, and charged with treason by his former comrade, Fidel Castro, for resigning as military governor of Camaguey Province in protest over the rise of communism in Cuba.

For 20 years, Matos languished in Castro's jails, living mostly in isolation and sometimes in holes and concrete boxes. The AFL-CIO lent its support to the imprisoned Matos, drawing attention to his plight.

"Nothing has so clearly revealed the character of (Castro) and the tyrannical regime he heads than his treatment of you," Meany said in a letter to Matos, who was flown to Costa Rica following his release to join his wife and two grown daughters.

Dinosaur Monetary Policy

THE NEW DESIGN of monetary policy (by the Federal Reserve Board) apparently would end up with the same intended impact and results as the older policy: a tighter money supply; higher interest rates; a drastic cutback in homebuilding, local public construction and small business activity that suffer most under the imposed type of credit conditions; and mounting unemployment that would lead to a serious recession.

In addition to raising the discount rate, the Fed expanded the coverage of its reserve requirements and announcd it would concentrate on reserve requirements while letting the "federal funds" rate fluctuate. When the new technique begins to bring about the desired economic slowdown, it will be the sixth such result in 25 years.

In the 1930s and 1940s, there was the development and implementation of Keynesian economics, designed to produce stable economic growth through appropriate government fiscal and monetary policies. For the last few decades we have had dinosaurian economics.

Like dinosaurs who could not cope with a change in environment, economic policymakers have failed to adapt to changes in basic economic conditions. The basic change is that the inflationary pressures of 1979 are not overall excess demand, but are caused by specific energy problems and specific speculative excesses.

In the past, when conditions which caused financial and economic instability arose, Congress acted to create financial institutions that could counteract the current source of instability. Thus, after land speculation supported by excessive issuance of bank notes by state banks led to booms and busts in the first half of the 19th Century, the National Banking Act of 1863 established charters for national banks with provisions for reserve requirements and national supervision. Later, the financial panics of 1873, 1893 and 1907 revealed a lack of needed money supply flexibility. The response was the creation of the Federal Reserve System in 1913.

SINCE WORLD WAR II, there have been recurrent, credit-related deep declines in residential construction followed by general economic slowdowns or recessions. Such sequences developed in 1956-57, when there were federal budget surpluses and inflation was minimal, as well as in more recent periods such as 1974-75, when there were budget deficits and inflation was high.

Prior to each of the post-war recessions, the Fed tightened overall monetary policy to dampen increases in credit extension to business and consumers. However, the overall effect of such policies has been highly selective. Residential and local public construction suffer a significant downturn. Their high unemployment has effects elsewhere.

Such sequences of events have contributed to economic slowdowns or recessions that spawned declines in real gross national product, in income, and in savings. Many billions of dollars which could have been devoted to financing capital formation and additional housing, were forgone.

To get cut of the repetitive pattern that rocks the country between recession and inflation, with overlapping periods when both are present, an alternative to monetary policy in the form of other government actions is needed.

—From the October 1979 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

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'Jump!'



'Forgotten' Men and Women:

Treatment of Vietnam Veterans A Shameful Chapter for Nation

By Gus Tyler

MOST AMERICANS believe that the Vietnam veterans have been treated in a shabby, even shameful, way. Three out of four Americans believe that the Viet vets should be getting more aid and benefits and that they have a harder time adjusting to civilian life than veterans of other wars.

Two out of three Americans believe that people have not treated Viet vets as well as veterans of other wars and that we have been mean to Viet vets because the war was unpopular. These are the findings of a poll conducted by the New York Daily News.

Most Americans believe what most Viet vets feel with passion. They feel it, yet they hesitate to sound off because somehow they have been made to feel ashamed of themselves.

If you are not a Viet vet, it is hard to get under his skin to feel as he feels unless you are fortunate enough to spend an hour or two with Bobby Muller as he pours out his heart on the plight of his erstwhile fellows-in-arms.

Bobby is an ex-Marine who agonized through the decimation of a platoon under his command. He is a one-man crusade to get America to understand the men—and women—who fought in Vietnam. From his wheelchair, he speaks out with fire and finely honed fury.

The Vietnam veteran is different, he insists. He was engaged in a war he never understood that was fought in a way he never understood.

There were those who said that we should just blow those Communists right off the map—with bombs or A-bombs or whatever it took. And there were those who said that we had no business there in the first place.

But practically nobody knew what they were doing there or why. So, to keep going, they drowned their doubt in alcohol and narcotics.

Back home, people began to make judgments about them. They were hopheads and junkies. They were sadistic Lt. Calleys. They were jerks for having allowed themselves to get drafted. They were no damn good, without morals or mind.

Then to top it all off, "they" lost the war. Nobody loves a loser, especially since this was the first war we have ever lost. (We lost the war of 1812, but Andrew Jackson's victory at New Orleans after the war was over gave the country the feeling of victory.)

Rotten as many of them felt about themselves over there, they felt even worse about themselves when they returned not as conquering heroes to be welcomed by banners and bands, but as the defeated, confronted with silence and a sneer. Coming home was numbing; but as the numbness passed with time, hurt and hostility set in.

Bobby was speaking to me because he wants to send a message to America to open its heart to the Viet vet. He was speaking to me because he knows that the American Veterans Committee I chair is deeply concerned that no element in our society, especially veterans, shall be pariahed out of our national community. He was speaking because he is a man of courage who fears, who fears what will happen to the country for which he has given much as the stormy clouds of disappointment, disrespect and disorder accumulate among the Viet vets.

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Productivity Keyed To Efficient Tools

The popular assumption that productivity is a matter of getting more sweat and more effort out of the individual worker is nonsense.

There is an absolute finite limit as to how much you can get out of unaided human effort, no matter how big a whip you have. And you reach that limit very quickly.

The way you get productivity beyond that limit is by adding tools, putting efficient tools in his hands and adding energy to make those tools work more efficiently at the same level of effort.

I know of no better formula for killing productivity than starting it in reverse, than making the money that pays for those tools more expensive and scarcer.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, during interview with David Hartman on the Good Morning, America television program, Oct. 25, 1979.

Voluntary Systems Cited:

Changing Workforce Dictates Ban on Compulsory Overtime

The following is excerpted from testimony by AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald before the House Subcommittee on Labor Standards during hearings on a shorter workweek.

IN DECEMBER 1977, the AFL-CIO adopted a resolution on the Fair Labor Standards Act which stated, in part: "In order to provide for the presently unemployed, the Congress should reduce the standard workweek to 35 hours and raise the penalty for overtime to double time on a daily and weekly basis to encourage employers to hire additional workers rather than to schedule overtime work."

This resolution is a restatement of a long-held view of the AFL-CIO that the standard workweek of 40 hours should be reduced and that the requirement that "penalty" pay of time and one-half the regular rate for all hours over 40 in a week was no longer a deterrent to regularly scheduled overtime hours but actually encourages scheduling of overtime work.

With respect to the elimination of involuntary overtime, workers bitterly resent being disciplined for refusing to work overtime. With the increase in the number of working mothers and with the growth of families with both father and mother employed, it is essential that workers be allowed some control over their own free time.

More than half (16.1 million) of all mothers with children under 18 are in the labor force according to a March 1978 release of the Dept. of Labor. Sixty percent of those with children aged 6 to 17 (none younger) and nearly 40 percent of those with children below age 3 were working or looking for work. Ten years earlier the proportions were 50 to 25 percent, respectively.

It is obvious from these figures that a large proportion of working women must be juggling their work hours with their babysitting arrangements in order to maintain their households. The elimination of compulsory overtime is designed to eliminate the strain on working parents who are often forced to choose between being fired or neglecting their families.

The elimination of compulsory overtime is not designed to eliminate overtime, nor even to eliminate compulsory overtime when there is an extreme emergency. What it is designed to do is to encourage employers and employees to jointly establish a voluntary system of overtime which not only takes into account working mothers but also aids those workers attending schools on a part-time basis or those who find it necessary to work two jobs.

MANY BUSINESSES have established systems of voluntary overtime and these are working well. Some businesses, however, continue to remain inflexible, and workers are aware that they will be fired or suspended if they refuse to work overtime "on demand."

Many workers under union contracts now have the right to refuse overtime. Some examples are the UAW contract with American Motors, the Graphic Arts Union with the Chicago Lithographers Association and the Retail-Wholesale Workers with Macy's, to name a few.

A Bureau of Labor Statistics report providing statistical information on collective bargaining agreements involving 1,000 workers or more shows that in July 1976 there were 280 agreements covering almost 1.5 million workers which specified that employees had the right to refuse overtime. These contracts involved all major manufacturing groups and all but one of the non-manufacturing groups covered by the survey—hotels and restaurants.

The inclusion of such a provision in so many collective bargaining agreements indicates that it can work, and in our view it improves employer-employee relationships.

Big Fee Lawyers:

Workers' Basic Rights Violated By Union-Busting Consultants

BEHIND-THE-SCENES advice on how to safely violate or skirt federal labor law is now a favorite tactic used by employers to stymie union organizing drives or to get rid of existing unions, Director Alan Kistler of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services charged on Labor News Conference.

Kistler noted that the practice has become so widespread that Congress has opened an inquiry into how enforcement of the current law can be tightened to end abuses of workers' personal and union rights. He said lawyers billing themselves as labor-management consultants are really "specialists in frustrating the organizing efforts of workers or eradicating collective bargaining relationships," and often draw fees in the $200,000 range for a single "union-free environment" campaign.

"The term 'labor-management consultant' is a misnomer," Kistler asserted, stressing that these people are not employed to consult with labor and management to improve the collective bargaining process. They are really union-busters, he declared.

Kistler acknowledged that "employers have a right, which is spelled out in law, to indicate to their employees their belief that collective bargaining is not good for them or for the enterprise." But tactics that go beyond the law that are used by employers or those who represent them must be curbed, he declared.

Anti-union campaigns mapped out by the so-called consultants involve "brutal" pressures on workers, Kistler pointed out, including "continuing surveillance and evaluation to identify undesirable" employees—"not undesirable in terms of productivity, but 'undesirable' in terms of attitude towards the union"—which often lead to unlawful firings.

The labor movement intends to take on the union-busting consultants "head-on," Kistler said.

"Where they are violating the law, we are going to insist that the law be enforced.

"If they are not complying with regulations, we're asking that the agencies responsible for administering the regulations compel compliance.

"Where there is a need for exposure," he said, where appeals are based on racism and sexism, "we're going to disclose that."

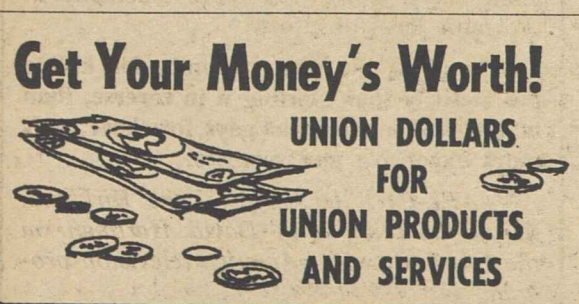
KISTLER SAID labor's counter-offensive is intended to send employers the message that "even if they spend a million bucks and bankrupt their corporations to defeat the unions, they still are not going to stop their workers from organizing."

So far as federal labor law is concerned, Kistler said the "remedies" against unfair practices by employers and their agents are "very inadequate."

The "cease and desist" order by the National Labor Relations Board merely amounts to telling an employer that "you must not do that again," Kistler noted.

He welcomed the investigative hearings held by a House subcommittee under Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.). While the hearings were not on legislative remedies, Kistler suggested that the findings will point to the need for legislative action.

Reporters questioning Kistler on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. Labor News Conference is aired weekly on Mutual radio.





By Press Associates, Inc.

A GREAT DEPRESSION in the 1980s? That almost unthinkable question comes up because the nation is marking the 50th anniversary of the Wall Street crash even as recession envelopes the economy and inflation rages unchecked.

As of March 1933, perhaps more than 15 million were jobless—no one knew how many. There were breadlines, soup kitchens, evictions, hunger, suicides, broken families. The nation was in trauma.

Franklin D. Roosevelt knew he had to restore the people's confidence and hope. "This nation asks for action and action now," FDR declared in his inaugural address.

The famous hundred days of innovation followed. A civil works program put 4 million people to work in two months.

Organized labor capitalized on the legal protection of the right to organize and bargain collectively and mounted organizing drives. With the aid of the Wagner Act, labor organized the mass production industries, often against violent employer opposition. Union membership tripled to more than 8 million.

By the end of the 1930s, unemployment remained high but the role of government, the safeguards built into the economy and the strength of organized labor all provided new stability to the nation.

As the 50th anniversary of the Great Depression inspired editors to rake over the nation's memories, a number of publications, notably the Wall Street Journal, asked economists whether it could happen again.

They agreed another Great Depression of the 1930s-type is unlikely. However, perhaps chastened by the inability of their "science" to deal with the stagflation of the '70s, they were somewhat guarded about the future.

John Kenneth Galbraith, who recently published a book on the stock market crash of 1929, expressed the view that New Deal legislation will help prevent another depression.

Galbraith singled out the Securities & Exchange Commission and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. He noted that there were some 6,000 to 7,000 bank failures in the early 1930s, but there were only 100 or so failures after the FDIC was created to insure the funds of depositors.

Milton Friedman and Paul Samuelson, who represent the conservative and liberal ends of the spectrum, agree there is little likelihood of another Great Depression.

Geoffrey Moore, a former commissioner of labor statistics, sees the shift in the structure of jobs—from goods-producing to the service industries—as a stabilizing factor.

SO THERE SEEMS TO BE a consensus among many economists that history will not repeat itself. But it never does—exactly.

America and its industrial allies have allowed themselves to become critically dependent on a thin line of oil supertankers from the Middle East, one of the most politically unstable regions of the world as events in Iran showed.

Prof. Robert Lekachman of New York University believes the world economy today is so fragile that a cutoff of oil could bring another depression that would make the 1930s look like a golden era.

Problems also are multiplying in new directions. The oil crisis has shifted hundreds of billions of dollars from U.S. to foreign hands. Multinational corporations for years have been exporting capital, technology and the skills in which America used to be so strong.

The rampant inflation that undermines everyone's living standards and the energy crisis that demands drastic changes in American life have now moved to the center of the political stage.

And that is where they belong. For the paramount issues of the day, as in the Great Depression, stand as a challenge to the political leadership of the nation.



EMPLOYERS SEEM WILLING to pay almost any price for behind-the-scenes legal advice on how to kill a union organizing drive or get rid of an existing union, Director Alan Kistler, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services said on Labor News Conference. Kistler was questioned by Ben Rathbun, left, of Daily Labor Report and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Key Rollcall on Campaign Fund Limits

The House voted 217-198 for a labor-supported amendment limiting to $70,000 the total amount that a candidate for the House could receive in campaign contributions from political action committees of corporations, unions and other interest groups. The amendment will also help to curb the growing influence of right-wing, single issue organizations.

On the Oct. 17 rollcall, right votes (R) for the amendment were cast by 188 Democrats and 29 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) against the contribution limits were 74 Democrats and 124 Republicans.

Numerals show congressional districts. Other symbols: PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

ALABAMA
1. Edwards (R) W
2. Dickinson (R) W
3. Nichols (D) R
4. Bevill (D) R
5. Flippo (D) W
6. Buchanan (R) W
7. Shelby (D) W

ALASKA
AL Young (R) W

ARIZONA
1. Rhodes (R) W
2. Udall (D) R
3. Stump (D) W
4. Rudd (R) W

ARKANSAS
1. Alexander (D) W
2. Bethune (R) W
3. Hammerschmidt (R) W
4. Anthony (D) W

CALIFORNIA
1. Johnson (D) R
2. Clausen (R) W
3. Matsui (D) R
4. Fazio (D) R
5. Burton, John L. (D) R
6. Burton, Phillip (D) R
7. Miller (D) R
8. Dellums (D) R
9. Stark (D) R
10. Edwards (D) R
11. Royer (R) W
12. McCloskey (R) R
13. Mineta (D) R
14. Shumway (R) W
15. Coelho (D) R
16. Panetta (D) R
17. Pashayan (R) W
18. Thomas (R) W
19. Lagomarsino (R) R
20. Goldwater (R) W
21. Corman (D) A
22. Moorhead (R) W
23. Beilenson (D) R
24. Waxman (D) R
25. Roybal (D) R
26. Rousselot (R) W
27. Dornan (R) W
28. Dixon (D) A
29. Hawkins (D) R
30. Danielson (D) R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D) W
32. Anderson (D) R
33. Grisham (R) W
34. Lungren (R) W
35. Lloyd (D) W
36. Brown (D) R
37. Lewis (R) W
38. Patterson (D) R
39. Dannemeyer (R) W
40. Badham (R) W
41. Wilson, Bob (R) W
42. Van Deerlin (D) R
43. Burgener (R) W

COLORADO
1. Schroeder (D) R
2. Wirth (D) R
3. Kogovsek (D) W
4. Johnson (R) R
5. Kramer (R) W

CONNECTICUT
1. Cotter (D) W
2. Dodd (D) R
3. Giaimo (D) R
4. McKinney (R) R
5. Ratchford (D) R
6. Moffett (D) R

DELAWARE
AL Evans (R) W

FLORIDA
1. Hutto (D) R
2. Fuqua (D) R
3. Bennett (D) R
4. Chappell (D) W
5. Kelly (R) W
6. Young (R) W
7. Gibbons (D) W
8. Ireland (D) W
9. Nelson (D) W
10. Bafalis (R) W
11. Mica (D) R
12. Stack (D) R
13. Lehman (D) R
14. Pepper (D) R
15. Fascell (D) R

GEORGIA
1. Ginn (D) W
2. Mathis (D) W
3. Brinkley (D) W
4. Levitas (D) W
5. Fowler (D) R
6. Gingrich (R) W
7. McDonald (D) W
8. Evans (D) W
9. Jenkins (D) W
10. Barnard (D) W

HAWAII
1. Heftel (D) R
2. Akaka (D) R

IDAHO
1. Symms (R) W
2. Hansen (R) W

ILLINOIS
1. Stewart (D) R
2. Murphy (D) R
3. Russo (D) R
4. Derwinski (R) W
5. Fary (D) R
6. Hyde (R) W
7. Collins (D) PR
8. Rostenkowski (D) R
9. Yates (D) R
10. Vacancy
11. Annunzio (D) R
12. Crane, Philip (R) W
13. McClory (R) W
14. Erlenborn (R) W
15. Corcoran (R) W
16. Anderson (R) A
17. O'Brien (R) W
18. Michel (R) W
19. Railsback (R) R
20. Findley (R) W
21. Madigan (R) R
22. Crane, Dan (R) W
23. Price (D) R
24. Simon (D) R

INDIANA
1. Benjamin (D) R
2. Fithian (D) R
3. Brademas (D) R
4. Quayle (R) W
5. Hillis (R) W
6. Evans (D) W
7. Myers (R) W
8. Deckard (R) W
9. Hamilton (D) R
10. Sharp (D) R
11. Jacobs (D) R

IOWA
1. Leach (R) R
2. Tauke (R) R
3. Grassley (R) W
4. Smith (D) R
5. Harkin (D) R
6. Bedell (D) R

KANSAS
1. Sebelius (R) W
2. Jeffries (R) W
3. Winn (R) PW
4. Glickman (D) R
5. Whittaker (R) W

KENTUCKY
1. Hubbard (D) R
2. Natcher (D) R
3. Mazzoli (D) W
4. Snyder (R) W
5. Carter (R) W
6. Hopkins (R) R
7. Perkins (D) R

LOUISIANA
1. Livingston (R) W
2. Boggs (D) W
3. Treen (R) A
4. Leach (D) A
5. Huckaby (D) W
6. Moore (R) W
7. Breaux (D) W
8. Long (D) R

MAINE
1. Emery (R) R
2. Snowe (R) R

MARYLAND
1. Bauman (R) W
2. Long (D) R
3. Mikulski (D) R
4. Holt (R) W
5. Spellman (D) R
6. Byron (D) W
7. Mitchell (D) R
8. Barnes (D) R

MASSACHUSETTS
1. Conte (R) R
2. Boland (D) R
3. Early (D) R
4. Drinan (D) R
5. Shannon (D) R
6. Mavroules (D) R
7. Markey (D) R
8. O'Neill (D) Speaker
9. Moakley (D) R
10. Heckler (R) R
11. Donnelly (D) R
12. Studds (D) R

MICHIGAN
1. Conyers (D) R
2. Pursell (R) R
3. Wolpe (D) R
4. Stockman (R) W
5. Sawyer (R) W
6. Carr (D) R
7. Kildee (D) R
8. Traxler (D) W
9. Vander Jagt (R) W
10. Albosta (D) W
11. Davis (R) W
12. Bonior (D) R
13. Diggs (D) R
14. Nedzi (D) R
15. Ford (D) R
16. Dingell (D) W
17. Brodhead (D) R
18. Blanchard (D) R
19. Broomfield (R) W

MINNESOTA
1. Erdahl (R) W
2. Hagedorn (R) W
3. Frenzel (R) W
4. Vento (D) R
5. Sabo (D) R
6. Nolan (D) R
7. Stangeland (R) W
8. Oberstar (D) R

MISSISSIPPI
1. Whitten (D) W
2. Bowen (D) W
3. Montgomery (D) W
4. Hinson (R) W
5. Lott (R) W

MISSOURI
1. Clay (D) R
2. Young (D) R
3. Gephardt (D) R
4. Skelton (D) R
5. Bolling (D) R
6. Coleman (R) W
7. Taylor (R) W
8. Ichord (D) W
9. Volkmer (D) W
10. Burlison (D) R

MONTANA
1. Williams (D) R
2. Marlenee (R) R

NEBRASKA
1. Bereuter (R) W
2. Cavanaugh (D) R
3. Smith (R) W

NEVADA
AL Santini (D) R

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1. D'Amours (D) R
2. Cleveland (R) W

NEW JERSEY
1. Florio (D) R
2. Hughes (D) R
3. Howard (D) R
4. Thompson (D) R
5. Fenwick (R) R
6. Forsythe (R) W
7. Maguire (D) R
8. Roe (D) R
9. Hollenbeck (R) R
10. Rodino (D) PR
11. Minish (D) W
12. Rinaldo (R) R
13. Courter (R) W
14. Guarini (D) R
15. Patten (D) A

NEW MEXICO
1. Lujan (R) W
2. Runnels (D) W

NEW YORK
1. Carney (R) W
2. Downey (D) R
3. Ambro (D) R
4. Lent (R) W
5. Wydler (R) W
6. Wolff (D) R
7. Addabbo (D) R
8. Rosenthal (D) A
9. Ferraro (D) R
10. Biaggi (D) R
11. Scheuer (D) R
12. Chisholm (D) PR
13. Solarz (D) R
14. Richmond (D) R
15. Zeferetti (D) R
16. Holtzman (D) R
17. Murphy (D) PR
18. Green (R) R
19. Rangel (D) R
20. Weiss (D) R
21. Garcia (D) PR
22. Bingham (D) R
23. Peyser (D) R
24. Ottinger (D) R
25. Fish (R) R
26. Gilman (R) R
27. McHugh (D) R
28. Stratton (D) W
29. Solomon (R) W
30. McEwen (R) W
31. Michell (R) R
32. Hanley (D) W
33. Lee (R) W
34. Horton (R) R
35. Conable (R) R
36. LaFalce (D) R
37. Nowak (D) R
38. Kemp (R) W
39. Lundine (D) R

NORTH CAROLINA
1. Jones (D) PW
2. Fountain (D) W
3. Whitley (D) W
4. Andrews (D) W
5. Neal (D) R
6. Preyer (D) R
7. Rose (D) R
8. Hefner (D) R
9. Martin (R) W
10. Broyhill (R) W
11. Gudger (D) R

NORTH DAKOTA
AL Andrews (R) W

OHIO
1. Gradison (R) W
2. Luken (D) W
3. Hall (D) R
4. Guyer (R) W
5. Latta (R) W
6. Harsha (R) PW
7. Brown (R) W
8. Kindness (R) W
9. Ashley (D) W
10. Miller (R) W
11. Stanton (R) W
12. Devine (R) W
13. Pease (D) R
14. Seiberling (D) R
15. Wylie (R) W
16. Regula (R) R
17. Ashbrook (R) W
18. Applegate (D) R
19. Williams (R) R
20. Oakar (D) R
21. Stokes (D) R
22. Vanik (D) R
23. Mottl (D) R

OKLAHOMA
1. Jones (D) W
2. Synar (D) R
3. Watkins (D) W
4. Steed (D) R
5. Edwards (R) W
6. English (D) R

OREGON
1. AuCoin (D) W
2. Ullman (D) R
3. Duncan (D) W
4. Weaver (D) R

PENNSYLVANIA
1. Myers (D) R
2. Gray (D) R
3. Lederer (D) R
4. Dougherty (R) PW
5. Schulze (R) W
6. Yatron (D) R
7. Edgar (D) R
8. Kostmayer (D) R
9. Shuster (R) PW
10. McDade (R) W
11. Flood (D) A
12. Murtha (D) R
13. Coughlin (R) W
14. Moorhead (D) R
15. Ritter (R) W
16. Walker (R) W
17. Ertel (D) R
18. Walgren (D) R
19. Goodling (R) W
20. Gaydos (D) R
21. Bailey (D) R
22. Murphy (D) W
23. Clinger (R) W
24. Marks (R) W
25. Atkinson (D) W

RHODE ISLAND
1. St Germain (D) R
2. Beard (D) R

SOUTH CAROLINA
1. Davis (D) W
2. Spence (R) W
3. Derrick (D) R
4. Campbell (R) W
5. Holland (D) W
6. Jenrette (D) R

SOUTH DAKOTA
1. Daschle (D) R
2. Abdnor (R) W

TENNESSEE
1. Quillen (R) W
2. Duncan (R) W
3. Bouquard (D) W
4. Gore (D) R
5. Boner (D) R
6. Beard (R) W
7. Jones (D) R
8. Ford (D) R

TEXAS
1. Hall (D) W
2. Wilson (D) W
3. Collins (R) W
4. Roberts (D) W
5. Mattox (D) R
6. Gramm (D) W
7. Archer (R) W
8. Eckhardt (D) R
9. Brooks (D) R
10. Pickle (D) W
11. Leath (D) W
12. Wright (D) R
13. Hightower (D) W
14. Wyatt (D) W
15. de la Garza (D) W
16. White (D) W
17. Stenholm (D) W
18. Leland (D) R
19. Hance (D) W
20. Gonzalez (D) W
21. Loeffler (R) W
22. Paul (R) W
23. Kazen (D) W
24. Frost (D) W

UTAH
1. McKay (D) W
2. Marriott (R) W

VERMONT
AL Jeffords (R) R

VIRGINIA
1. Trible (R) W
2. Whitehurst (R) W
3. Satterfield (D) W
4. Daniel, Robert (R) W
5. Daniel, Dan (D) W
6. Butler (R) W
7. Robinson (R) W
8. Harris (D) R
9. Wampler (R) W
10. Fisher (D) R

WASHINGTON
1. Pritchard (R) R
2. Swift (D) R
3. Bonker (D) R
4. McCormack (D) W
5. Foley (D) W
6. Dicks (D) R
7. Lowry (D) R

WEST VIRGINIA
1. Mollohan (D) R
2. Staggers (D) R
3. Slack (D) W
4. Rahall (D) R

WISCONSIN
1. Aspin (D) R
2. Kastenmeier (D) R
3. Baldus (D) R
4. Zablocki (D) R
5. Reuss (D) R
6. Petri (R) R
7. Obey (D) R
8. Roth (R) W
9. Sensenbrenner (R) W

WYOMING
AL Cheney (R) W

Strong Windfall Levy Sought:

Swollen Oil Profits Buttress Tax Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

increase; Atlantic Richfield Co.'s net climbed 45 percent; Standard of Ohio's profits leaped 191 percent; Cities Service Co. reported a 64 percent increase, and Occidental Petroleum Corp. had a tenfold rise.

Mobil Corp., the nation's second largest refiner, said its third-quarter profits rose 130 percent. Cities Service Co. posted a 64 percent rise, Marathon Oil Co., 57.8 percent, and Sun Co., 65 percent.

The oil profit reports drew outraged reactions from consumer and labor groups, who only a week earlier had joined in rallies across the country to protest oil industry profiteering.

The Senate Finance Committee, meanwhile, completed action on a windfall profits tax bill that would bring in substantially less revenue than the House-passed bill and would divert funds intended for energy development programs for a variety of unrelated functions.

Committee Chairman Russell B. Long (D-La.) said he expected Senate debate to begin the week of Nov. 5, and President Carter has made clear that the Administration will press to strengthen the bill when it comes before the full Senate.

Carter told participants in a White House meeting of supporters of a strong windfall profits tax that he considers the bill the House passed acceptable. But he termed the Finance Committee version "disheartening."

Meanwhile, the Energy Dept. issued sharply higher estimates of the impact of the President's oil decontrol program on consumer prices and industry revenues. By October 1981, when controls expire, prices of gasoline and other fuels will increase between 7.5 and 12.5 cents a gallon, DOE said.

The estimates differ substantially from those given last April by Charles Schultze, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, when Carter unveiled his plan to phase out all price controls for domestic production.

Most firms attributed all or most of their higher profits during the third quarter to overseas operations. Exxon, for instance, said its earnings from refining and marketing operations abroad quadrupled during the three months to $610 million, which accounted for more than half its total profits worldwide.

Only two other companies—American Telephone & Telegraph Co. and General Motors Corp.—have earned more than $1 billion in a single quarter.

House Shift Retains Gas Price Curbs

(Continued from Page 1)

The House did, however, approve a consumer-favored amendment that would require the Dept. of Energy to make public the information it collects each month on supplies of crude and refined oil held by the major oil companies. The vote was 264-142.

The House heeded consumer voices in defeating a sugar subsidy bill that consumer groups said would push up the cost of living and provide an unjustified budget subsidy.

The AFL-CIO and most of its affiliates worked with a broad consumer coalition in opposition to the bill. But at the same time, the AFL-CIO informed House members that two affiliates—the Grain Millers and the Distillery Workers—consider the subsidies necessary to prevent shutdown of domestic sugar processing plants and loss of jobs.

On balance, the AFL-CIO wrote House members, the subsidy bill would result in billions of dollars going to growers "who are already greatly protected and aided by the federal government."

The bill's wage protection provisions for low-paid sugar workers would amount to "only a pittance," the federation said.

About 55 perecnt of the 11 million tons of sugar used in the United States each year is of domestic origin—both western beet sugar and southern cane sugar.

Despite Administration support for the subsidy measure, the House rejected the bill by a lopsided 249-158 vote.

Norton Come Named Acting NLRB Counsel

President Carter has named Norton J. Come, a long-time career attorney with the National Labor Relations Board, to serve as acting general counsel of the agency.

Come, 59, succeeds John S. Irving, who left the general counsel's post to enter private law practice.



BIG OIL'S "INSATIABLE GREED" for profits is undermining the American economy, leaders of a coalition of labor, consumer, and farm groups declared at a Capitol Hill rally. Executive Director William R. Hutton of the National Council of Senior Citizens ticks off grass-roots complaints against the major petroleum companies while Sen. Howard M. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), left, helps hold up a "Big Oil Discredit Card." Metzenbaum has introduced legislation in the Senate to see that the oil firms operate in the public interest.

Workweek Cut Pushed to Aid Job Expansion

(Continued from Page 1)

ployer ends up paying substantially ess than time and one-half in terms of total compensation cost.

"This may also explain why unemployment rates have remained at close to the 6 percent level in 1979 while long workweeks are still the order of the day," Oswald suggested.

He termed it "unconscionable for employers to be given a financial incentive to regularly schedule overtime work while large numbers of workers are unemployed."

Hours of work are gradually being reduced through negotiations, Oswald noted, and reduction of the FLSA basic workweek through legislation is long overdue. That was the intent of President Roosevelt's call for a wage-hour law in 1937, he said.

While many workers "want or need to work as much overtime as they can," he said, "workers bitterly resent being disciplined for refusing to work overtime."

He noted that more than half of all mothers with children under 16 are in the labor force and frequently have to "juggle their work hours with their babysitting arrangements."

When overtime is compulsory, working parents may have to choose between being fired or neglecting their families," Oswald said.

Prime Lending Rate Jumps to Record 15%

(Continued from Page 1)

ment without solving the nation's problem of high inflation. The central bank's moves "are a very inefficient way to deal with inflation," and may lead to greater unemployment, he told a news conference.

House Majority Leader James C. Wright, Jr. (D-Tex.) registered even sharper criticism of the Federal Reserve Board's money-tightening policies. The Fed seems to think that raising interest rates is an effective way to curb inflation, he noted, but "that, I submit, is like pouring gasoline on the fire."

Wright said the rate of inflation has followed interest rates as they rose upward. High interest rates "are clearly price inflationary, not deflationary," he asserted.

In other developments, a Commerce Dept. report showed the economy growing at an annual rate of 2.4 percent in the third quarter. The growth in "real" gross national product—the value of the nation's total output of goods and services adjusted for inflation — made up ground lost in the second period, when real GNP fell at a 2.3 percent rate. During the first three months of the year, the economy grew at a 1.1 percent pace.

Courtenay Slater, chief economist for the Commerce Dept., cautioned against interpreting the third-quarter expansion as "good news in the sense that all our troubles are behind us." The last two quarters together show there has not been any real growth in the economy in the last six months, she pointed out.

And Treasury Sec. G. William Miller warned in an interview: "We expect the economy to return to slow or negative growth in the next few quarters."

Real personal consumption expenditures rose by 4.3 percent over the period, following a 2.9 percent drop in the second quarter. Real personal income fell during the quarter, however, so consumers had to dip into savings to finance the additional purchases. The savings rate dropped from 5.4 to 4.1 percent of personal income—the lowest level since 1951.

Illinois Delegates Draft State Legislative Agenda

Springfield, Ill.—Delegates to the 22nd annual convention of the Illinois AFL-CIO drafted labor's legislative agenda for the next session of the state legislature and approved a 5-cent per month increase in per capita payments.

High on the list of legislative goals is the state federation's long-standing campaign to win full collective bargaining rights for public employees, expansion of state job safety regulations and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The per capita increase, which is collected quarterly, will boost membership payments 15 cents—from 24 to 39 cents.

The 2,200 delegates were welcomed to the convention by new top officers, President Robert G. Gibson and Sec.-Treas. Harl H. Ray, who filled unexpired terms in May. Gibson is unopposed in a membership election later this year. Ray is opposed by Thomas Hanahan of the Carpenters.

Gibson had served the state body as secretary-treasurer since 1963 before succeeding Stanley L. John as president. Ray had been state COPE chairman.

Resolutions adopted at the four-day convention covering a broad range of issues endorsed nationa AFL-CIO legislative goals on full employment, national health insur ance, child day care and other areas. Delegates also supported state labor programs that include job security guarantees for community college teachers.

The convention approved the ERA resolution after a strong appeal by Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany.

Other major speakers included President Frederick O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes, who warned that right-wing gains are threatening key social programs; COPE Director Al Barkan, who described the expanding activities of anti-union management consultants, and Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, who termed the labor record of the Carter Administration the best since Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Delegates also heard addresses from Executive Director Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, President Joyce D. Miller of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, Executive Director Mike Arnold of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Institute and President Vincent Tofany of the National Safety Council.



U.S. LABOR AND BLACK LEADERS are welcomed to Israel by Yehrucham Meshel, general secretary of Histadrut, the Israeli Federation of Labor. The group included AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director William Pollard (shaking hands with Meshel) Robert Powell, vice president of the Laborers; Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; John J. Smith, assistant to the president of the Steelworkers; Ronald Brown, vice president of the National Urban League; Althea Simmons, director of the NAACP in Washington; Frederick O'Neal, president of the Actors & Artistes, who was not present for the photo session.

Women Workers Victims:

OSHA Acts to Halt Sterilization Policy

Management policy that requires women workers of child-bearing age to be sterilized if they want to hold certain jobs violates the federal job safety law, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration declared in proposing a $10,000 fine against American Cyanamid Co.

OSHA found that Cyanamid's actions at its chemical plant in Willow Island, W. Va., violated the general duty clause of the 1970 act which requires employers to provide workplaces free of hazards.

The OSHA citation alleges that the company "adopted and implemented a policy which required women employees to be sterilized in order to be eligible to work in those areas of the plant where they could be exposed to certain toxic substances."

Five women of child-bearing age employed at the plant who underwent sterilization said they were told by company officials they were obliged to meet the policy requirements to hold their jobs and pay levels. The company has denied the charges.

In issuing the citation, OSHA said that Cyanamid could not eliminate the health hazard from exposure to toxic lead levels by providing the sterilization option to the women workers. As a result, they incurred serious and irreversible impairment to their reproductive systems.

Assistant Labor Sec. Eula Bingham, who heads the federal safety agency, pointed out that "the reproductive health of workers—both men and women—is a valid part of OSHA's regulatory concern" in its duty to protect workers.

"No worker must be forced to sacrifice his or her right to conceive children in order to hold a job," Dr. Bingham declared.

OSHA's investigation of Cyanamid's sterilization policy stemmed from action initiated by the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers, the union that represents Willow Island plant employees.

Earlier this year, OSHA issued a number of other citations against Cyanamid for exposing workers to excessive levels of lead and chromates. On those charges, proposed federal penalites totaled more than $35,000.

In another crackdown, OSHA has proposed fines of $259,710 against the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics in Groton, Conn., which employs some 20,000 workers represented by the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept.

During a one-month investigation of the large submarine facility this spring, OSHA compliance officers recorded 246 violations of the federal safety and health standards. The charges included 62 "serious" violations and four "willful" violations.

OSHA expressed particular concern over the Electric Boat Division's failure to record documented cases of asbestosis and mesothelioma resulting from excessive worker exposure to asbestos and its failure to monitor asbestos levels in work areas.

The company also was cited for exposing workers to dangerous levels of lead and copper; failure to provide respiratory protection for potential worker exposure to beryllium, lead, nickel, copper and chromium; not fitting workers properly with respirators, and failing to protect workers from hearing impairment due to high noise levels.



SCREEN ACTORS PROTEST the failure of the Motion Picture & Television Producers Association to honor affirmative action provisions in SAG contracts by stereotyping the roles of women and minorities in TV programs. Simultaneous demonstrations were staged in Los Angeles and New York. SAG also filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board accusing the association and three companies of ignoring contract clauses covering jobs data on women and minorities.

Two Rail Unions Reach Accord with Rock Island

Two AFL-CIO unions that conducted six-week strikes against the Rock Island Railroad this summer reached agreement with the carrier covering the sticky issue of retroactive pay.

Both the United Transportation Union and the Railway & Airline Clerks signed the retroactivity agreement on Oct. 19. The accord, which is basically the same for each union, generally follows recommendations of a three-member emergency factfinding board appointed by President Carter on Sept. 20.

UTU President-elect Fred A. Hardin said the agreement followed intense negotiations with the presidential panel. After all testimony was entered the UTU and the Rock Island began direct negotiations which led to an agreement in three days, he said. BRAC negotiators pursued the same line.

Both unions struck the bankrupt railroad in late August. After appointment of the factfinding board, the workers returned to their jobs. James Reynolds, a former Under Secretary of Labor and a well-known arbitrator, chaired the investigative board.

BRAC President Fred J. Kroll, who signed the agreement for the 1,800 members of the Railway & Airline Clerks employed by the carrier, said that the pact provides that Rock Island will pay full retroactivity under the terms of the union's national agreement with other major lines for the period Jan. 1, 1978, to Oct. 5, 1979, "upon assumption of operations by a successor company under a plan of reorganization approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission and confirmed by the U.S. District Court." UTU has some 2,500 members employed on the Rock Island.

Previously, the two unions had gained prevailing wages for their members on the Rock Island when the ICC issued a "directed service" order to the Kansas City Terminal Co. to join with other railroads in temporarily running rail service on the Rock Island property. The Kansas City Terminal Co. is a switching company owned by 12 large railroads.

The retroactivity sums will be paid to each union member in a series of 16 monthly payments. While the agreements between the carrier and the two unions are essentially the same, certain provisions are tailored to each. Hardin noted also that negotiations still are continuing with the ICC on some important issues involving directed-service operations.

Kroll said the agreement gives BRAC members "all the improvements that were available considering the status of the Rock Island.

"We hope that this agreement, and the labor-management stability it should provide, may help the Rock Island or its successors to once again become the viable and profitable railroad which it certainly should be."

Benefit Tax Ban Measure Up to Senate

Unions representing workers in a wide range of occupations are pressing for early Senate action to continue a temporary ban on taxation of various fringe benefits.

The House has voted 347-14 for a labor-supported bill that would extend the tax moratorium to June 1, 1981, and thus give Congress more time to consider whether such work-related benefits as store discounts, supper money or travel allowances to distant construction sites should be taxed as income.

But the measure still needs Senate concurrence, and the current law barring the Internal Revenue Service from adopting regulations affecting fringe benefits expires at the end of this year.

John Brown, legislative director of the Operating Engineers, said Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.) is sponsoring a measure identical to the House bill, and an effort will be made to pass it intact so as to avoid the need for a conference.

The Senate earlier this year expressed its support for an extension of the tax moratorium through an amendment to an appropriations bill, but that provision was dropped in conference because the House had not yet acted on the issue.

Oswald Cites Danger From Trade Imbalance

The imbalance in international trade must be corrected if the United States is to curb inflation and job losses and prevent further damage to the economy, AFL–CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald stressed in an address to the third annual U.S.-European-Japanese economic editors symposium.

Expressing concern that burgeoning imports of manufactured goods are eroding the nation's industrial base, Oswald said that "America cannot survive as a purely service economy—with all of us standing in a circle, exchanging bits of paper, taking each other's pulse and shining each other's shoes."

The higher prices for imported oil are not the only cause of the U.S. trade deficit which is currently running at an annual rate of $24 billion, he pointed out.

In the first half of 1979, Oswald observed, imports of machinery and transportation equipment rose by the same dollar volume as oil—a surge of $4 billion.

America's unions believe in fair trade, he declared.

"We would like very much to see every country's goods in every marketplace, competing on equal terms. But for a long time we have been conscious that that is not the way the world is working.

"America's marketplace is wide open, and it's the only one that is. Free trade here and protectionism throughout the rest of the world adds up to a one-way street that is draining America of its capital, its technology and know-how and the jobs of its workers."

He said that unfair trade has become a disadvantage to Americans, as well as to others in the world.

"Fair trade is a goal that we believe all Americans share," Oswald said, adding that support of fair trade policies would lead to an end of the inflationary and unemployment-causing aspects of unfair trade.

Rhode Island Nurses Affiliate with AFT

A statewide organization of registered nurses in Rhode Island voted by a 95 percent majority to affiliate with the Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals, the new national health care arm of the American Federation of Teachers.

The group of 507 publicly and privately employed nurses, which will become known as the Rhode Island Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals, will be affiliated with the Rhode Island Federation of Teachers.

Rail Crafts Reach Pact With Boston & Maine

The four member unions of the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept. reached tentative agreement with the bankrupt Boston & Maine Railroad.

About 600 members of the Carmen, Boilermakers & Blacksmiths, Firemen & Oilers, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers were voting on the accord. The balloting was expected to be completed this weekend.

The Firemen & Oilers require their general chairmen to vote on any agreement while members of the other three unions vote individually on a new pact. Both parties to the contract expressed optimism that the agreement would be approved.

Wages were the main issue in the bargaining. B & M workers have not had a pay adjustment since 1977. The tentative contract provides wage increases similar to those negotiated last year with most Class I railroads and are fully retroactive for 1979. For 1978, workers will receive 25 percent of their retroactivity in cash, the remaining 75 percent in compensated days off. Some adjustments in entry-level rates were made and for vacations as well.

The railroad has been in bankruptcy proceedings since March 1970. Its old contract with the four AFL-CIO shopcraft unions expired on Dec. 31, 1977, when B & M agreements with 10 other unions also ran out.

While the railroad has held talks with the various other unions, it has not concluded a contract with them. The United Transportation Union signed a memorandum of agreement with the company last August, but no final agreement has been accepted.

10/27/79

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Persistent Price Surge Erodes Wages

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Wholesale, Consumer Indexes Up

By James M. Shevis

The price spiral that began to accelerate sharply nine months ago, cutting deeply into American workers' purchasing power, continues to rise with no signs of abating.

Inflation at the wholesale level rose 1 percent in October, or at a compounded annual rate of 12.7 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. While an improvement over September's 1.4 percent gain in producer prices of finished goods, the increase means still higher prices ahead for consumers.

Wholesale price increases generally find their way to the retail level in a matter of weeks or months, depending on the product.

Following an earlier BLS report that the government's consumer price index jumped 1.1 percent in September, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy A. Oswald said that he saw no immediate relief in sight.

"I anticipate continued high levels of inflation over the next three months with food prices rising slightly, housing prices rising substantially, and energy prices continuing to rise," he said.

In a companion report on consumer buying power, BLS said that real spendable earnings —take-home pay adjusted for the impact of inflation—declined seven-tenths of 1 percent in September. Over the past 12 months, workers have seen their purchasing power fall by 4.4 percent.

A married worker with three dependents in September drew average real spendable earnings of $88.11 a week, a drop of 62 cents from the August level and a decline of $3.96 from a year earlier. Real earnings are take-home pay expressed in terms of constant 1967 dollars.

The government's latest reports on prices show that the country is experiencing its highest rate of inflation since 1946, when World War II price controls were lifted. Alfred Kahn, the Administration's chief inflation-fighter, told a congressional committee recently that President Carter's goal of a 10.6 percent inflation rate this year is now "clearly unachievable."

Higher prices for energy and 1980-model automobiles accounted for much of last month's 1 percent rise in wholesale prices. The overall increase occurred despite a dip of one-tenth of 1 percent in whole-

(Continued on Page 7)

Huge Loopholes Set Stage For Windfall Profits Fight



FEDERAL GRANT for an employment and training program sponsored by the cultural arm of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees is announced by Joan Mondale, wife of the Vice President and honorary chairperson of the Federal Council on the Arts & Humanities, at a press conference in New York. At left are DPE Director Jack Golodner and actress Celeste Holm. The $646,660 grant was awarded to DPE's Labor Institute for Human Enrichment. **(Story, Page 2.)**

Oil Billions At Stake In Senate

By David L. Perlman

The Senate Finance Committee punched huge new loopholes in the House-passed windfall profits tax, setting the stage for a Senate floor battle involving hundreds of billions of dollars that the nation's oil companies stand to gain from the lifting of price controls.

Under the Senate bill, oil companies would pocket an estimated total of $374 billion in added revenue over the next 10 years. This is after-tax income in addition to the normal earnings of an already hugely profitable industry.

The Senate bill would collect only about half as much in the special windfall profits tax as the House version. The Treasury Dept. estimates $138 billion in the Senate bill, compared with $277 billion in the House bill and the still higher $296 billion sought by the Administration.

Further, the Senate bill would dissipate part of the anticipated revenues in an assortment of energy-related tax credits for business and individuals. The AFL-CIO has supported earmarking windfall revenues for developing alternative energy sources, funding expanded mass transit programs, and providing relief from higher fuel and energy costs for lower-income households.

All of the billions being juggled about will come from the pockets of American consumers—either directly through increased prices of petroleum products or indirectly as higher energy costs enter into

(Continued on Page 8)

'Brown Lung' Hazard:

Court Backs OSHA On Cotton Dust Curb

By John R. Oravec

A three-judge U.S. court of appeals panel has unanimously upheld the Labor Dept.'s cotton dust regulations aimed at reducing the "brown lung" hazard for workers in textile and cotton processing mills.

The action by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia leaves intact the bulk of the standard requiring industry to install engineering controls to sharply limit worker exposure to cotton dust. But the court excluded the cottonseed oil industry from immediate coverage pending an economic feasibility study by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

The ruling was hailed by union and OSHA officials as essential to protect workers from byssinosis, the disabling "brown lung" disease.

Industry groups had attacked the regulations, which were to have gone into effect on Labor Day 1978, as unnecessary, unfeasible and too costly. The court gave industry until Nov. 13 to explain why the current stay of the standard should not be lifted.

Sol Stetin, senior executive vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, said the court decision gives reason for mill workers to rejoice.

"Strict enforcement of the standard is essential if the 800,000 textile workers who are exposed to cotton dust on the job are to be protected against brown lung disease," Stetin said.

Charging that 150,000 workers are already suffering from byssinosis, Stetin called on OSHA to immediately schedule inspections "of

(Continued on Page 3)

3rd Quarter Profits Show Sharp Jump

Early company reports on third-quarter earnings indicate that big business is continuing to reap outsized profits.

A Wall Street Journal survey of 554 major corporations shows that earnings over the July-September period rose 21.2 percent above the level for the comparable quarter a year earlier.

Oil companies included in the Journal's survey averaged a 76.5 percent increase from a year earlier. Big gainers included Texaco, the nation's third-largest petroleum firm, up 211 percent;

(Continued on Page 3)

House, Senate Move To Broaden Fuel Aid

Both the House and Senate have voted to increase emergency funds to help lower-income households pay their heating bills this winter, and the Senate Human Resources Committee has approved a labor-supported bill that would make many more people eligible for assistance.

Congress has already completed action on a $250 million appropriation to continue an existing program of low-income fuel assistance. Thus, there is money in the pipeline while House-Senate conferees try to untangle additional funds that have been voted as amendments to two different appropriations bills.

The Senate amendment would make an additional $1.2 billion available and the House version would add $1.35 billion. The House also voted to require that general revenue funds used for the program be repaid from future windfall profits taxes on oil companies.

This winter's program, like the more limited assistance of previous years, would be largely limited to

(Continued on Page 8)

U.S. Job Needs Affirmed As Trade Policy Factor

The Administration will carry out its international trade commitments with a sensitivity to the nation's "need for jobs" and with a determination to preserve a strong and diversified economy, President Carter's special trade representative assured the AFL-CIO.

"Those who produce goods and those who work in related services must not be disadvantaged," Special Trade Representative Reubin Askew affirmed in a letter to AFL-CIO President George Meany.

In the talks that led to the recent National Accord with the Administration, the AFL-CIO stressed labor's concern at job losses and the decimation of entire industries through low-wage imports and unfair trade tactics.

The federation also urged on the Administration the importance of assuring that multilateral trade agreements negotiated by the United States and 22 trading partners result as promised in eliminating barriers that other nations have used to keep out U.S. goods.

Askew's letter to Meany spelled

(Continued on Page 3)



ART EXHIBITION TOUR is conducted for Joan Mondale, wife of the Vice President, at the headquarters of District 1199, health care division of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union. Accompanying her were Assistant Labor Sec. Ernest Green and Moe Foner, executive secretary of District 1199. Curator Abigail Gerdts, right, briefs the tour group on the exhibition, which is part of District 1199's Bread and Roses cultural enrichment program.

Arts Unions Get Federal Grant For New Job Training Program

New York—The cultural arm of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees has received a $646,660 Labor Dept. grant to develop an employment and training program for performing artists and craftsmen in the arts.

Joan Mondale, wife of the Vice President, announced the awarding of the grant to DPE's Labor Institute for Human Enrichment at a press conference in the scene shop of the Metropolitan Opera.

She said the program represents a major effort by unions, government and employers to address the continuing problem of joblessness and underemployment in the arts, entertainment and media industries.

"Our pride in the vitality and originality of our performing arts should be matched by care and attention to the situation of the artists and those who back them up behind the scene," Mondale said.

She noted that "these dedicated individuals are struggling to earn a livelihood in overcrowded fields where unemployment ranges from 15 to 40 percent," far above the current 5.8 percent level for all workers. Mondale serves as honorary chairperson of the Federal Council on the Arts & Humanities.

A cooperative employment and training program is particularly vital for those with careers in the arts and entertainment industries, Mondale stressed.

"Performers and behind-the-scenes people all have this in common: a lack of certainty about the next job and the need for constant study and training to keep their skills honed," she observed.

The immediate objectives of the program are to:

- Encourage the creation of new job opportunities in the private sector.
- Develop and promote training standards for five industry-related occupations.
- Establish career counseling systems based within performing arts unions.

Cooperating in the program are AFL-CIO affiliates representing performers, backstage and technical workers employed in the arts, entertainment and media.

Overseeing the program will be an advisory committee composed of representatives of Actors' Equity, the Musicians, Television & Radio Artists, Musical Artists, Theatrical Stage Employees and Screen Actors.

Joining Joan Mondale at the press conference were Ernest Green, assistant secretary of labor for employment and training, and Jack Golodner, executive director of the DPE and the institute.

Green observed that there is an ongoing partnership between the Labor Dept. and the performing arts, stressing that economically disadvantaged and unemployed artists must be given the same considerations as workers in other industries.

Golodner, speaking for Albert Shanker, president of the department and its institute, commented that the employment and training program serves as a tribute to the leadership of the performing arts unions in their continuing effort to improve the working conditions and professional standards of their members.

During her New York trip, Mondale also toured a union-sponsored art exhibition and sat in on lunch-time dramatic readings at St. Luke's Medical Center for hospital workers and patients.

The art show and dramatic readings are part of the Bread and Roses cultural arts project of District 1199, the health care division of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union.

Mondale pitched in by taping television announcements to promote a six-city tour of the arts exhibition.

Teachers Win Agreement in San Francisco

San Francisco teachers ratified a new two-year contract by a 3 to 1 margin, ending their six-week-old strike, but teachers in Cleveland walked picket lines and charged the school board with stalling tactics.

Under the San Francisco agreement, members of Local 61 of the Teachers were scheduled to receive a 7.5 percent pay raise on Nov. 1 and an 8 percent increase a year later. The city school board also agreed to guarantee re-employment for 715 of the 1,204 teachers who received layoff notics last spring.

Also, the pact provides that paraprofessionals—mostly teaching assistants—will receive a medical plan as well as prescription drugs and vision care, benefits that teachers previously had but the assistants had not.

The main issues in the Cleveland dispute center on wages, including the union's request for a cost-of-living increase.

Elsewhere, AFT strikes in Bethel Park, Pa., Jefferson Parish, La., and the Brooklyn N.Y., campus of Long Island University were settled. Still on strike, however, were units in Chartier-Houston, Pa., Daly City, California., Wilson, Ill., and Lake County, Ill.

Utility Slapped by Order To Reinstate Legislator

Albuquerque, N.M.—An arbitrator has directed the Public Service Co. of New Mexico to reinstate Ron Gentry to his job as a lineman.

Gentry, a shop steward for Local 611 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, was elected to the state legislature last year. But the utility firm refused his request for an unpaid leave of absence while the legislature was in session and then fired him for "unauthorized absence from work."

While denying leave to Gentry, a Democrat, the company granted leave to an employee not in the bargaining unit who had been elected to the legislature as a Republican.

Arbitrator A. Langley Coffey of Tulsa, Okla., said Gentry should be restored to his job with seniority and back pay excluding only the period the legislature was in session and less any interim earnings.

The company has not yet complied with the reinstatement award, and union attorneys are prepared to seek enforcement in court or contest any management attempt to avoid the decision.

Gentry has worked for the utility for nine years and the arbitrator said he found inescapable the belief that the discharge "was politically motivated."

Gentry told the company he wants to return to work, but he said he will request an unpaid leave of absence to participate in the 30-day session of the New Mexico legislature which starts Jan. 15, 1980.

Let's Stop the Oil Profits Grab

THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION decision to decontrol U.S. crude oil prices will cost American consumers $1.1 trillion more (that's $1,100,000,000,000) in fuel costs during the next ten years—an additional fuel bill of $5,000 for every man, woman and child in America. This will be the biggest consumer ripoff in U.S. history.

The House of Representatives approved a windfall profits tax which would recover $277 billion, about 25 percent of the oil industry windfall. This tax is our only opportunity to recapture part of Big Oil's bonanza and use it to develop alternative energy sources, improve mass transit facilities, and convert oil-fired utilities in order to cut U.S. oil imports in half by 1990. The tax would also be used to aid low-income victims of higher energy costs.

But the windfall profits tax didn't fare well in the Senate tax-writing committee. On five key votes the committee gave back to Big Oil more than $132 billion of the funds which would be raised in the House-passed bill. These include:

No Windfall Tax on Newly Discovered Oil	**$71.0 Billion**
No Windfall Tax on Hard-to-Reach Oil	**$27.0 Billion**
No Windfall Tax on First 1,000 Barrels of Daily Oil Production	**$16.2 Billion**
No Windfall Tax on Certain Alaskan Oil	**$ 5.9 Billion**
No Windfall Tax on Heavy Oil	**$12.3 Billion**

In the table below are votes of the committee members on four of the tax loopholes (the fifth was approved on a voice vote). Unfortunately some senators who usually support workers and consumers joined with anti-labor senators to give the $132 billion back to Big Oil.

These windfall profits are being amassed by the oil industry through excessive prices on gasoline and fuel oil and will remain in corporate coffers if the Senate committee's bill remains unchallenged. This gouging must be reversed on the Senate floor.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Soon all 100 senators will vote on the windfall profits tax. If you are fed up with higher energy prices, higher profits and bigger tax loopholes for Big Oil, write to your senators today. Don't take their vote for granted. Urge them to support a windfall tax bill as strong as the House-passed measure. Ask them to vote for amendments on the Senate floor which strengthen the windfall profits tax.

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

VOTES ON WINDFALL PROFIT TAX EXEMPTION

Key
R Right
W Wrong
A Absent

	Newly Discovered	Hard to Reach	First 1,000	Alaskan
Democrats:				
Russell B. Long, Chairman	W	W	W	W
Herman E. Talmadge	A	W	A	W
Abraham Ribicoff	W	A	R	W
Harry F. Byrd	W	W	A	W
Gaylord Nelson	R	R	R	A
Mike Gravel	W	A	W	W
Lloyd Bentsen	W	W	W	W
Spark Matsunaga	A	W	R	W
Daniel Moynihan	W	A	R	W
Max Baucus	W	W	W	W
David Boren	W	W	W	W
Bill Bradley	W	A	R	R
Republicans:				
Robert Dole	W	W	W	W
Bob Packwood	A	A	W	W
William V. Roth	W	W	W	A
John C. Danforth	W	W	R	W
John Chafee	W	W	R	W
H. John Heinz III	W	A	W	W
Malcolm Wallop	W	W	W	W
David Durenberger	W	W	W	W

AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation

BLS Survey:

Wage Gains at Par With '78 Increases

Major collective bargaining settlements in the first nine months of 1979 provided average first-year pay boosts of 7.5 percent, about the same as the 7.6 percent average provided by contracts concluded during all of 1978, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

On an over-term basis, workers covered by the agreements averaged 6.1 percent annually, compared to 6.4 percent a year over the life of contracts negotiated in 1978.

The increases cover units of 1,000 workers or more in the private nonfarm sector. The numbers do not reflect pay increases that will be provided by cost-of-living adjustments. Workers with COL coverage tend to receive smaller guaranteed increases than those without an escalator clause, pulling down the over-all average.

First-year wage increases in contracts with COL clauses negotiated in the first nine months of 1979 averaged 6.3 percent, compared to 9.1 percent under contracts without a COL provision, BLS reported.

When negotiated wage increases were averaged over the life of the contract, the annual rates this year were 4.6 percent for contracts with COL clauses and 8.1 percent for those without.

For the first nine months of the year, BLS said, 58 percent of workers were covered by contracts with COL provisions, compared with only 37 percent for all of 1978.

Where COL clauses triggered wage increases during the first nine months of the year, workers received an average gain of 5.8 percent, said BLS, noting that average recovery under the clauses amounted to 56 percent of the increase in the government's consumer price index.

The BLS data cover more than 2.6 million workers in 414 major bargaining units. About one-fifth of the workers were employed in the transportation industry and another one-fifth in the transportation equipment industry. The remainder were in the apparel, construction, electrical equipment, and food manufacturing industries. Contracts negotiated but not ratified by Sept. 30 were excluded from the data.

Other highlights of the report:

- Workers in the manufacturing sector won average increases of 7.2 percent in the first contract year and 5.7 percent annually over the life of the pacts. In non-manufacturing, the averages were higher —7.8 and 6.6 percent, respectively.
- In construction industry settlements, where COL escalator clauses are relatively uncommon, agreements without such clauses averaged 9 percent in the first year and 8.5 percent annually over the life of the contracts.
- The average duration of contracts negotiated during the first nine months of 1979 was 33.3 months, about the same as the 33.2 months when the same parties previously negotiated. In manufacturing, average duration was 34.1 months; in construction, 26.8 months, and in other industries, 35 months.

BLS also reported that total compensation—wages and fringe benefits combined—rose faster during this year's first nine months than in 1978. Agreements covering 5,000 or more workers negotiated in the first nine months of the year provided first-year boosts in wages and fringes of 9.1 percent, compared to 8.3 percent under 1978 settlements. Over-term wage and fringe benefit increases negotiated this year averaged 6.7 percent annually, up from 6.3 percent last year.

About 68 percent of workers in bargaining units of 5,000 or more that negotiated new contracts this year have COL protection, BLS observed.

Effective wage adjustments of the 8.2 million workers actually receiving pay increases under major pacts during the first three quarters of 1979 averaged 7.8 percent. When prorated over the 9.4 million workers actually covered by major pacts, the effective adjustment is reduced to 6.8 percent.

In the current quarter, 102 other major agreements covering some 320,000 workers will be on the table, including pacts in the apparel and retail food store industries. In addition, the fourth-quarter data will include 256 major agreements covering 1.1 million workers that expired during the third quarter but were not ratified in time for the BLS report.



STRETCHING FOR 12 BLOCKS along Park Ave., New York trade unionists set up what they called a "human billboard" to protest the corporate ties between J. P. Stevens & Co. and the Seaman's Bank. E. Virgil Conway, chairman of the bank, serves on the board of Stevens, which the Clothing & Textile Workers have tagged as the nation's No. 1 labor lawbreaker. ACTWU set up a similar informational picket line along Broadway in the downtown financial district.

3rd Quarter Profits Show Sharp Jump

(Continued from Page 1)

Amerada Hess, up 290 percent; Mobil, up 130 percent, and Gulf, up 97 percent.

Other industries fared even better on a percentage basis. Farm equipment manufacturers posted a 242 percent year-to-year gain. Nonferrous metal earnings increased 244 percent. Also scoring well were distillers, up 162 percent; pulp paper products firms, up 115 percent; railway equipment firms, up 46 percent, and grocery chains, up 37 percent.

The new round of profits topped the 19.6 percent rise in the second quarter of the year, but lagged behind the 37.2 percent year-to-year surge of the first quarter. The third-quarter figures generally surprised many analysts who thought the weakening economy would have had a dampening effect on earnings.

Not all industries benefited from the third-quarter earnings boom. Tire and rubber firms did poorly, posting a 54.9 percent decline over the period. Auto makers also faltered while steelmakers presented a mixed picture.

The vast majority of American industry, however, performed well above average where profits are concerned.

Heavy loan demand drove bank profits sharply higher over the quarter. Nonferrous metals concerns reported sharp gains in both third-quarter and nine-month earnings. Machine tool profits continued strong and are expected to remain so for at least several more quarters, the Journal reported.

Chemical firms also reported strong profits, and electrical equipment manufacturers mostly gained. Surging fuel costs and new competition stemming from deregulation and cut-rate fares sent quarterly earnings of most airlines tumbling, the Journal said.

Court Rejects Challenge To Cotton Dust Standard

(Continued from Page 1)

every cotton mill in the country" to assure compliance with provisions of the standard.

Assistant Labor Sec. Eula Bingham welcomed the ruling as a vindication of OSHA's "regulatory approach favoring engineering controls over personal protective equipment," such as air respirators and dust masks. She said the court also accepted the safety agency's argument on the economic and technological feasibility of the standard.

While totally rejecting industry claims that the standard is not feasible, the court also dismissed efforts by organized labor to have implementation of the standard stepped up and for OSHA to lower exposure limits further.

The standard provides for graduated exposure limits in various segments of the industry and gives employers up to four years to install necessary engineering controls. It sets a limit of 200 micrograms of cotton dust per cubic meter of air in yarn manufacturing, 750 micrograms in slashing and weaving, and 500 micrograms in cotton waste processing, warehousing and in cottonseed oil mills.

In challenging the standard as insufficient, the AFL-CIO, the Industrial Union Dept. and ACTWU sought stricter across-the-board exposure limits in the 100-microgram range. At the same time, labor intervened on behalf of the Labor Dept. in strongly supporting the technological and economic feasibility of engineering controls.

Until engineering controls are installed, the standard will allow employers to furnish workers with respirators to protect them from the higher levels of cotton dust.

However, if an employee cannot wear a respirator for medical reasons, the employer is required to transfer the worker to another job without a reduction in wages or benefits.

Writing for the appeals court panel, Judge David L. Bazelon rejected the industry's claim that OSHA exceeded its authority in promulgating the wage retention provision.

Noting that some workers are unable to wear respirators, the court said "these employees would be forced to suffer continuing exposure to impermissibly high dust levels or else risk disadvantageous transfers, or even risk losing their jobs."

"Congress made it clear that OSHA must protect every worker from the risks of material health impairment due to occupational exposure to hazardous materials," the court stressed. Joining Bazelon in the decision were Judges Spottswood Robinson III and Edward A. Tamm.

"Even if a few firms are forced to shut down," the court held, "the standard is not necessarily economically infeasible."

Within six months after the standard goes into effect, employers will be required to measure concentrations of cotton dust in work areas. Workers also must be given the opportunity for company-paid medical examinations within the first year and annually thereafter. Employers will also have to post warnings in areas of high dust levels.

"In view of the unanimous decision of the appeals court panel upholding the new standard," Stetin said, "we hope that the industry will not seek additional delays by appealing to the Supreme Court. It is time for industry to stop dragging its feet and accept its responsibility for providing a safe workplace for America's textile workers."

U.S. Job Needs Affirmed As Trade Policy Factor

(Continued from Page 1)

out "the Administration's commitments in areas of special concern to your members," and Meany has sent copies of the letter to all AFL-CIO affiliates.

The United States will "vigorously enforce" its rights to prevent dumping of foreign goods and to retaliate against other unfair trade tactics, Askew promised.

Also, he wrote, this country will insist that other nations carry out their part of the trade bargains and drop the "discriminatory and indefensible" non-tariff barriers that have been erected to keep U.S. goods from competing in their home markets.

The Administration reaffirmed commitments to various industry and union groups made during the drafting of legislation to implement "codes" of fair trade drawn up during the multilateral trade negotiations (MTN), which involved 23 nations.

"We are vigorously pursuing the understandings embodied in the textile and apparel white paper," Askew said.

He acknowledged the AFL-CIO's expressed concerns on a number of specific trade problems "which affect America's workers and the nation's industrial well-being" and he promised that the Administration will strive for an equitable resolution of these concerns.

He termed "full and open consultation" with labor as well as other segments of the national economy important in the shaping of trade policies.

Trade policy must include "swift and sufficient compensation to adjust or retrain or re-employ those Americans whose livelihoods are lost as a result of imports," Askew said.

And "it must assure that this nation remains a major, diversified industrial, maritime and agricultural economy," he stressed.

Airline Unions Reach Ozark, Hughes Pacts

Two AFL-CIO union groups with members employed by airlines reached agreement on new contracts with the carriers.

The Flight Attendants ratified a new three-year settlement with Ozark Air Lines, giving the union's 525 employees an estimated 38 percent wage increase over the life of the pact. AFA is affiliated with the Air Line Pilots.

The other pact, involving 2,200 ticket and reservation agents and office workers employed by Hughes Airwest, was approved overwhelmingly in a mail ballot, 1,630 to 90. The workers are represented by the Air Line Employees Association, also an ALPA division.

The Ozark contract, approved by a 319-16 vote, ended a strike that had shut down the airline since Sept. 14. Ozark serves 67 cities in 21 states, mostly in the Midwest.

The pact, which is fully retroactive to Aug. 1, 1978, improves the retirement program, sick leave and long-term disability provisions.

The settlement with Hughes Airwest was reached in Miami after intensive mediation with representatives of the National Mediation Board.

The three-year agreement, which is retroactive to Aug. 1, 1978, provides for a 33.2 percent wage increase over the life of the accord. The contract also completely revamps the union's pension plan and makes provision for the hiring of a certain number of part-time employees.

ALEA's members on Hughes Airwest include clerical and office workers, station agents, reservations clerks, and ticket and gate agents. The airline services 45 cities in 12 states in the West and Midwest, Mexico, and Canada.

Trade Policy

THE UNITED STATES will vigorously enforce U.S. laws and rights under the Multilateral Trade Negotiations Subsidy, Anti-dumping, and other codes that protect against unfair practices. We will be equally vigilant in ensuring that signatory foreign governments implement fully the codes on standards, government procurement and other practices. We will extend the benefits of the codes to the nations involved in strict accordance with U.S. law and in the spirit of full reciprocity, as agreed in the MTN. The elimination of discriminatory and indefensible non-tariff measures also remains a specific goal of U.S. trade policy.

The safeguards and unfair trade practice provisions of trade legislation will be administered in a manner fully consistent with the intent of the Congress. We will continue to have the flexibility to deal with threatened and impacted workers and industries.

U.S. trade policy, too, shall provide swift and sufficient compensation to adjust or retrain or re-employ those Americans whose livelihoods are lost as a result of imports.

WE UNDERSTAND there are a number of current issues which affect America's workers and the nation's industrial well-being to which you wish to give us prompt and thoughtful consideration. These include duty suspension legislation, the Generalized System of Preferences, the application of the government procurement codes to state and local entities, accelerated tariff reductions for the least developed countries, international dispute settlement mechanisms, trade-related tax issues, advance implementation of the aircraft code, and international fair labor standards. These concerns and others which arise will be dealt with in a fair and equitable manner.

U.S. domestic and foreign economic policies as they relate to trade and investment must recognize and adjust to a changing world in which some governments control and others directly influence basic decisions in their industries and manage the structure of their economies.

The increasing phenomenon whereby governments impose trade distorting production, employment or export targets on multinational corporations operating in their countries is but one example of the emerging types of measures that threaten the spirit of the MTN and the goals of the United States' trade policy.

We consider an important element in developing and carrying out U.S. trade and investment policies to be full and open consultation with representatives of American workers, as well as with U.S. industry, agriculture, and consumers. Our objective is to develop a relationship which can survive differences of opinion but will allow a candid exchange of views with all of these interests.

—From a letter from Reubin Askew, special U.S. trade representative, to AFL-CIO President George Meany on trade policy under the National Accord.

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Harvest Time



American Motors Takeover:

Capitalists, Socialists Team Up As Dollars Override Ideals

By Gus Tyler

THE FRENCH CAR MAKER, Renault, is about to take over American Motors. This is no sneak attack. American Motors is a consenting adult in this arrangement. Renault is supplying a fresh flow of capital for American Motors and the U.S. company is offering a market for the foreign car that will be made in Kenosha, Wis.

When the deal is done, Renault will hold 22.5 percent of the shares in the U.S. corporation—far more than enough to assert absolute control over the firm. By early next year, two top officers of Renault will be sitting on the board of American Motors. While these two will be a minority, they will have majority clout if they ever need it because of the dominant shares behind them.

At first glance, these arrangements seem to resemble any other corporate merger: the U.S. company needs money and the French company needs a market, so they join forces. In effect, American Motors can now be spelled Regie Nationales des Usines Renault, which is the full name of the French company.

What makes this merger significantly different, however, is the second word in that fancy French title, "Nationale." For Renault is no ordinary company: It is a "socialist" enterprise, the property of the French government. In effect, American Motors is now about to become the U.S. subsidiary of a socialized undertaking.

One wonders whether this happening could ever have happened if either party had any ideologic inhibitions.

Should not American Motors have rejected the offer in outrage against the thought of turning a capitalist enterprise over to a foreign government? "Our name is American Motors," they might have proclaimed. "We are proud of our name and all it stands for. It would be downright un-American for us to become part of a socialist plot."

And, should not the French have turned away in repulsion at the thought that a socialist enterprise was now about to make profit by exploiting workers through a capitalist corporation?

As it turned out, neither party suffered from any such spiritual scruples. Their eye was on the ball or, should we say, the buck.

Should this trend continue, we are likely to end up with a world economy that defies definition in terms of either capitalism or socialism. American Motors, for instance, will be a perfect example of a "mixed economy," whose proceeds flow into capitalist channels to investors in the United States and into socialist channels to the government of France.

In the American Motors-Renault case, the confusion is doubly confounded by the fact that the capital is coming from the "socialists" and the workers and consumers—the people—are being provided by the "capitalists."

Thus is it that while idealists debate their ideals, realists change the world by dollar-wise deals.

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Bargaining Focus Remains on Wages

In view of the increased rate of inflation that's projected for the years ahead, I expect wages to remain the focal point of our negotiations despite a lot of sociological malarkey about today's workers being less interested in money than in job satisfaction, shared responsibility, rotating work assignments and other esoteric benefits.

As one who's had plenty of grease under my fingernails, I say you can jazz up the work place all you want. You can paint it pretty colors, pipe in Muzak, rotate jobs, put in a suggestion box and share all the responsibility you want.

But, in the final analysis, the reason people work is to make money.

The overwhelming majority want to make as much money as they can. And that's true whether we're talking about fabricating airplane parts or collecting garbage.

—Machinists President William W. Winpisinger at the fall meeting of the Industrial Relations Research Association, Iowa City, Iowa, Oct. 24, 1979.

How to Buy:

Cold Remedies Cost Millions But Leave Consumers Sniffling

By Sidney Margolius

THE SEASON OF SNIFFLES is upon us again. Along with falling leaves and shorter days, the common cold—with its accompanying stuffy nose, sore throat, sneezes, coughs and headachy feeling—is a sure sign of winter's approach.

American consumers spend a whopping $552 million a year on over-the-counter remedies or prescription drugs aimed at relieving cold symptoms such as fever, stuffed-up heads and runny noses. None, medical researchers say, will keep you from catching cold or shorten the normal course of a cold, which usually spans two days to a week. In fact, the more expensive pills and formulas are no more effective at fighting cold bugs than the ancient folk remedies, such as raw onions, chicken soup or standing on one's head. This was the conclusion after a three-year study by the Food & Drug Administration, covering 35,000 "anti-cold" products.

Most cold bugs start their busy season around the opening of school in the fall, with no letup until mid-April. In between, they account for upwards of 70 million work days, according to the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases in Bethesda, Md.

Despite man's brilliant scientific achievements over the last century, no one has yet come up with the root cause or a cure for the common cold. Nor is there any sign of a breakthrough around the corner, according to Dr. Arnold S. Monto, professor of epidemiology at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health.

Whether massive doses of vitamin C can help prevent, or even shorten, colds is one of the most persistent of the many health controversies. Monto, who has been studying community health in the Michigan town of Tecumseh over the past 15 years, says he sees "no evidence that vitamin C works." While some studies show large doses may alleviate cold symptoms, Monto says the results are not consistent, indicating that any positive effects "must be marginal."

Chances are you won't be able to avoid catching cold by simply dressing warmly or staying out of drafts, either. Modern medicine has dispelled the popular myths that chilling or wet feet bring on colds, Monto says. What remains to be determined is whether overheating is a factor, and whether turning down the thermostat this winter may not only save you money on fuel bills but on cold remedies as well. Tecumseh community health researchers, who periodically check up on 10 percent of the town's 12,000 residents, will be asking volunteers at what temperature they keep their thermostats, in an effort to determine if there is a relationship between indoor temperature and the frequency of respiratory illness.

What seems to be an important factor is lack of humidity in the house, Monto says. Central heating dries the air, and this lack of moisture causes noses and throats to dry. Monto personally favors a home humidifier. He sets the thermostat at 63 degrees in his Michigan home and keeps a humidifier attached to the forced-air furnace. "I find that humidifying the air makes it possible to be comfortable at cooler temperatures," he says, although he doesn't claim scientific proof of this.

IF "A BAD CHILL" doesn't bring on a cold, as generations have assumed, then what does? Monto says it's no coincidence that the peak season for colds coincides with the opening of school each year. "Children are the culprits," he says. "They have more susceptibility to germs than adults and worse hygienic habits. They sneeze on each other, swap viruses and reintroduce them into the home."

The average child under four is likely to catch as many as eight colds a year. The peak age for cold infections has dropped from five to three as more young children attend nursery school, Monto has found. The average adult can expect to catch two colds during the year, but the frequency rate tends to rise between the ages of 20 and 29 when young parents are exposed to viruses brought home by their children. Mothers are more likely to get infected than fathers since they usually spend more time with the kids. Family cold infections fall off again as children grow up and leave the home.

Except in extreme cases of chronic bronchitis, smokers for the most part catch no more colds than non-smokers. Their symptoms tend to be more acute, however. Likewise, elderly people suffer more severe symptoms and have a higher mortality rate from serious respiratory ailments. For this reason, the elderly are advised to get flu shots.

For the average adult, Monto's best advice is: "Stay away from anyone who is sneezing, coughing or showing other obvious cold symptoms."

Once a cold is contracted, he says, the best treatment is still the old-fashioned "aspirin, fluids and bed rest." He also uses a decongestant for a stuffed-up nose.

Until a vaccine is developed that will fight all the known cold viruses, Sir William Osler's remedy will probably continue to be as popular as any. "Hang your hat on a bedpost," the Canadian physician prescribed. "Then get into bed and drink whiskey—until you see two hats."

Copyright 1979 by Sidney Margolius

In Wake of Profits Surge:

Stronger Federal Role Needed On Fuel Distribution, Prices

GASOLINE RATIONING and a national corporation to buy all imported oil for resale to U.S. distributors is the only way to assure that available supplies go where they are most needed at fair prices, AFL-CIO Associate Legislative Director Ray Denison declared.

"Short of a miracle oil strike tomorrow" that suddenly gives the U.S. control over all of the oil it needs, such a two-step program would effectively curb runaway energy costs and OPEC's "economic blackmail," Denison asserted. He said the nation is now trying to deal with the energy crisis from a position of weakness, not knowing what oil "really costs and what the distribution problems really are."

Questioned by reporters on the network radio interview Labor News Conference, Denison said that "unless there is a strong program to bring the cost of oil under control, the oil industry should be nationalized," which would fix costs and profits and set a guaranteed return on investments.

Denison expressed regret at the reluctance of Congress to pass a windfall profits tax on the oil companies, stressing that the Senate Finance Committee has further weakened the modest bill passed earlier by the House. Noting the recently announced oil company profits and the Treasury Dept.'s estimate that more than $1 trillion will be transferred to the oil industry from American consumers over the next decade, he declared, "it's unbelievable that profits of this magnitude—in addition to their normal profits—should be allowed to go relatively unscathed and untaxed."

The hope now is that the windfall tax measure will be tightened in Senate floor action and the eventual Senate-House conference, in light of growing public pressure as the magnitude of these profits is realized, Denison said.

"It's just unconscionable that these billions and billions of dollars will be allowed to flow" to the oil companies at a time when they are disclosing huge profits "that are embarrassing even to them," he declared.

Reporters questioning Denison were Frank Swoboda of the Washington Post and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The weekly interview is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and is aired on the Mutual radio network.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

"OVER-REGULATION is making everything you want or need more expensive. Hiking the cost of health care . . . adding almost $700 to the cost of a new car . . . add(ing) thousands of dollars to the cost of a home. In short, you're being eaten out of house and home by federal regulations . . . costing . . . as much as $130 billion a year or $2,000 per family."—From a National Cotton Council advertisement.

Is government regulation, as the National Cotton Council insists, costing the American people "as much as $130 billion a year?" Or, in reality, is government regulation actually saving the American people as much or even more ?

The latter is the case, according to the Corporate Accountability Research Group in a report titled "Business war on the law: an analysis of the benefits of federal health/safety enforcement."

The basic tenet of the report is that the anti-regulation attitude of business, an attitude being promoted to the American people through vehicles such as the National Cotton Council ad, is designed simply to protect and advance corporate interests. While professing concern over how regulations affect the cost of health care or the family car, say the authors, the real concern is over how regulation affects profits.

The study examines five federal regulatory agencies. Using a variety of sources, ranging from the conservative American Enter prise Institute "think tank" to data provided by the agencies themselves, the study compares estimated costs of regulation to estimate benefits that result from those regulations.

The agencies are the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA); the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA); the Food & Drug Administration (FDA); and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

When benefits are weighed against costs, the report finds, the American people have come out way ahead and will be doing even better as the years pass. In 1978, the study found, the regulations of these five agencies saved the American people $35 billion. By 1980, say the authors, the savings will be $80 billion. Over the long run, they say, there is a "potential annual benefit of over $200 billion."

THE STUDY SHOWED how savings more than outweighed regulation-inspired costs in four of the five agencies. Given the National Cotton Council's concern over the economic impact of regulations on the population as a whole, it might be worthwhile to examine what the study found to be the result of regulations on the textile industry.

Three years ago OSHA announced it had developed a final new standard for worker exposure to disease-causing cotton dust, a regulation that would eliminate a minimum of 23,490 cases of brown lung disease—byssinosis. The cost to business of implementing the regulation, according to a Dept. of Labor analysis, would be $7,540 to $8,658 per case.

The same analysis estimated that since the average expense per case of brown lung disability was about $100,000, the regulation would save the economy about $7.5 billion in such outlays, or about $751 million per year. That's a saving of more than $500 million over the cost of implementing the regulations.

The new regulation isn't in effect, however, because it has been challenged by the industry as too costly to adopt.

That example can be repeated in every agency. Barely a week before the report was issued, in fact, a New Jersey state economic policy group reported that a 10-year effort to curb industrial air pollution was yielding a benefit of 2,000 lives annually. While the cost of the program to business is $85 million to $100 million a year, the amount of savings just in terms of wages lost by premature deaths is at least $116 million a year—and possibly more, according to the New Jersey Economic Policy Council.

Regulation to protect the health and safety of the American people has its costs, without question. But it also has its benefits . . . not simply in dollars, but in health and lives.



CREATION of a national corporation to buy all imported oil for resale to U.S. distributors would assure that supplies go where they are most needed at fair prices, declared Ray Denison, center, associate legislative director of the AFL-CIO. He was questioned on Labor News Conference by Frank Swoboda, left, of the Washington Post and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News.

House Rollcalls on Fuel Price Control

Both of these key House votes came on amendments to a Dept. of Energy bill and dealt with price controls. The AFL-CIO supported the amendment by Rep. Toby Moffett (D-Conn.), which sought to halt the decontrol of oil produced in the United States. The AFL-CIO opposed an amendment by Rep. James A. Courter (R-N.J.) to end retail price ceilings on gasoline and end the government's authority to allocate supplies during shortages. The House defeated both amendments.

Column I *shows the 257-135 rejection of the Moffett amendment. Right votes (R) for the amendment were cast by 128 Democrats and 7 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) were 120 Democrats and 137 Republicans.*

Column II *is the 225-189 vote on Oct. 24 against final adoption of the Courter amendment. Right votes against it were cast by 202 Democrats and 23 Republicans. Voting wrong were 61 Democrats and 128 Republicans.*

Numerals show House districts; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; A—absent and not paired.

	I	II
ALABAMA		
1. Edwards (R)	W	W
2. Dickinson (R)	W	W
3. Nichols (D)	R	R
4. Bevill (D)	A	R
5. Flippo (D)	W	R
6. Buchanan (R)	W	W
7. Shelby (D)	W	W
ALASKA		
AL Young (R)	W	W
ARIZONA		
1. Rhodes (R)	W	W
2. Udall (D)	W	R
3. Stump (D)	W	W
4. Rudd (R)	W	W
ARKANSAS		
1. Alexander (D)	W	W
2. Bethune (R)	W	W
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	W	W
4. Anthony (D)	W	R
CALIFORNIA		
1. Johnson (D)	W	W
2. Clausen (R)	W	W
3. Matsui (D)	R	R
4. Fazio (D)	W	R
5. Burton, John L. (D)	R	R
6. Burton, Philip (D)	R	R
7. Miller (D)	R	R
8. Dellums (D)	R	R
9. Stark (D)	R	R
10. Edwards (D)	R	R
11. Royer (R)	W	W
12. McCloskey (R)	W	W
13. Mineta (D)	W	W
14. Shumway (R)	W	W
15. Coelho (D)	W	R
16. Panetta (D)	W	R
17. Pashayan (R)	W	W
18. Thomas (R)	W	W
19. Lagomarsino (R)	W	W
20. Goldwater (R)	W	W
21. Corman (D)	R	R
22. Moorhead (R)	W	W
23. Beilenson (D)	W	R
24. Waxman (D)	R	R
25. Roybal (D)	R	R
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W
27. Dornan (R)	W	W
28. Dixon (D)	R	R
29. Hawkins (D)	R	R
30. Danielson (D)	W	R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D)	A	R
32. Anderson (D)	A	W
33. Grisham (R)	W	W
34. Lungren (R)	W	W
35. Floyd (D)	W	R
36. Brown (D)	W	R
37. Lewis (R)	W	W
38. Patterson (D)	W	R
39. Dannemeyer (R)	W	W
40. Badham (R)	A	W
41. Wilson, Bob (R)	W	A
42. Van Deerlin (D)	A	R
43. Burgener (R)	W	W
COLORADO		
1. Schroeder (D)	W	W
2. Wirth (D)	W	W
3. Kogovsek (D)	R	R
4. Johnson (R)	W	W
5. Kramer (R)	W	W
CONNECTICUT		
1. Cotter (D)	R	R
2. Dodd (D)	R	R
3. Giaimo (D)	W	R
4. McKinney (R)	W	W
5. Ratchford (D)	R	R
6. Moffett (D)	R	R
DELAWARE		
AL Evans (R)	W	W
FLORIDA		
1. Hutto (D)	W	R
2. Fuqua (D)	W	R
3. Bennett (D)	W	R
4. Chappell (D)	W	W
5. Kelly (R)	W	W
6. Young (R)	W	W
7. Gibbons (D)	W	W
8. Ireland (D)	W	W
9. Nelson (D)	W	W
10. Bafalis (R)	W	W
11. Mica (D)	W	R
12. Stack (D)	R	R
13. Lehman (D)	W	W
14. Pepper (D)	W	R
15. Fascell (D)	A	R
GEORGIA		
1. Ginn (D)	W	R
2. Mathis (D)	A	R
3. Brinkley (D)	W	W
4. Levitas (D)	W	R
5. Fowler (D)	W	R
6. Gingrich (R)	W	W
7. McDonald (D)	W	W
8. Evans (D)	W	R
9. Jenkins (D)	W	R
10. Barnard (D)	W	W
HAWAII		
1. Heftel (D)	W	R
2. Akaka	W	R
IDAHO		
1. Symms (R)	W	W
2. Hansen (R)	W	W
ILLINOIS		
1. Stewart (D)	R	R
2. Murphy (D)	R	R
3. Russo (D)	R	R
4. Derwinski (R)	W	W
5. Fary (D)	R	R
6. Hyde (R)	W	W
7. Collins (D)	A	R
8. Rostenkowski (D)	W	R
9. Yates (D)	R	R
10. Vacancy		
11. Annunzio (D)	R	R
12. Crane, Philip (R)	A	W
13. McClory (R)	W	W
14. Erlenborn (R)	W	W
15. Corcoran (R)	W	A
16. Anderson (R)	A	A
17. O'Brien (R)	W	W
18. Michel (R)	PW	W
19. Railsback (R)	W	W
20. Findley (R)	W	W
21. Madigan (R)	W	W
22. Crane, Dan (R)	W	W
23. Price (D)	R	R
24. Simon (D)	R	R
INDIANA		
1. Benjamin (D)	R	R
2. Fithian (D)	R	R
3. Brademas (D)	R	R
4. Quayle (R)	A	W
5. Hillis (R)	W	W
6. Evans (D)	R	R
7. Myers (R)	W	W
8. Deckard (R)	W	W
9. Hamilton (D)	W	W
10. Sharp (D)	W	R
11. Jacobs (D)	W	W
IOWA		
1. Leach (R)	W	W
2. Tauke (R)	A	W
3. Grassley (R)	W	W
4. Smith (D)	W	W
5. Harkin (D)	W	W
6. Bedell (D)	W	W
KANSAS		
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W
2. Jeffries (R)	W	W
3. Winn (R)	A	A
4. Glickman (D)	W	R
5. Whittaker (R)	W	W
KENTUCKY		
1. Hubbard (D)	W	R
2. Natcher (D)	W	R
3. Mazzoli (D)	W	R
4. Snyder (R)	W	R
5. Carter (R)	R	R
6. Hopkins (R)	A	R
7. Perkins (D)	R	R
LOUISIANA		
1. Livingston (R)	W	W
2. Boggs (D)	PW	A
3. Treen (R)	W	A
4. Leach (D)	PW	A
5. Huckaby (D)	W	W
6. Moore (R)	W	W
7. Breaux (D)	W	W
8. Long (D)	W	W
MAINE		
1. Emery (R)	W	W
2. Snowe (R)	W	R
MARYLAND		
1. Bauman (R)	W	W
2. Long (D)	W	W
3. Mikulski (D)	R	R
4. Holt (R)	W	W
5. Spellman (D)	R	R
6. Byron (D)	W	W
7. Mitchell (D)	R	R
8. Barnes (D)	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS		
1. Conte (R)	R	R
2. Boland (D)	R	R
3. Early (D)	R	R
4. Drinan (D)	R	R
5. Shannon (D)	R	R
6. Mavroules (D)	R	R
7. Markey (D)	R	R
8. O'Neill (D)	Speaker	
9. Moakley (D)	R	R
10. Heckler (R)	R	R
11. Donnelly (D)	R	R
12. Studds (D)	R	R
MICHIGAN		
1. Conyers (D)	R	R
2. Pursell (R)	W	R
3. Wolpe (D)	R	R
4. Stockman (R)	W	A
5. Sawyer (R)	W	W
6. Carr (D)	W	R
7. Kildee (D)	R	R
8. Traxler (D)	R	R
9. Vander Jagt (R)	W	W
10. Albosta (D)	R	R
11. Davis (R)	W	R
12. Bonior (D)	PR	R
13. Diggs (D)	R	A
14. Nedzi (D)	W	R
15. Ford (D)	R	R
16. Dingell (D)	W	R
17. Broadhead (D)	R	R
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R
19. Broomfield (R)	W	W
MINNESOTA		
1. Erdahl (R)	W	W
2. Hagedorn (R)	W	W
3. Frenzel (R)	W	A
4. Vento (D)	R	R
5. Sabo (D)	R	R
6. Nolan (D)	PR	R
7. Stangeland (R)	W	W
8. Oberstar (D)	R	R
MISSISSIPPI		
1. Whitten (D)	W	R
2. Bowen (D)	W	W
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W
4. Hinson (R)	W	W
5. Lott (R)	W	W
MISSOURI		
1. Clay (D)	R	R
2. Young (D)	R	R
3. Gephardt (D)	W	R
4. Skelton (D)	W	R
5. Bolling (D)	A	R
6. Coleman (R)	W	W
7. Taylor (R)	W	W
8. Ichord (D)	W	W
9. Volkmer (D)	W	R
10. Burlison (D)	W	R
MONTANA		
1. Williams (D)	W	R
2. Marlenee (R)	W	R
NEBRASKA		
1. Bereuter (R)	W	W
2. Cavanaugh (D)	R	R
3. Smith (R)	W	W
NEVADA		
AL Santini (D)	W	W
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
1. D'Amours (D)	R	R
2. Cleveland (R)	W	W
NEW JERSEY		
1. Florio (D)	R	R
2. Hughes (D)	R	R
3. Howard (D)	R	R
4. Thompson (D)	PR	R
5. Fenwick (R)	W	W
6. Forsythe (R)	W	W
7. Maguire (D)	R	R
8. Roe (D)	A	R
9. Hollenbeck (R)	R	R
10. Rodino (D)	R	R
11. Minish (D)	R	A
12. Rinaldo (R)	R	R
13. Courter (R)	W	W
14. Guarini (D)	R	R
15. Patten (D)	R	R
NEW MEXICO		
1. Lujan (R)	W	W
2. Runnels (D)	W	W
NEW YORK		
1. Carney (R)	W	W
2. Downey (D)	R	R
3. Ambro (D)	R	R
4. Lent (R)	W	W
5. Wydler (R)	W	W
6. Wolff (D)	R	R
7. Addabbo (D)	R	R
8. Rosenthal (D)	A	R
9. Ferraro (D)	R	R
10. Biaggi (D)	R	R
11. Scheuer (D)	R	A
12. Chisholm (D)	R	R
13. Solarz (D)	R	R
14. Richmond (D)	R	R
15. Zeferetti (D)	A	R
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R
17. Murphy (D)	W	R
18. Green (R)	W	W
19. Rangel (D)	A	R
20. Weiss (D)	R	R
21. Garcia (D)	R	R
22. Bingham (D)	R	R
23. Peyser (D)	R	R
24. Ottinger (D)	R	R
25. Fish (R)	W	W
26. Gilman (R)	PR	R
27. McHugh (D)	R	A
28. Stratton (D)	W	W
29. Solomon (R)	W	R
30. McEwen (R)	W	W
31. Michell (R)	W	R
32. Hanley (D)	R	R
33. Lee (R)	W	W
34. Horton (R)	W	W
35. Conable (R)	W	W
36. LaFalce (D)	R	R
37. Nowak (D)	R	R
38. Kemp (R)	A	W
39. Lundine (D)	W	R
NORTH CAROLINA		
1. Jones (D)	A	R
2. Fountain (D)	W	R
3. Whitley (D)	W	R
4. Andrews (D)	W	A
5. Neal (D)	W	R
6. Preyer (D)	W	R
7. Rose (D)	W	R
8. Hefner (D)	W	A
9. Martin (R)	A	W
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W
11. Gudger (D)	W	R
NORTH DAKOTA		
AL Andrews (R)	W	W
OHIO		
1. Gradison (R)	W	W
2. Luken (D)	R	R
3. Hall (D)	R	R
4. Guyer (R)	A	W
5. Latta (R)	W	W
6. Harsha (R)	R	R
7. Brown (R)	W	W
8. Kindness (R)	W	W
9. Ashley (D)	W	R
10. Miller (R)	W	W
11. Stanton (R)	W	W
12. Devine (R)	W	W
13. Pease (D)	R	R
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R
15. Wylie (R)	W	W
16. Regula (R)	W	W
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W
18. Applegate (D)	R	R
19. Williams (R)	W	R
20. Oakar (D)	R	R
21. Stokes (D)	R	R
22. Vanik (D)	R	R
23. Mottl (D)	R	R
OKLAHOMA		
1. Jones (D)	W	W
2. Synar (D)	W	W
3. Watkins (D)	W	W
4. Steed (D)	W	W
5. Edwards (R)	W	W
6. English (D)	W	W
OREGON		
1. AuCoin (D)	W	W
2. Ullman (D)	A	R
3. Duncan (D)	W	W
4. Weaver (D)	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA		
1. Myers (D)	R	R
2. Gray (D)	R	R
3. Lederer (D)	R	R
4. Dougherty (R)	W	R
5. Schulze (R)	W	W
6. Yatron (D)	R	R
7. Edgar (D)	W	R
8. Kostmayer (D)	R	R
9. Shuster (R)	PW	W
10. McDade (R)	A	R
11. Flood (D)	A	A
12. Murtha (D)	W	R
13. Coughlin (R)	W	R
14. Moorhead (D)	A	R
15. Ritter (R)	W	W
16. Walker (R)	W	W
17. Ertel (D)	W	R
18. Walgren (D)	R	R
19. Goodling (R)	W	R
20. Gaydos (D)	R	R
21. Bailey (D)	R	R
22. Murphy (D)	R	R
23. Clinger (R)	W	W
24. Marks (R)	W	R
25. Atkinson (D)	R	W
RHODE ISLAND		
1. St Germain (D)	R	R
2. Beard (D)	PR	R
SOUTH CAROLINA		
1. Davis (D)	W	W
2. Spence (R)	W	W
3. Derrick (D)	W	R
4. Campbell (R)	W	W
5. Holland (D)	A	W
6. Jenrette (D)	W	R
SOUTH DAKOTA		
1. Daschle (D)	R	R
2. Abdnor (R)	W	W
TENNESSEE		
1. Quillen (R)	W	W
2. Duncan (R)	W	R
3. Bouquard (D)	W	R
4. Gore (D)	R	R
5. Boner (D)	R	R
6. Beard (R)	W	R
7. Jones (D)	W	R
8. Ford (D)	A	R
TEXAS		
1. Hall (D)	W	R
2. Wilson (D)	W	W
3. Collins (R)	W	W
4. Roberts (D)	A	W
5. Mattox (D)	W	W
6. Gramm (D)	W	W
7. Archer (R)	W	W
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	R
9. Brooks (D)	W	W
10. Pickle (D)	W	W
11. Leath (D)	W	W
12. Wright (D)	W	R
13. Hightower (D)	W	W
14. Wyatt (D)	W	W
15. de la Garza (D)	W	A
16. White (D)	W	W
17. Stenholm (D)	W	W
18. Leland (D)	R	R
19. Hance (D)	W	W
20. Gonzalez (D)	R	R
21. Loeffler (R)	W	W
22. Paul (R)	W	W
23. Kazen (D)	W	W
24. Frost (D)	PW	W
UTAH		
1. McKay (D)	W	W
2. Marriott (R)	A	W
VERMONT		
AL Jeffords (R)	R	W
VIRGINIA		
1. Trible (R)	W	W
2. Whitehurst (R)	W	A
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W
4. Daniel, Robert (R)	W	W
5. Daniel, Dan (D)	W	W
6. Butler (R)	W	W
7. Robinson (R)	W	W
8. Harris (D)	R	R
9. Wampler (R)	W	W
10. Fisher (D)	W	R
WASHINGTON		
1. Pritchard (R)	W	W
2. Swift (D)	R	R
3. Bonker (D)	R	A
4. McCormack (D)	W	R
5. Foley (D)	W	R
6. Dicks (D)	R	R
7. Lowry (D)	R	W
WEST VIRGINIA		
1. Mollohan (D)	R	R
2. Staggers (D)	R	R
3. Slack (D)	W	R
4. Rahall (D)	R	R
WISCONSIN		
1. Aspin (D)	W	W
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R
3. Baldus (D)	R	R
4. Zablocki (D)	W	R
5. Reuss (D)	R	R
6. Petri (R)	W	W
7. Obey (D)	R	R
8. Roth (R)	W	W
9. Sensenbrenner (R)	W	W
WYOMING		
AL Cheney (R	W	W

Mills Forced to Close:

Woodworkers Assail Export of Raw Logs

St. Paul, Minn.—The Woodworkers 31st convention reaffirmed the union's opposition to the export of raw logs—currently running at nearly 20 percent of the western timber harvest—and called for elimination of tax benefits enjoyed by log exporters through the Domestic International Sales Corporation (DISC).

The 340 delegates also demanded an end to the practice of "third party substitution," a loophole in the law prohibiting the export of federal timber through which independent contractors buy government timber and sell it to the exporters.

Unrestrained log exports have resulted in a wave of mill closures particularly in the western states. Nearly 4,000 IWA jobs were lost in 1979 alone, and the delegates heard story after story of dislocated families and decimated communities. They committed themselves and their 120,000 fellow members to work for legislation minimizing the impact of mill closures through public intervention if necessary. And they demanded that any social costs resulting from closure be shared by employers rather than being borne entirely by taxpayers.

The convention also approved the establishment of a "Political Education in Action" committee, which President Keith Johnson said "might be the most important step we take as we approach the 1980s."

Other important issues dealt with included a further commitment to the IWA's southern cooperative organizing program which was initiated in 1977, the establishment of a mutual assistance plan to hasten financial assistance to the IWA members forced to strike, adoption of a comprehensive energy policy, renewed support for a national health care plan and a call for federal standards on workers' compensation.

President Howard Samuel of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. scored the movement for a so-called union free environment. "Look through history and around the world," he said, "and you'll find a lot of countries with union free environments—places like the Central African Empire, the Soviet Union and Hitler's Germany. Strangely enough, those same places are also free of 'free enterprise.' "

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, took on the rapidly growing number of anti-union "consultants" or "the controllers" as he called them.

He recounted advice given by one such consultant to a group of employers to avoid hiring blacks "because they are more likely to be pro-union." "These consultants," Kistler said, "mock the principles which we in labor hold dear; they openly preach racism."

Other speakers included Donald Montgomery, secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Labor Congress; David Roe, president of the Minnesota AFL-CIO; Irv Anderson, IWA member and former speaker and current DFL member of the Minnesota House of Representatives; Leon Shull, executive director of Americans for Democratic Action, and William King, who was British Columbia minister of labor in the former New Democratic Party government.

Indian Labor Leader Maniben Kara Dies

Maniben Kara, president of the All India Trade Union Congress in the 1930s, died on Oct. 28. She was instrumental in broadening women's participation in the Indian labor movement.

During the 1940s, she was president of the Indian Federation of Labor and served also as president of the Western Railway Employees Union, one of the country's most important unions. For a time, she also was president of the socialist-oriented Hind Mazdoor Sahba, one of India's major trade union federations.

In wires to the Indian labor organizations, AFL-CIO President George Meany expressed the federation's sympathies over the passing of "our esteemed friend and colleague."

South Carolina Labor Seeks State Wage Floor

Columbia, S.C.—The South Carolina AFL-CIO made passage of a state minimum wage law its No. 1 legislative objective in the next session of the general assembly.

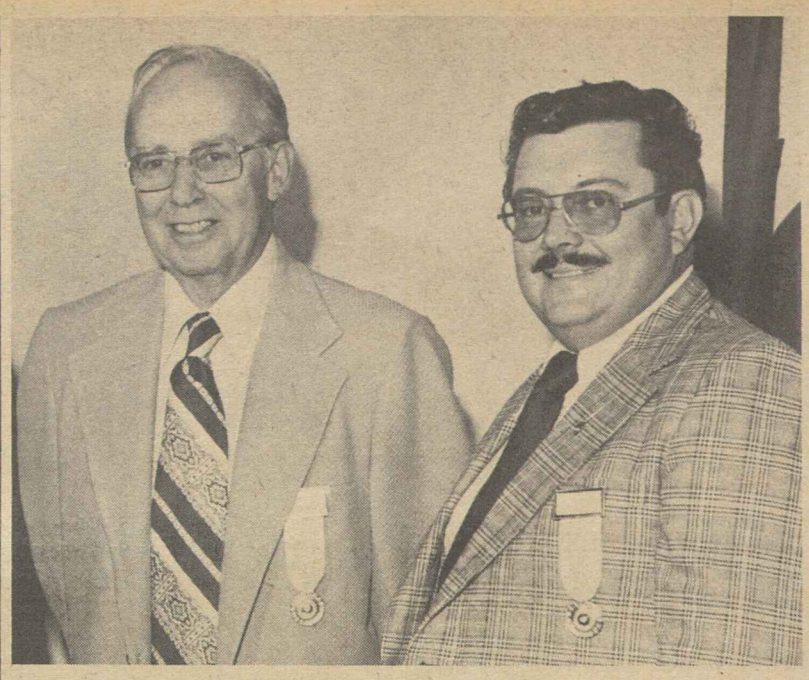
Delegates to the state federation convention cited a vital need to establish a pay floor for workers now excluded from federal coverage, including migrant farm workers, domestics and employees of small retail and service businesses. Also high on the legislative agenda is a measure to provide a 30-minute duty-free lunch break for all school teachers.

The legislative campaign is keyed to a stepped-up political action effort. Delegates unanimously adopted a COPE funding resolution nalling on unions to negotiate voluntary payroll checkoff of contributions.

The 300 convention delegates elected President James A. Johnson to his first full two-year term and Harold Reynolds of the Communications Workers as secretary-treasurer to succeed Melvin Burris, who did not seek re-election after holding the post for the past six years. Elected vice presidents as the two top vote-getters were Harry Wilson, president of the South Carolina Federation of Teachers, and Joe Ferguson, state director of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

In key resolutions adopted at the three-day convention, delegates called for cooperation in a public relations and media campaign to expose the adverse economic impact of state "right-to-work" laws, expanded union organizing efforts, renewed support for the J. P. Stevens boycott, full congressional representation for the District of Columbia, and full wage comparability for federal workers.

Principal convention speakers included COPE Director Al Barkan; Sol Stetin, senior executive vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers; Norman Hill, executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, AFL-CIO Regional Director James Sala, and Industrial Union Dept. Organizing Director Harold McIver.



NEW PRESIDENT of the United Telegraph Workers, Richard C. Brockert, right, is shown with UTW Sec.-Treas. Jerry Grim, who was re-elected to another term. Brockert succeeds Dan J. Beckstead, who had held the position since 1971.

New Jump in Prices Cuts into Real Wages

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sale food prices during the month.

Producer prices for energy rose 4.7 percent in October, and were up 60.5 percent over the past 12 months. Although the energy increase was substantial, it still represented an improvement over September's 6.8 percent rise.

Over the past year, BLS said, wholesale prices have risen 12.1 percent. Food costs rose 6.9 percent during the 12-month period, consumer goods other than food and energy 9.2 percent, and capital equipment prices 8.9 percent.

The 1.1 percent surge in consumer prices in September marked the ninth month in a row that retail prices had risen by 1 percent or more. Consumer prices in September were 12.4 percent higher than a year earlier.

The September CPI rise, which translates to an annual inflation rate of 13.2 percent even without compounding, was due primarily to higher prices for energy and housing, the principal culprits in the price spiral all year.

What was new, however, was a sharp jump in food prices, which went up nine-tenths of 1 percent after relatively little change in the three previous months. That was the largest monthly jump since April. Fruit and vegetable prices rose most sharply, 2.1 percent, while prices for non-alcoholic beverages also shot up rapidly. In addition, meat prices turned upward after two months of substantial declines.

Housing costs in September were up 1.2 percent for the month and 13.3 percent for the year. Besides home heating oil prices, which rose 5.7 percent, home financing costs were the major factor, rising 2.5 percent. This reflected increases in both mortgage interest rates, house prices, and substantial rises in gas and electricity costs.

Transportation costs also jumped 1.2 percent over the month, and were 17.5 percent higher than a year earlier. Most of the increase was due to higher gasoline prices, which rose 3.5 percent in September to an average 99.8 cents per gallon. Gasoline prices now have climbed 31.3 cents a gallon in 1979, BLS said.

New car prices rose five-tenths of 1 percent in September while used car prices declined for the seventh straight month. Public transportation costs were up 1.1 percent, following increases of 1.2 percent in July and 1.6 percent in August as airline, bus and taxi fares all showed large increases.

Prices for apparel and upkeep climbed 1 percent, compared with a rise of five-tenths of 1 percent in August and a decline of one-tenth of 1 percent in the three-month period ended in July. The higher prices reflected the continued introduction of fall and winter lines of clothing.

Medical care costs increased a full percentage point, after rising eight-tenths of 1 percent in August. Entertainment costs posted a seven-tenths of 1 percent increase over the month. Most other items sampled by BLS rose less rapidly, except for tuition and other educational expenses, which increased sharply.

In other economic developments:

- New York's Citibank, the nation's second largest bank, boosted its prime lending rate from 14.5 t 15.25 percent, leapfrogging other major banks that only a few days earlier had raised their prime rates to 15 percent. Several other big lenders also went to 15.25 percent. The prime rate is the interest that commercial banks charge their best corporate borrowers. Short-term interest rates have been soaring since Oct. 6, when the Federal Reserve Board announced a further tightening of the money supply.

- The total value of new construction contracts fell 6 percent in September from the year-earlier level, the F. W. Dodge Division of McGraw-Hill Information Systems Co. reported. All three broad classifications—nonresidential building, housing, and nonbuilding construction—posted declines.

- The country's trading deficit with the rest of the world jumped by $2.83 billion in September, the highest monthly deficit since January. The increase was caused largely by a surge in both the volume and price of imported oil, the Commerce Dept. said.

George Woodcock Dies, Led British TUC in '60s

Epsom, England—George Woodcock, who served as general secretary of the British Trades Union Congress from 1960 to 1969, died here at the age of 75.

Woodcock left school at the age of 12 to become a cotton weaver, but 11 years later won a scholarship to Oxford University where he earned a degree in philosophy and political economy. He was a civil servant before joining the TUC staff in 1936 as head of the research department. He became assistant general secretary of the TUC in 1947.

AFL-CIO President George Meany sent word to Lionel Murray, who now heads the TUC, expressing sadness at Woodcock's passing.

Telegraphers Elect Brockert New President

Vancouver, B.C.—Richard C. Brockert was chosen to succeed Dan J. Beckstead as president of the United Telegraph Workers at the union's biennial convention here.

Brockert, 42, has been the union's international vice president for the United States since 1975 and vice president of UTW's former Western Union division from 1972 to 1975.

The 150 delegates re-elected Jerry Grim as secretary-treasurer. Suceeding Brockert in the vice president's post was Mrs. Reva Kociolek of Detroit, who has been regional president of UTW's Midwest region.

In other action, the delegates turned down a proposed constitutional amendment to increase per capita payments and adopted a deficit budget for the next two years that reflects rising operating costs.

The delegates also approved a resolution supporting the payment of double-time rates for all overtime work.

Proposals for the union's 1982 contract bargaining with the Western Union Corp. were a central topic of the five-day meeting. Most of the Rockville, Md.-based union's members are employed by Western Union in job classifications ranging from messengers through computer and satellite technicians.

Teachers Ask Higher Grants For Students

Higher federal grants are needed to enable students from low-income and moderate-income families to attend college, the American Federation of Teachers testified at Senate hearings.

AFT Vice President Irwin Polishook urged full funding by Congress of all federal grant and loan programs under the Higher Education Act, along with improvement in the student assistance program.

Students who need financial help can now obtain grants to cover 50 percent of college education costs up to a ceiling of $1,800 a year.

The AFT official urged that this be raised to 75 percent of costs with a $2,700 ceiling. Under present law, he said, students attending relatively low-cost public institutions often receive less than the ceiling amount, while those in more expensive schools get a bigger subsidy. The AFT proposal, he said, would be a step toward equalization.

He also spoke out against an Administration effort to raise interest rates on student loans from 3 percent to 7 percent.

Polishook termed higher education "an investment in the future of our country that benefits society at least as much as it benefits the individual."

IAM Official Named To Metric Board Post

Andrew Kenopensky, national automotive coordinator for the Machinists, has been named vice chairman for labor of the U.S. Metric Board.

The 17-member panel was established by Congress as an independent federal agency to plan and coordinate the increasing use of the metric system of measurements in the United States.

Speakers Scheduled:

Carter, Hill Leaders Top Convention List

President Carter heads the list of speakers scheduled to address the AFL-CIO's 13th biennial convention which opens Nov. 15 at the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Federation President George Meany announced that other prominent speakers will include the Secretaries of State, Labor and Health & Human Services, as well as the top congressional leaders of both political parties.

In a special ceremony, the federation's Murray-Green Award will be presented posthumously to Marvella Bayh, wife of Indiana Sen. Birch Bayh, and to Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, a pioneer in the fight against occupational health hazards. The Murray-Green Award, named to honor the late presidents of the AFL and the CIO, is the federation's highest award.

President Carter will address delegates at the afternoon session of the opening day of the convention. He will be followed by Sec. of State Cyrus Vance and House Minority Leader John Rhodes.

Speakers at the morning session on Nov. 16 will be Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, and Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the NAACP.

At the afternoon session, delegates will hear from Senate Minority Leader Howard Baker and Director Wayne Horvitz of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service.

Following a weekend break, the speakers on Nov. 19 will include Vernon Jordan, executive director of the National Urban League, and Joyce Miller, president of the Coalition for Labor Union Women.

Sec. Patricia Harris of the Dept. of Health & Human Services will speak during the Nov. 20 session. The dates and times for other speakers will be announced later, Meany said. They include Jack Otero, executive vice chairman of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, and fraternal delegates Lord Allan of the British Trades Union Congress and W. C. Y. McGregor of the Canadian Labor Congress.

Delegates also have been invited to an open house and brunch at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies on Sunday, Nov. 18. They will be transported to the campus and back to the convention hotel by special shuttle buses.



LOCKED-OUT DANCERS of the American Ballet Theater brought their protest to Washington's Kennedy Center where they had a scheduled engagement. The troupe, members of the Guild of Musical Artists, have been without a contract since Aug. 31. Locked-out AGMA members staged a similar protest at the theater company's offices in New York. The dancers were joined in the Washington demonstration by Kennedy Center musicians and stagehands.

CWA Supports Telecom Strike

The Communications Workers' General System Bargaining Council commended the 4,500 CWA members who are on strike against United Telecom, the nation's third largest telephone system, for their "valiant struggle to achieve economic justice."

In a resolution adopted unanimously, members of the council declared: "These men and women are walking picket lines in New Jersey, North Carolina, southern Virginia, and upper Tennessee in quest of simple justice. They need and deserve a fair, reasonable contract with United . . . a company that can well afford to provide them with wage protection for their future security."

The council's action came at its meeting in Washington to formulate the union's bargaining goals in its next round of talks with General, the second largest phone system in the country.

New Loopholes Spark Fight Over Windfall Tax

(Continued from Page 1)

the price of virtually all products.

The windfall profits tax is intended to recoup a portion of the added revenue oil companies will derive as decontrol allows them to move prices of oil from existing wells up to the artificially-high world price. The Treasury Dept. has estimated the before-tax revenue the oil companies will obtain through decontrol at close to one trillion dollars over the next decade. Regular federal and state taxes, as well as the added windfall profits tax, will come out of that amount.

The AFL-CIO opposed the Administration's decontrol strategy of letting oil prices rise in order to add pocketbook pressure for conservation. And the federation sought a broader excess profits tax to combat profiteering in all fields. But the federation also pressed for a higher windfall tax than the Administration had initially proposed.

Instead, the House weakened the windfall tax bill that its Ways & Means Committee brought to the floor last June. And the Senate version — even if strengthening amendments can be added during floor debate expected in mid-November— almost certainly will be even weaker.

President Carter has denounced the Senate Finance Committee version as a "giveaway" to the oil industry, and the figures bear him out.

The Senate bill would totally exempt about $133 billion in oil revenues by not applying the windfall profits tax to various categories of oil that are covered in the House-passed bill.

It would partially repeal a scheduled elimination of the oil depletion allowance, reduce the tax rate on oil from "old" wells, and start phasing out the windfall tax whenever revenues reach $128 billion, which is 90 percent of the 10-year "revenue goal."

While the House bill did not deal with the earmarking of the funds, the Senate committee coupled its windfall tax measure with $22.4 billion in new tax credits, most of which would go to businesses.

Ironically, the Senate Finance Committee was putting the finishing touches on its weakened windfall profits bill just as the oil companies were announcing record third quarter profits.

House Votes Mail Service Safety Plan

The House passed and sent to the Senate a union-urged bill that would bring the U.S. Postal Service under the same job safety and health standards that the government applies to private industry.

Under present law, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration has no authority to inspect postal facilities except at management's invitation. Yet the semi-autonomous postal service has had the highest accident and injury rate in the federal sector.

The House-passed bill would require the postal service to meet the same OSHA standards as private employers, except that criminal penalties would not be invoked for willful violations.

Rep. Charles H. Wilson (D-Calif.) introduced the bill and Rep. William Clay (D-Mo.) steered it to passage under a shortcut procedure that bars amendments and requires a two-thirds majority for adoption.

Clay told the House the bill was needed because "the postal service has established a pattern of disregarding, neglecting and minimizing allegations of unsafe working conditions."

The only opposition expressed was by Rep. Edward J. Derwinski (R-Ill.), who said OSHA inspection of the postal facilities would require hiring additional inspectors. He said postal officials are making progress in reducing the high accident rate.

But Derwinski did not insist on a rollcall, and the bill easily received the needed two-thirds majority on a voice vote.

House, Senate Move to Broaden Winter Heating Subsidy for Poor

(Continued from Page 1)

families with incomes not more than 125 percent of the poverty level, although states would have some leeway to broaden the distribution to those with higher incomes.

The Senate Human Resources Committee, however, has approved a modified version of the bill introduced by its chairman, Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.). It would expand assistance levels to $3 billion next year and to $4 billion the following fiscal year.

It would make eligible, starting next year, famiiles with incomes up to the "lower living standard" budget put out by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In current dollars, 125 percent of the poverty level for an urban family would be $8,375, while the income limit for a comparable family under the Williams bill would be about $11,500.

Meanwhile, Congress moved ahead with other energy-related legislation and appeared near final agreement on budget ceilings for the fiscal year that is already a month old.

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, the House was close to a showdown vote on legislation to create an Energy Mobilization Board that would have authority to cut red tape and speed decisions on construction of high-priority energy projects that would help the nation cut loose from dependence on imported oil.

The Senate has already approved a bill, but House action was complicated by differing versions brought to the floor simultaneously by the Commerce Committee and the Interior Committee.

The AFL-CIO has urged the need for legislation, warning that "construction of vital energy projects throughout the nation is snarled in red tape."

In the House, the AFL-CIO was generally supporting the stronger of the two bills—the Commerce Committee measure sponsored by Rep. John D. Dingell (D-Mich.), with some amendments that were to be added on the House floor.

The final version, however, will be shaped in a House-Senate conference.

A deadlock over budget ceilings that has delayed the timetable for congressional action was finally resolved by House and Senate conferees. The Senate side agreed to accept higher funding for social programs and job assistance, and the House conferees went along with bigger military appropriations. The spending ceiling was set at $547.6 billion with an estimated deficit of $29.8 billion.

The two sides disagreed, however, over a controversial Senate provision requiring congressional committees to cut previously approved funding bills in order to "reconcile" its actions with the new spending limits. The House had opposed such a requirement, and the continued difference could delay final congressional action.

In emergency action to head off the shutdown of thousands of miles of railroad trackage, the House and Senate approved bills directing federal financing of the bankrupt Milwaukee Railroad at least until Dec. 15, to allow time for consideration of permanent legislation to preserve the railroad.

Congress had previously authorized funding, but the Dept. of Transportation had refused to release the funds.

Firm Loses Final Round, Must Give Strikers Bonus

Bedford, Va.—The Rubatex Corp. lost its last legal challenge to a National Labor Relations Board order, and more than 800 union members who took part in a successful strike three years ago will get $100 bonuses.

A mere 13 bargaining unit employees crossed the picket line during the 1976 strike by Rubber Workers Local 240, while 817 stayed out until a settlement was negotiated.

After the strike, the company gave thank-you bonuses of up to $100 to employees who had crossed the picket line.

An NLRB panel ruled unanimously that this was an unfair labor practice and ordered the company to remedy the damage by paying the same $100 bonus to all its employees.

The 4th Circuit Court of Appeals backed up the NLRB last summer and the company looked to the Supreme Court. But the Supreme Court denied the petition for review, thus making the $82,000 award final.

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Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

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Costs of Basic Necessities Soar at 17.6 Percent Rate

House Vote Sets Floor On Welfare

By David L. Perlman

The House took an important first step towards welfare reform and passed a labor-supported bill that would increase assistance to many of the nation's poorest families and also reduce the financial burden on state and local governments.

It sent to the Senate virtually intact an Administration measure that would set a floor for family assistance payments at 65 percent of the poverty level. It would also take other steps to narrow the very wide differences in benefit levels among the various states.

In current dollars, 65 percent of the poverty level set by the government for a family of four comes to about $4,655 including the value of food stamps. Yet even that low floor would bring higher assistance payments to some 800,000 families in 13 states, mostly in the South.

Another provision of the bill would make two-parent families eligible for assistance on the basis of need if the principal wage earner is unemployed. At present, only about half the states allow benefits to be paid to a needy family with both parents living together.

The federal government would pay for additional welfare costs, and matching amounts that states now pay under the AFDC program (aid to families with dependent children) would be reduced in steps by 30 percent. The bill also sets up a federal grant program to help states meet emergency needs of families with children.

The measure falls short of the comprehensive welfare reform long urged by the AFL-CIO, which would combine job opportunities for those able to work with assistance not less than the poverty cutoff level for those unable to work.

But the federation endorsed the bill as an "essential beginning." In a letter to House members, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young noted that the bill "represents years of negotiation and compromise among organizations, individuals and members of Congress who have long sought to reform the welfare system."

As contrasted with some legislative battles in previous years, groups that have been concerned with the adequacy of public assistance programs were unanimous in support of the bill. The opposition came from conservatives who sought to replace the present system of matching federal grants for AFDC programs with a block

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INTER-FAITH LEADERS seeking justice for J. P. Stevens & Co. workers told a Washington, D.C., press conference that instead of moving toward greater compliance with the law in respect to workers' rights, the giant textile firm is accelerating its anti-union activities. At the table, facing left to right, are Ruth Ruttenberg, Urban Commission of the American Jewish Committee; Rev. Robert Strommen, chairman of the National Council of Churches' Task Force on Justice at J. P. Stevens, and Rev. Patrick Sullivan of the National Federation of Priests Councils. **(Story, Page 15.)**

Four Items Key Factor In Inflation

Prices for the basic necessities of life—food, shelter, medical care and energy—soared over the three months ending in September, with the hardest impact on the poor, a Washington-based research group reported.

The four items, which make up roughly two-thirds of the household budget of four out of five American families, rose more than two and one-half times faster than prices for all other items combined.

During the July-September quarter, basic necessity inflation increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 17.6 percent, compared with a 6.6 percent adjusted annual rate of increase for non-necessity items.

Topping the third-quarter figures were inflation rates of 50.1 percent for energy and 17.6 percent for housing, the National Center for Economic Alternatives said in its report.

"Both sectors are likely to experience continued severe inflation rates" the report observed, "because of the Federal Reserve Board's tight-money, high-interest rate policy and the combination of the Administration's decision to decontrol oil prices and OPEC's new round of increases." OPEC, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, is the oil cartel that supplies much of the nation's crude oil.

The third-quarter rate of price increases matched the rate of advance in prices over the first nine months of the year, as measured by the government's consumer price index.

The 50.1 percent adjusted annual rate of increase in energy

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Jobless Rise Reflects Lag In Economy

By James M. Shevis

Unemployment edged up to 6 percent in October, from 5.8 percent in September, providing new evidence of economic weakness.

While last month's jobless rate remained in a range between 5.6 and 6 percent where it has been for 14 months, the data on employment "reflect a clear slowdown in the rate of employment growth," Janet L. Norwood, the Bureau of Labor Statistics Commissioner, told a congressional panel.

BLS, which issued the monthly report on jobs, said total employment edged down by 220,000 in October to 97.3 million, according to a sample of American house-

(Continued on Page 16)

As Workforce Grew:

Rise In Job Injuries Posted During 1978

By John R. Oravec

Work-related injuries rose by about 360,000 to 5.66 million in 1978 among workers covered by federal job safety laws, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Injuries involving lost worktime accounted for most of the increase—nearly 300,000—as their number rose from 2.1 million in 1977 to 2.4 million last year. Injuries that did not involve lost worktime rose about 66,000, from 3.15 million in 1977 to 3.21 million in 1978.

Overall, about one of every 11 workers in private industry suffered a job-related injury or illness during the year, the BLS said.

While job injuries and illnesses were up 6 percent over the year, BLS noted that the workforce and workhours increased at the same pace, resulting in little change in the incidence rate from 1977.

Occupational accidents accounted for nearly all of the 4,590 fatalities in 1978, down slightly from the 4,760 the year before. About 2 percent of the worker deaths was attributed to occupational illness, according to the BLS report.

The BLS data are based on reports that employers with 11 or more employees in private industry turn into the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, as well as on reports from the Mine Safety & Health Administration, Federal Railroad Administration and the Dept. of Transportation. Federal, state and local government employees and workers in small firms and on small farms are not covered in the survey.

The report noted that 38.2 million workdays were lost during 1978 due to occupational injuries, compared with 35.2 million in 1977.

While lost-time injury rates increased in seven of the eight industry divisions, only the finance, insurance and real estate sectors remained at the 1977 level, the BLS said.

The largest over-the-year increase in the injury incidence rate was in construction, which rose from 15.2 to 15.8 per 100 work-

(Continued on page 14)

Energy Bills Advance in Congress To Speed Projects, Synthetic Fuel

Congress moved on several fronts to lessen the nation's dependence on imported oil and to spur development of alternative energy sources.

Both the House and Senate have now passed bills to establish an Energy Mobilization Board empowered to cut through some red tape and speed the timetable for reaching binding decisions on construction of non-nuclear energy projects. The final version will be shaped by a House-Senate conference committee.

Legislation to launch a multi-billion dollar program of synthetic fuel development has been approved by the House, and the Senate version was being debated as the AFL-CIO News went to press.

On both measures, there were differences in approach among congressional committees involved. In general, the AFL-CIO supported the versions giving stronger powers to the Energy Mobilization Board and making the biggest commitment to synthetic fuel production.

The stronger version of the Energy Mobilization Board prevailed on a key 215-192 vote in the House. It had been supported by the AFL-CIO as coming "closest to meeting the need for expedited action while preserving the environment, the workplace and due process."

The House bill allows a five-member board to designate energy projects for "fast track" priority. These could range from conventional refineries to new synthetic fuel plants or solar energy projects.

All governmental agencies involved—federal, state and local—would be required to set and meet timetables for acting on construction permits or other needed approvals.

The board could also ask the President to waive certain federal laws—the Wilderness Act would be an example. But even if he did so, both the House and Senate would have to concur. The board could,

(Continued on Page 3)

Report on Congress In Special Section

This issue of the AFL-CIO News includes the AFL-CIO's report on the first 10 months of the 96th Congress—an eight-page pull-out section that covers 20 key roll-call votes in the House and 19 in the Senate.

Congressmen and senators are judged as having voted "right" or "wrong" from the standpoint of the AFL-CIO's position on the legislation.

Additional copies of the 1979 Report on Congress can be obtained from the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education, 815 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

Huber Matos Set to Speak At Convention

AFL-CIO President George Meany has announced that Huber Matos, for 20 years a Cuban political prisoner, will be a guest speaker at the federation's 13th constitutional convention which opens in Washington Nov. 15.

Matos will address the convention in the Sheraton Washington Hotel on Monday, Nov. 19, Meany said.

He extended the invitation to Matos the day after he was released from Castro's jail, 20 years to the day since his arrest on a charge of treason. For most of those years, Matos was kept in isolation, sometimes in holes and concrete boxes. On each of the last four days of his imprisonment, Matos was brutually beaten by Castro's agents.

In inviting Matos, Meany expressed the "joy and relief" of the American labor movement at his release.

"Nothing has so clearly revealed the character of (Castro) and the tyrannical regime he heads than his treatment of you," Meany said in a letter to Matos, who was flown to Costa Rica following his release to join his wife, and son, and two daughters.

Matos will be accompanied to the AFL-CIO convention by his son, Huber, Jr.

Memorial Service Set For W. Vernie Reed

A memorial service will be held for W. Vernie Reed Nov. 17 at 11 a.m. at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Reed, secretary-treasurer of the Laborers for four years, died Oct. 5 of cancer.

The service will be conducted in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of the shrine.



SHORTLY AFTER RELEASE from a Cuban prison, Huber Matos is shown meeting his family in Costa Rica—his eldest son Huber, Jr., left, and his wife Maria Luisa. Matos will address the AFL-CIO convention in Washington Nov. 19.

Georgine Assails 'Fed' On High Interest Rates

The federal government needs to pump funds into programs that will enable needed housing to be built despite soaring interest rates, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. urged.

Georgine told an "economic summit conference" sponsored by the National Association of Homebuilders that the present Federal Reserve Board has proved as insensitive as the board was in the era of Chairman Arthur Burns to the devastation caused by tight money, high interest policies.

In the 1973-75 recession, Georgine said, the Fed's tight money policy cut new housing starts in half and wiped out more than 500,000 construction jobs.

He warned that the current rise in the prime interest rate to over 15 percent has a ripple effect that will not only devastate the construction industry but bring down the economy as a whole.

To stave off a new housing depression, Georgine said, the government must provide funding for rental housing construction below the market level of interest rates, emergency assistance for moderate-priced home purchases and "federal support to help provide the public community facilities necessary for a liveable environment."

Georgine said the forthcoming elections are a plus in that "political sensitivities to the potential social and economic suffering that would result from increased unemployment are growing more acute."

But while welcoming President Carter's assurances at the recent building trades convention that he will not fight inflation with jobs, Georgine stressed that "we need a lot more than words."

When housing construction comes to a virtual standstill because of high interest rates, the damage is long-lasting, Georgine noted. The lack of housing construction creates shortages that in turn bring about further inflation in housing costs.

Workers, builders and consumers have similar goals of holding down interest rates and expanding housing construction, Georgine said. "We must keep reminding the Federal Reserve Board, as well as the President and Congress, that we expect full consideration . . . that we refuse to bear more than our fair share of the burden of fighting inflation."

Richard Warden Named to IUD Post

Richard D. Warden has been appointed legislative director of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. by IUD President Howard D. Samuel.

Warden most recently was assistant secretary for legislation of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. Before joining the Carter Administration in January 1977, he was the UAW's legislative director and earlier, from 1968 to 1970, had served on the AFL-CIO legislative staff.

A former newspaper reporter, Warden has been a legislative assistant to the late Sen. Lee Metcalf (D-Mont.), administrative assistant to former Rep. James G. O'Hara (D-Mich.) and deputy director of Office for Civil Rights in the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

Shift in Coverage Fought:

Unions Score Attack On Mine Safety Law

The Steelworkers and the Carter Administration have strongly defended protection of stone, sand and gravel miners under the Mine Safety & Health Act of 1977 against an industry campaign to exempt it from coverage.

USWA President Lloyd McBride also said in testimony before a House Subcommittee on Health & Safety that his union was "amazed" that Congress approved a rider on an appropriations bill to suspend the obligation of operators to provide training for workers.

McBride's testimony was presented at oversight hearings by Steelworkers' Legislative Rep. John J. Sheehan.

In a large-scale assault on the tough mine safety law, large and small operators and state associations are trying to shift coverage from MSHA to the Occupational Safety & Health Act (OSHA).

Going further, the National Association of Counties—speaking for 1,800 counties in the United States—urged that Congress entirely exempt local and state governments from MSHA on constitutional grounds and also because MSHA imposes "substantial" financial and administrative burdens.

NACO noted that counties extract sand, gravel and other materials for public road maintenance and construction. It argued that this is a traditional activity dating back to colonial times, taking issue with the Labor Dept. interpretation that counties are covered because their mining activity is "commercial."

The Steelworkers took issue with the operators' argument that MSHA was intended for underground coal mining. McBride said the Mine Workers sought enforcement of the law while non-coal miners sought substance in the "antiquated" metal mine safety law which became MSHA.

Unlike OSHA, McBride noted, MSHA provides for mandatory inspections, mandatory penalties and shut-down authority.

Sand, stone and gravel operations have "astoundingly high fatality rates," McBride declared, pointing out that 14 Steelworker members have been killed in the past year and a half.

McBride said there is room in MSHA for administrative flexibility to meet any real problems, but the union "opposes any repeal or transfer (to OSHA) attempts."

The Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers had testified earlier before the House subcommittee against shifting job safety coverage of its members in the mining industry to OSHA, declaring that the real issue before Congress is "lives versus profits."

Robert B. Lagather, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health, said MSHA is simply a strengthening of the 1966 Metal Non-Metallic Mine Safety Act, which "clearly" applied to sand, gravel and stone.

The industry is no less hazardous than other mining, he said, adding:

"Just last year, 1978, 74 of the 136 deaths in the metal and nonmetal industry occurred in sand and gravel and stone mines.

"In fact, thus far in 1979, the sand and gravel and stone industries have accounted for 45 of the 91 miner deaths. . . ."

Challenging the operators' charges that MSHA was harassing them with "nitpicking violations," Lagather said he reviewed some 6,000 citations and found the "vast majority" were for "serious" violations.

2 Key Union Victories Clear Court Challenge

The Supreme Court has denied employer petitions for review of two decisions that upheld the union position. One case involved farm workers covered by California's Agricultural Labor Relations Act and the other dealt with a building trades issue under federal labor law.

In the farm dispute, field workers at the O. P. Murphy Produce Co. had voted for representation by the United Farm Workers in a state-supervised election. But the employer then tried to bar a UFW representative from going into the tomato fields to set up a meeting with a committee of workers in preparation for contract negotiations.

The Agricultural Labor Relations Board agreed with the UFW that denial of access was an unfair labor practice. In farming operations, the state board noted, a union often can't communicate with workers except by going to the job site, and such communication is necessary to carry out its obligation to represent the workers.

The board set guidelines for reasonable access and said that failure of an employer to allow such access would be considered "evidence of a refusal to bargain in good faith."

The California Court of Appeals and the California Supreme Court both refused to review the agency's decision and the U.S. Supreme Court denial closed the door on any further employer appeal.

The other case denied review was an NLRB decision involving what has been called a "double-breasted contractor," one who sets up separate union and non-union operations.

In the case that came before the board, a construction firm in Fresno, Calif., that was party to an area agreement with the Sequoia District Council of Carpenters set up a separate company and transferred all its carpenters to its payroll. The head of the construction firm subsequently told the union that the company no longer employed any carpenters, but he signed the master union agreement on behalf of the new firm he had set up.

When the union discovered the original employer, Burgess Construction, had hired and was using nonunion carpenters on its job sites, it filed an unfair practice charge.

The National Labor Relations Board found that the two firms were in fact a single employer, that all of the carpenters it employed were in the bargaining unit, and that Burgess had violated the law by refusing to bargain, by failing to apply the union contract to its new employees and by unilaterally changing terms of employment.

Food Workers Win Vote At Winn-Dixie Facility

A representation election victory for the Food & Commercial Workers at a Winn-Dixie facility in Asheville, N.C., caused another crack in the anti-union wall of the southern supermarket chain.

Workers at Winn-Dixie's Asheville fabricating room voted 42 to 9 for UFCW Local 525 in last month's election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board. The victory comes in the wake of a breakthrough in July when the UFCW and the unaffiliated Teamsters won elections for meat fabricating section workers and warehouse employees at a Winn-Dixie warehouse in Atlanta. Warehouse workers in Jacksonville, Fla., also have won union representation.

But UFCW Winn-Dixie boycott coordinator Bob Comeaux noted that although some 450 of the firm's 58,700 workers have gained union representation, none is under a union contract.

Comeaux said the impact of labor's continuing boycott of Winn-Dixie stores—despite management denials—was reflected in the chain's poor sales growth shown in a recent quarterly report.

Selected boycott demonstrations at Winn-Dixie facilities in Texas and Virginia in recent months resulted in hundreds of shoppers turning away from the stores in a show of support, Comeaux reported.

Despite signals of stronger public backing of the boycott, the AFL-CIO Food & Beverage Trades Dept. pointed out that Winn-Dixie is sticking to its hard anti-union stance.

That position was reflected at the Winn-Dixie annual stockholders' meeting in Jacksonville in October when the company's top management moved to defeat a series of worker and consumer rights resolutions introduced by the Committee for Human Rights for Winn-Dixie Employees.

The rejected resolutions called on the company to uphold the principles of federal labor law, implement a progressive job safety and health program, subscribe to the principle of equal employment opportunity, display lists of consumer rights in stores and mark prices on all items in stores using electronic checkout scanners.

FBTD President Robert F. Harbrant, who participated in the stockholders' meeting, said it was incredible that company management responded so callously to the resolutions.

Winn-Dixie was made the target of a nationwide boycott in December 1977 because of its history of labor law and civil rights violations. Since then, the company has slipped in ranking among U.S. supermarket chains from fourth to fifth.

Multi-Faceted Program:

Energy Bills Move In House, Senate

(Continued from Page 1)

however, override any state or local law passed after the project was put on fast track.

The Senate version gives somewhat less power to the board, and conferees will seek to resolve the differences.

On synthetic oil development, the Senate version supported by the AFL-CIO would provide a bigger long-term commitment than the House-passed bill or a version supported by the Senate Banking Committee.

In an initial test, the Senate voted 57-37 to take up the labor-supported version drafted by the Energy Committee rather than the Banking Committee bill. But a number of amendments were pending, and the final shape of the legislation had not yet been decided.

In a letter to senators, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young stressed that the Energy Committee bill provides "a blueprint for action" through a $20 billion authorization to help develop 10 to 12 synthetic fuel demonstration plants. A government-owned energy security corporation would draw up a program aimed at producing 1.5 million barrels of "synfuels" by 1995, with additional funding.

By contrast, Young said, the Banking Committee bill's "limitation of the number of projects and an authorization of $3 billion is a far too modest response to what is a potential energy catastrophe."

Young strongly supported the concept of establishing "GOCOs," the government-owned, privately contracted fuel producing corporations. Otherwise, he warned, "the giant energy corporations will make synfuels commitments only in terms of their own corporate interests, secure in the knowledge that mom-and-pop synfuels production is a competitive impossibility."

In other congressional developments:

● The Senate approved a Dept. of Defense appropriations bill after defeating a labor-urged amendment that would have set aside a share of defense contracts for firms in areas of high unemployment.

Other government departments follow this practice, but Congress has exempted the Defense Dept. from the obligation since 1953.

● Senate supporters of a strong windfall profits tax began mapping strategy for strengthening amendments to the bill which was expected to come to the Senate floor Nov. 13.

● The Senate authorized an additional $30 million for food, medicine and other emergency assistance to avert mass starvation in Cambodia. It would be in addition to $39 million approved earlier.

● The House put off for another week a vote on a labor-supported bill to provide a three-year funding guarantee for the Federal Trade Commission, which has been under business attack as too consumer oriented.

In a letter to House members, the AFL-CIO urged defeat of an amendment that will be offered to block the FTC from requiring price disclosure for funeral services and other information that would reveal various cost options.



WELCOME RECEPTION for the British-American Repertory Company, the first professional theater group comprising an equal number of U.S. and British performers, is held at Actors' Equity offices in New York. From left are Executive Sec. Donald Grody of Equity, President Frederick O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes, Ed Berman, founder and artistic director of the company, and Willard Swire, associate executive secretary of Equity.

Actors' Equity Upheld On Licensing of Agents

New York—Actors' Equity has valid trade union grounds for requiring its members to deal only with theatrical agents licensed by the union, a federal judge ruled.

U.S. District Judge Constance Baker Motley dismissed a civil suit brought by an association of dissident agents who charged the union and Equity Executive Sec. Donald Grody with an antitrust conspiracy.

Judge Motley's 23-page decision found no evidence of any illegal conspiracy.

Equity's agent franchising system "is reasonably related to legitimate labor objectives," the judge found, and was used "for the purpose of protecting the wages and working conditions of its members."

Under the union's system, agents are required to secure licenses, known as franchises, in order to represent performers in Equity's jurisdiction.

To qualify, the agents must agree to a ceiling on commissions and must adhere to other rules designed to protect the interests of members.

Franchised agents can normally collect 10 percent of their clients' Broadway salaries for 10 weeks if payment of the commission doesn't bring the salary below the Equity minimum pay scale. But if an agent negotiates a salary at least 20 percent over the minimum, the commission may be collected for the duration of the contract. In other Equity jurisdictions, commissions of 5 to 10 percent are allowed, also with the proviso that the commission cannot reduce pay below the union's minimums.

Members are subject to union discipline for dealing with non-franchised agents, and the court decision upheld the union's right to enforce its rules.

The court also found that the franchising fees Equity charges agents are in line with the union's cost of operating and enforcing the program.

It dismissed the claim brought by dissident agents that Equity had conspired with the Theatrical Artists Representatives Association (TARA) by requiring its members to deal only with franchised agents.

The suit was brought by a group of agents that broke away from TARA at the time of its last agreement with Equity.

Test of R-T-W Veto Set in New Mexico

Santa Fe, N. Mex.—The state supreme court will hear a challenge to Gov. Bruce King's veto of a "right-to-work" bill passed earlier this year by the legislature.

Neal Gonzalez, executive secretary-treasurer of the State AFL-CIO, said he viewed the challenge by six conservative members of the New Mexico Senate as a ploy to solicit more funds for the state's pro-RTW forces.

King vetoed the legislation in February after its passage by the House and Senate. The measure could be reintroduced in the legislature next January.

Oil Workers To Reopen Agreements

Denver—The Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers served notice to the petroleum industry that it intends to reopen some 400 bargaining agreements covering 60,000 workers.

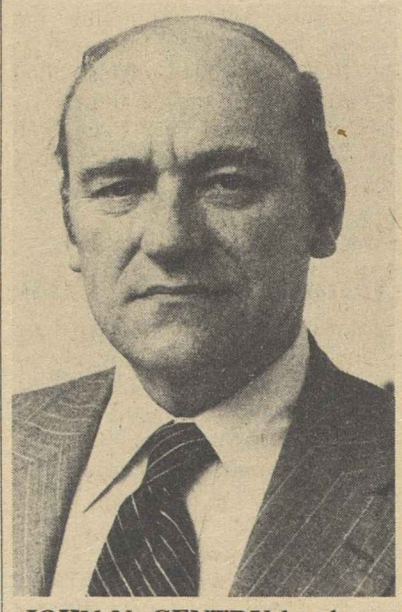
The two-year contracts negotiated by the union and 100 oil companies last January provided for reopening talks after Nov. 1 on three issues—wages, health care benefits and vacations.

OCAW President Robert Goss said the union plans to seek "substantial" wage boosts, dental and prescription drug coverage, and seven weeks of vacation for members with 25 years of service.

Since there are no local issues to be settled by the talks, serious bargaining probably will not begin until about mid-December, Goss said.

Under the reopener provision, the union is free to strike if an agreement is not reached by Jan. 8, 1980. Goss is authorized to call a strike at that time because the union is still operating under the bargaining program adopted last fall and approved by 94 percent of the membership.

Goss said he hopes to avoid "crisis bargaining," and added that the union would make every effort to avoid a strike.



JOHN N. GENTRY has been confirmed by the Senate as Under Secretary of Labor, the second-ranking position in the Labor Dept. He formerly was a top adviser with the Council on Wage & Price Stability and had held a number of posts in the Labor Dept. under former Labor Sec. W. Willard Wirtz in the 1960s.

Kansas Unions to Seek Agency Shop Authority

Topeka, Kan.—An amendment to the Kansas labor relations law granting unions authority to collect service fees from non-members tops the legislative agenda drafted at the Kansas AFL-CIO convention.

In launching the drive for the service fee measure, a series of resolutions adopted by the 290 convention delegates cited the responsibilitity of unions to represent all workers, whether they are dues-paying union members or not.

Executive Sec.-Treas. Ralph McGee told the convention that passage of the amendment in the state legislature will be a hard fight, but the task should be easier with the added support of Kansas farm organizations.

McGee announced at the three-day convention the formation of a farm-labor coalition aimed at promoting the common legislative and political interests of workers and farmers. Parties in the coalition, in addition to the Kansas AFL-CIO, are state organizations of the National Farmers Union, National Farm Organization and the American Agricultural Movement.

Other top legislative goals outlined by the convention call for improvements in public employee bargaining rights, voter registration procedures, payment of state jobless benefits to strikers and lifting of restrictions on political activities by public employees.

Delegates voted to expand the state federation's executive board to 20 members, an increase of one. Six new members were elected to two-year terms along with 11 incumbents who were returned to office.

The state body's three top officers—President John Overman, Executive Vice President H. J. Yount, and McGee—who also sit on the board, are in the midst of four-year terms.

Neeley New President Of Tennessee AFL-CIO

Nashville, Tenn.—James G. Neeley was elected president of the Tennessee AFL–CIO by acclamation to succeed Matthew Lynch, who had headed the state labor council since 1963.

In recognition of his long service to Tennessee labor, including 10 years as executive secretary of the State CIO and six years as secretary of the Tennessee AFL-CIO, delegates to the 11th biennial convention voted to designated Lynch president emeritus.

Neeley, 38, had served for four years as Tennessee's commissioner of labor before returning to his post as joint board manager with the Clothing & Textile Workers earlier this year.

Lynch, 66, also comes out of ACTWU. He had been a textile union member since 1929 and served as an organizer in the 1930s and '40s.

The delegates also re-elected Sec.-Treas. Lee Case, First Vice President Tommy Powell and 15 vice presidents. Four new vice presidents elected to two-year terms are Pearl Kennedy of the Furniture Workers, Ray Graves of the Communications Workers, Charles Wolfenbarger of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, and Dixie Whaley of the Office & Professional Employees.

The convention reaffirmed its call for state legislation providing full collective bargaining rights for public employees and shifting the administration of the state workers' compensation program from the courts to a commission.

Other resolutions called for support of Teachers' organizing efforts, protection of workers' rights affected by decentralization of state mental health facilities, and enrollment of older and retired unionists in the National Council of Senior Citizens.

Delegates also scored proposed action by the Federal Trade Commission to force the closing of several breakfast cereal plants that could in effect cancel existing union contracts.

Principal speakers at the three-day convention included Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, Norman Hill of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, COPE Regional Director Dan Powell and State AFL-CIO Presidents J. Bill Becker of Arkansas, Barney Weeks of Alabama, Herbert H. Mabry of Georgia and James E. Meyers of Missouri.

Surgery on Hospital Costs

CONGRESS CAN DO something about the rising cost of medical care. The House of Representatives will soon consider the Hospital Cost Containment Act of 1979 (HR 2626), which puts an 11.6 percent annual lid on hospital cost increases. The AFL-CIO supports the bill, which may be the most important piece of consumer legislation to come before Congress this year.

Hospital expenditures during the past three years have grown at more than twice the rate of increase in the Consumer Price Index. Although inflation in health care is often disguished by indirect payments through public or private insurance plans, every American feels the pinch. Health insurance premiums rise along with hospital costs. Take-home pay shrinks and businesses raise prices to finance higher premiums.

Adequate medical care is rapidly growing beyond the reach of millions of Americans who lack the income or the insurance coverage to meet skyrocketing out-of-pocket medical costs. Too many must choose between medical care or other necessities.

Without effective curbs on climbing health care costs, labor-backed legislation extending health care to all Americans as a right rather than a privilege will remain an elusive goal. The Hospital Cost Containment bill is the first step toward fiscal discipline which must underpin universal health care coverage.

This measure is a reasonable and realistic solution to rising hospital costs. Mandatory controls would cover only those hospitals unable or unwilling to meet the 11.6 percent inflation limit. Hospitals could pass through costs over which they have no control. Hospitals in states with mandatory cost containment programs would be exempt from the federal law. Low-paid hospital employees' wages would be protected.

Hospital cost containment legislation has been stalled in Congress for more than two years through the efforts of the American Medical Association and the hospital industry, which are supporting efforts to gut or defeat the bill on the House floor. Passage of Hospital Cost Containment, without any weakening amendments, is a must.

Inflationary Interest Rates

SINCE JULY the discount rate has increased from 9.5 percent to 12 percent and the prime from 11.5 percent to over 15 percent. Back in 1974, when the inflation rate was also at 12 percent, the discount rate hit a high of 8 percent and the prime was at 11 percent. The increase in interest rates could raise the projected $57 billion of interest payments by the federal government in fiscal year 1980 by some $7-15 billion.

The impact of the high interest rates will be substantial as total debt outstanding is approximately $4 trillion, about double the 1972 level. While about 20 percent of this debt is in long-term home mortgages, the other elements will be more subject to the influence of the high interest rates.

This large debt overhang has been a major factor in earlier predictions of a recession. The effect of higher interest rates will make such level of debt much more difficult to sustain, as consumers and business will be less likely or able to spend, invest or roll over existing debt.

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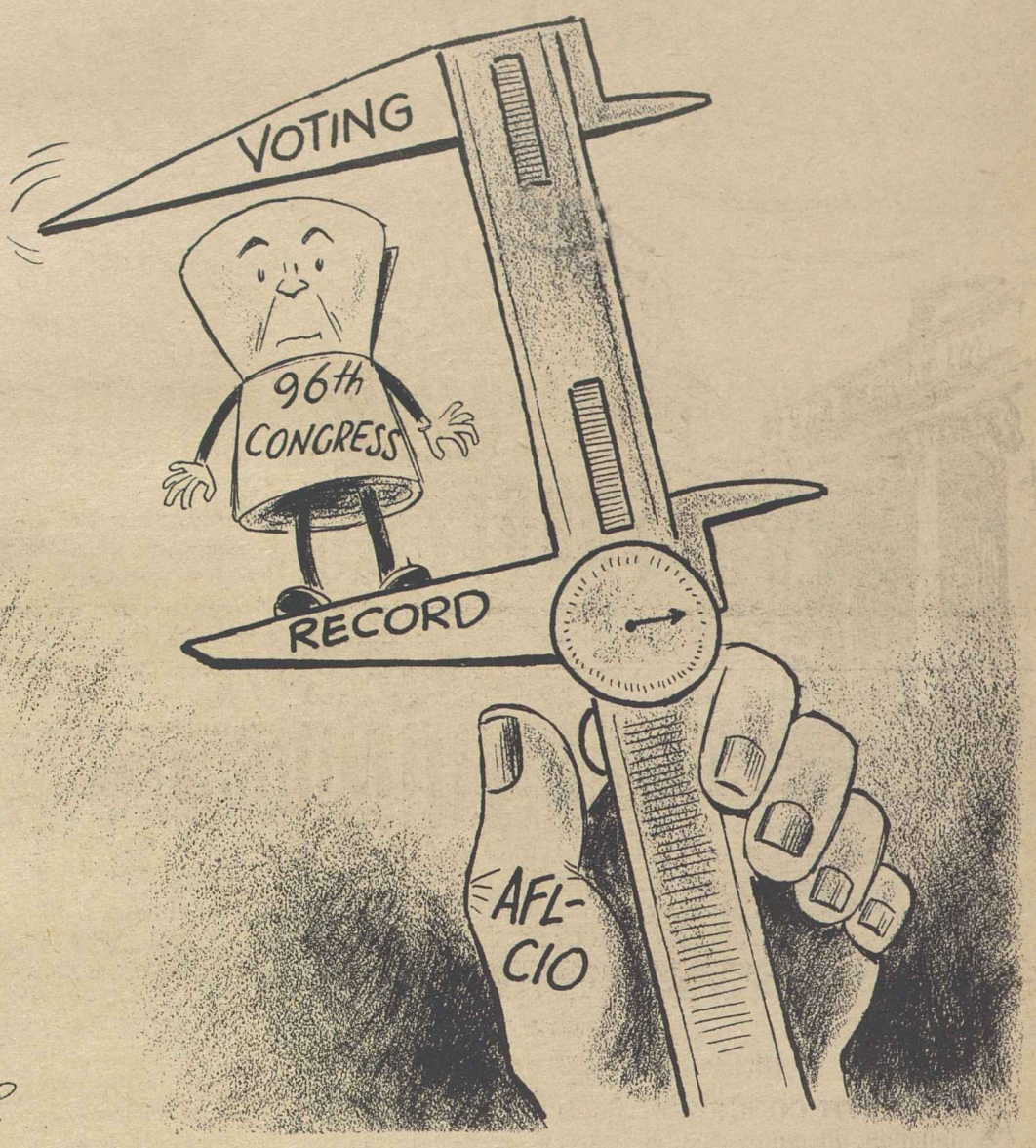
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Measuring Up



Zapping the Consumer:

Scheme for Value Added Tax Would Fuel Inflationary Fires

By Gus Tyler

AL ULLMAN (D-ORE.), chairman of the House Ways & Means Committee, has an exquisite and excruciating design to lift our present rate of inflation from about 14 percent to more than 20 percent.

The plan is explicitly laid out in his proposal for a Value Added Tax—a national sales tax that will be levied at each stage of the manufactured process. This VAT is different from an ordinary sales tax in one way: VAT is invisible, appearing merely as a higher price on whatever you buy.

Ullman concedes that his tax is inflationary. But, he consoles us, the lift in the prices will be a "one-time" surge. (The estimate is that this "one-time" boost will run to about 7 percent.)

Unfortunately, however, there is no such thing as a "one-time" surge: inflation breeds inflation faster than rabbits breed rabbits. If the cost of living goes up by 7 percent, many workers will get automatic wage increases under cost of living adjustment clauses. Their employers will generally add the higher cost of the wage to the product they sell. Other workers will have to pay more and will seek adjustments; other businesses will have to pay more for machinery, raw materials and component parts and will charge more. Governments will have to pay more and will lift taxes. The "one-timer" becomes a many-timer—as in the case of petroleum prices.

To sweeten this biter—and poisonous—pill, Ullman proposes to use some of the $135 billion that Uncle Sam gets from this tax to lower the social security tax and to lower some income taxes.

But that won't be much of a bargain for the nation's wage earners who will be paying out several billion more in value added taxes than they will be getting in promised tax reductions. The only beneficiaries will be corporations and those who live by capital gains who will be picking up a bonus of more than $30 billion a year.

It is true, of course, that corporations will also have to pay more for what they buy, but—unlike the wage and salaried person—the corporations can pass on the cost to the consumer, using traditional markups further to increase profits.

Ullman alleges that his plan would discourage consumption and thereby increase savings. But all experience runs to the contrary. If higher prices encourage greater savings then our banks should be flooded with savings right now when inflation is at a historic peak.

High prices do just the opposite of what Ullman says he wants. With the value of money going down daily, the encouragement is not to save but to buy, to turn depreciating money into appreciating things—like gold, land, houses, postage stamps, or even old beer tops.

Stripped of all its fancy fig leaves, the Ullman plan is a scheme to redistribute the nation's income by taxing wage and salaried people to enrich those who live by their investments.

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Construction Slump Threatens Economy

Building construction people — workers, contractors, builders, material producers and distributors—are about to take a shellacking, and the rest of the economy will be pulled along in the downward spiral.

Home mortgages are way over 13 percent; construction financing is out of sight.

The concentrated unemployment and worker income losses in construction and in construction materials production have a ripple effect. When the impact of rapid increases in construction unemployment is felt in coming months, it will be in addition to the increased unemployment that already has begun in the general economy.

Fortunately, we've got a little something Going for us. Political sensitivities to the potential social and economic suffering that would result from increased unemployment are growing more acute.

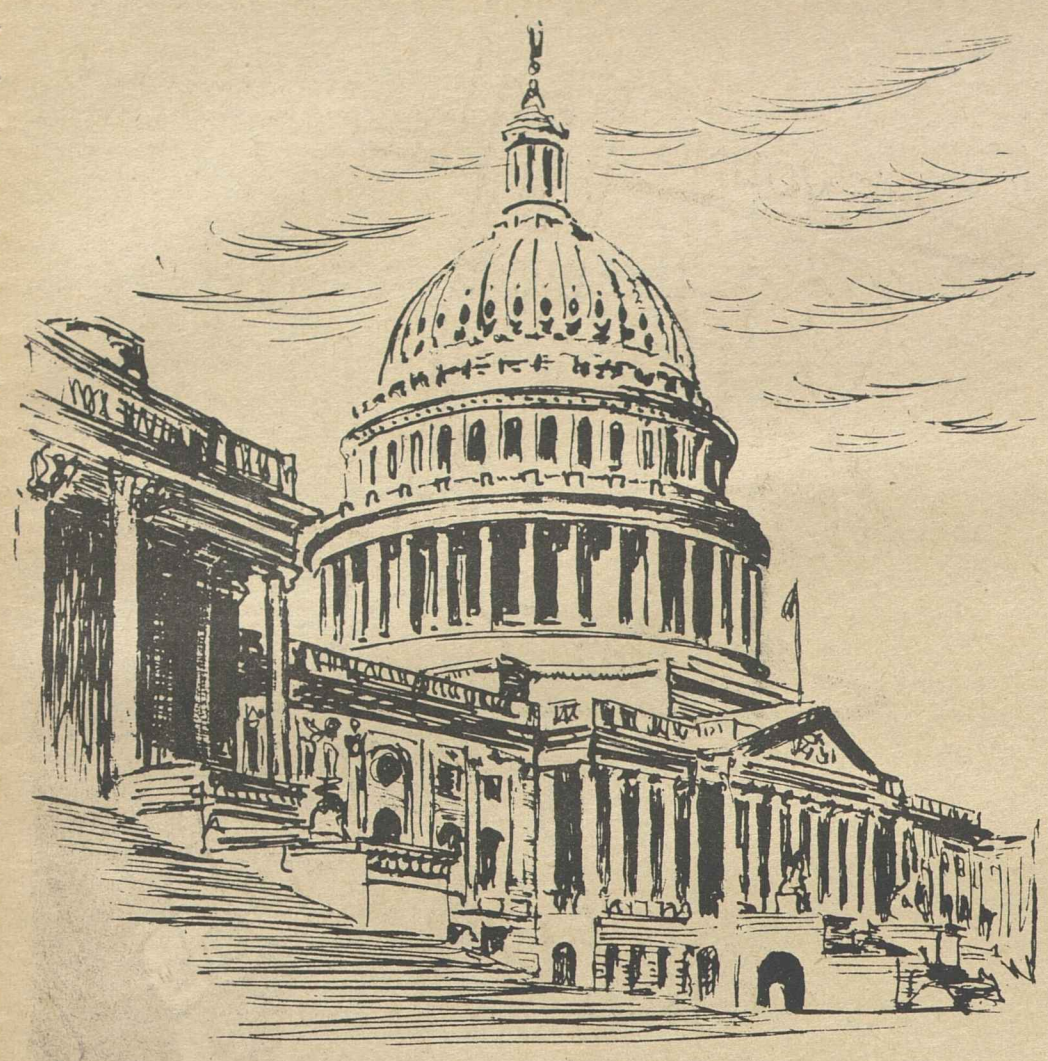
We need a lot more than words, however. We need to start the machinery that will support homebuilding and related public construction during the disaster period that is facing us.

— Robert A. Georgine, president of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., to the National Association of Homebuilders.

AFL-CIO News

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A Report On Congress —1979



By Kenneth Young
Director, AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation

AS THE 96TH CONGRESS ends its first year, complex national problems—inflation, unemployment, and energy—remain unresolved. Congress will continue to struggle for solutions, but many voters, including union members, are becoming so frustrated that they are giving up on the political process.

Business organizations and conservatives have seized upon this frustration to marshal support for a series of assaults on the adequate funding of social programs, labor standards, and needed government regulation. The Congress has responded by becoming increasingly conservative. As a result, instead of seeking legislative progress, the AFL-CIO has been forced to fight and defeat efforts to gut OSHA, jobs programs, Davis-Bacon wage standards, and cuts in social security.

Big business has campaigned for a mandated balanced budget and corporate tax cuts. A balanced budget is a laudable goal, but only in a full employment economy. With today's inflation and unemployment, a balanced budget can only be achieved through drastic reductions in national security or sharp slashes in assistance to working families and the jobless. Worse, a mandated balanced budget would shackle the government's ability to respond to a military or economic crisis.

BUT THIS Congress is too willing to seek simple solutions that sound good in campaigns but fail to provide workable answers to problems. Many newer members of Congress pay more attention to their television image than to party platforms and campaign pledges. When businessmen speak up while union members "turn off," elected officials only hear the conservative viewpoint and are quickly convinced that silence means lack of interest or quiet consent.

This Congress must be told that there is no "great conservative mood," that voters want control of gas and oil prices and oppose corporate giveaways at the expense of taxpayers. This message can only be delivered from back home. While labor is no stranger to grass-roots lobbying, it simply is not matching the organized campaigns of its enemies. More must be done.

The first step is giving members adequate information on legislation. This is being attempted in a new biweekly publication, The AFL-CIO Legislative Alert.

THE NEXT STEP is increased contact between local labor representatives and members of Congress. Personal contact is still the best way to make labor's point. Many legislators hold office hours in their district offices as congressional schedules now permit members to spend many Fridays through Monday at home. The district office can be phoned for an appointment. If a personal visit isn't possible, letters, mailgrams and telephone calls can get the message across.

Accountability is the keystone of the democratic process. Labor's friends are elected with the votes of union members and their families. The legislators demonstrate, by their votes, who they represent. If they fail to respond with their votes when labor's interests are at stake, they have no claim to labor's support.

Grass-roots lobbying works. Lawmakers are sensitive to the views of their constituents. Union members who communicate their concerns by offering both criticism and encouragement can change the course of legislation. This kind of accountability is critically important to labor's success in Washington.

To analyze the ability of labor's grass-roots efforts, this COPE voting record shows where the AFL-CIO urged our "back home" membership to ask their senators and representatives to support or oppose specific issues.

The willingness of union members and their families to get "involved" and speak out on issues will determine the responsiveness of their lawmakers. And, the votes on Capitol Hill will determine the future legislative success of the American labor movement and the progress of the nation.

This special section carries labor's report card on the first session of the 96th Congress.

Congressmen have been judged on 20 key issues and Senators on 19—"R-right" or "W-wrong" on the basis of the position the AFL-CIO took on the legislation. The tables also include the cumulative voting record of each member since election to the House or Senate.

With the voting records are brief descriptions of the issues—what the vote was about and its importance to the labor movement and the nation. Issues of prime importance to the labor movement are the first 8 votes in the House and the first 7 votes in the Senate. In the tabulations they are to the left of the rules.

Congressmen or senators may claim they supported labor's position because they voted for final passage of a bill. But in many cases, the key vote was on an amendment that would have seriously weakened or greatly improved the bill. The votes used here are those considered most significant.

By Al Barkan
Director, AFL-CIO COPE

FROM THE VOTING RECORDS inside, it requires none of the deductive powers of Sherlock Holmes to determine which U.S. senators and representatives have been genuine friends of working people and which dedicated foes. Consequently, in most cases at least, it is easy to infer which incumbents will be supported by state and local COPE organizations and which will be opposed.

Now, take a mirror image of those groupings and you'll see which candidates will be fought tooth and nail by the political committees of the corporations, the trade associations and the union-hating right wing. Ours, of course.

You will see, too, which candidates will be the beneficiaries of the enormous sums these PACs are certain to amass. The candidates we oppose, of course.

And, "enormous sums" is precisely the phrase for it. We and the candidates we support will be confronted by the $100 million political war-chest of the corporate and rightist PACs, almost all of it earmarked for anti-union candidates. Simple arithmetic bears out the $100 million expectation.

In 1978 elections, there were 1,300 corporate, trade association and right-wing PACs. Among them, they collected $55 million in political money. In 1980, the number of PACs will double to 2,500-plus. There is no reason to doubt their funding will double. After all, those already established have experience now. They know how to raise political money and how to use it wisely. The new PACs forming will ride on their experience.

SO, A $100 MILLION slush fund for these PACs hardly qualifies as wild imagination. It is a realistic expectation. It could even be on the low side.

Nor is it unrealistic to anticipate that almost all of it will be used to advance the candidacies of anti-worker incumbents and challengers. If the opposition PACs learned one thing from their participation in recent elections, it is the futility of their money fighting itself. Already, they are laying plans to avoid this. Already, leaders of major corporate and trade association PACs meet regularly with "new right" political honchos to coordinate their political and legislative efforts.

They constitute perhaps the most effective and certainly the most lushly financed conservative political force in the history of our country. And while they may not agree on every issue, they are all solidly together in their opposition to labor's goals and in their determination to weaken the trade union movement.

HOW DO OUR OWN political programs offset the mountain of money other PACs will use against candidates we support? Certainly, there is no way we can match them dollar for dollar. Indeed, there is no need to. If enough members give to COPE and their union PACs—either through a check-off procedure or in the more traditional form of a straight $2 contribution—we will have enough to help enough. That is, we will be able to provide enough funding for endorsed candidates to keep them competitive with those supported by opposition PACs.

But far more important than money is something unions have that the others do not have—strong, organized, committed grass-roots political programs. With all their money, the corporate, trade associations and right-wing PACS are no closer to the grass roots of this country than an SST in flight.

Our strength is among people, as it has always been within America's trade union movement. And our goals at the grass roots are these: every member alert to the threat to our unions, every member a registered voter, every member a contributor to COPE, every member an informed citizen, every member a voter on Election Day.

Succeeding in this program at the grass roots will demonstrate to our opposition what democracy is really about: That elections are not merely auctions and that people, not money, decide who shall represent them.

How Your Representatives Voted

	1 Davis-Bacon I	2 Davis-Bacon II	3 Job Safety	4 Collective Bargaining	5 Union Publications	6 Disabled Workers	7 Export of Jobs	8 Jobs	Total Labor Votes 1979 R	W	9 Energy I	10 Energy II	11 Energy III	12 Energy IV	13 Energy V	14 Energy VI	15 Education Department	16 Civil Rights	17 Rhodesian Sanctions	18 Balanced Budget	19 Federal Budget	20 Food Stamps	Cumulative Voting Record R	W
ALABAMA																								
1. Edwards J. (R)	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	A	W	W	W	W	26	157
2. Dickinson (R)	A	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	0	6	W	W	W	W	W	A	R	W	W	W	W	W	18	166
3. Nichols (D)	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	3	5	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	47	122
4. Bevill (D)	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	3	5	R	R	R	A	W	R	W	W	W	A	R	R	87	84
5. Flippo (D)	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	3	5	W	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	22	31
6. Buchanan (R)	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	7	1	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	50	135
7. Shelby (D)	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	3	5	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	8	12
ALASKA																								
AL Young D. (R)	R	R	W	W	A	A	W	W	2	4	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	R	48	68
ARIZONA																								
1. Rhodes (R)	W	W	W	R	A	W	W	A	1	5	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	23	212
2. Udall (D)	W	R	R	R	R	R	W	A	5	2	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	151	24
3. Stump (D)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	6	56
4. Rudd (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	5	58
ARKANSAS																								
1. Alexander (D)	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	A	4	3	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	A	R	R	85	62
2. Bethune (R)	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	5	15
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	A	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	1	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	27	145
4. Anthony (D)	W	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	A	R	R	7	12
CALIFORNIA																								
1. Johnson H. (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	5	3	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	199	20
2. Clausen (R)	R	R	R	W	A	A	W	W	3	3	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	42	147
3. Matsui (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	18	2
4. Fazio (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	6	2	R	R	R	W	R	A	W	R	R	R	R	R	15	4
5. Burton J. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	7	0	A	A	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	96	7
6. Burton P. (D)	R	R	R	A	R	R	W	R	6	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	174	11
7. Miller G. (D)	R	R	R	R	A	A	R	R	6	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	A	R	R	R	93	10
8. Dellums (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	139	12
9. Stark (D)	R	R	A	R	R	A	W	R	5	1	R	R	R	R	A	R	W	R	R	R	A	R	110	10
10. Edwards D. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	182	14
11. Royer (R)	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	A	W	W	6	13
12. McCloskey (R)	R	A	R	R	W	W	W	W	3	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	A	R	R	R	W	R	83	72
13. Mineta (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	7	1	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	94	13
14. Shumway (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	18
15. Coelho (D)	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	5	3	W	R	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	13	7
16. Panetta (D)	R	A	R	R	R	W	W	W	4	3	R	W	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	41	20
17. Pashayan (R)	R	R	W	R	W	R	W	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	7	13
18. Thomas (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	1	19
19. Lagomarsino (R)	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	18	102
20. Goldwater (R)	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	15	138
21. Corman (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	A	6	0	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	187	16
22. Moorhead C. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	13	112
23. Beilenson (D)	A	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	5	2	R	R	R	W	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	48	12
24. Waxman (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	A	R	R	W	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	92	12
25. Roybal (D)	R	R	R	R	A	A	A	R	5	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	182	12
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W	W	W	A	A	A	W	0	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	15	143
27. Dornan (R)	W	R	W	W	W	R	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	5	58
28. Dixon (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	19	1
29. Hawkins (D)	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	A	A	A	R	A	R	W	R	A	R	R	R	176	8
30. Danielson (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	134	13
31. Wilson C. H. (D)	R	A	R	W	R	R	A	A	4	1	R	W	R	A	W	A	R	R	R	R	W	R	151	21
32. Anderson G. (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	6	2	W	W	R	A	W	R	W	W	R	A	R	R	138	24
33. Grisham (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	3	17
34. Lungren (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	2	18
35. Lloyd (D)	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	A	3	4	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	88	19
36. Brown G. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	A	W	W	5	2	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	149	16
37. Lewis (R)	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	3	17
38. Patterson (D)	R	R	A	R	A	A	R	W	4	1	A	A	A	W	A	R	W	R	A	R	R	A	81	11
39. Dannemeyer (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	18
40. Badham (R)	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	A	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	8	51
41. Wilson B. (R)	R	R	W	W	A	W	W	W	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	A	W	W	W	W	43	192
42. Van Deerlin (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	A	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	176	17
43. Burgener (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	20	104
COLORADO																								
1. Schroeder (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	6	2	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	97	34
2. Wirth (D)	R	A	R	R	R	W	R	R	6	1	W	A	A	W	W	W	W	R	A	R	R	R	80	24
3. Kogovsek (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	6	2	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	16	4
4. Johnson J. (R)	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	A	3	4	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	26	95
5. Kramer (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	18
CONNECTICUT																								
1. Cotter (D)	R	R	W	R	A	A	R	A	4	1	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	124	20
2. Dodd (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	90	11
3. Giaimo (D)	A	R	R	R	W	W	A	A	3	2	R	R	R	W	A	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	170	35
4. McKinney (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	84	56
5. Ratchford (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	18	2
6. Moffett (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	94	11

	1 Davis-Bacon I	2 Davis-Bacon II	3 Job Safety	4 Collective Bargaining	5 Union Publications	6 Disabled Workers	7 Export of Jobs	8 Jobs	Total Labor Votes 1979 R	W	9 Energy I	10 Energy II	11 Energy III	12 Energy IV	13 Energy V	14 Energy VI	15 Education Department	16 Civil Rights	17 Rhodesian Sanctions	18 Balanced Budget	19 Federal Budget	20 Food Stamps	Cumulative Voting Record R	W
DELAWARE																								
AL Evans T. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	13	48
FLORIDA																								
1. Hutto (D)	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	2	6	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	7	13
2. Fuqua (D)	W	R	R	W	A	A	W	W	2	4	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	63	124
3. Bennett (D)	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	W	3	5	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	109	146
4. Chappell (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	A	W	R	48	110
5. Kelly (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	8	100
6. Young C. W. (R)	A	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	R	R	28	125
7. Gibbons (D)	W	W	R	R	A	W	W	W	2	5	R	W	R	W	W	A	R	W	W	R	R	R	113	77
8. Ireland (D)	W	W	R	W	A	W	W	W	1	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	12	46
9. Nelson (D)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	6	14
10. Bafalis (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	A	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	22	104
11. Mica D)	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	2	6	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	7	13
12. Stack (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	18	2
13. Lehman (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	111	18
14. Pepper (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	177	15
15. Fascell (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	R	W	R	A	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	192	45
GEORGIA																								
1. Ginn (D)	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	3	5	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	64	67
2. Mathis (D)	W	W	A	W	A	W	W	W	0	6	A	A	A	A	A	A	W	W	A	W	R	R	38	100
3. Brinkley (D)	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	61	114
4. Levitas (D)	R	R	W	R	A	W	W	W	3	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	54	54
5. Fowler (D)	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	W	5	3	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	34	24
6. Gingrich (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	0	19
7 McDonald (D)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	9	100
8. Evans B. (D)	A	A	W	R	R	W	W	W	2	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	W	18	39
9. Jenkins (D)	W	A	W	R	R	W	R	W	3	4	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	A	R	R	R	19	38
10. Barnard (D)	W	W	W	W	A	A	W	W	0	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	9	48
HAWAII																								
1. Heftel (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	W	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	41	19
2. Akaka (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	6	2	W	W	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	49	14
IDAHO																								
1. Symms (R)	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	9	118
2. Hansen (R)	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	9	115
ILLINOIS																								
1. Stewart (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	A	R	A	R	W	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	16	1
2. Murphy M. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	A	6	1	R	R	R	R	W	A	W	R	R	R	R	R	126	18
3. Russo (D)	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	83	24
4. Derwinski (R)	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	7	1	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	33	183
5. Fary (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	85	9
6. Hyde (R)	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	W	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	23	88
7. Collins C. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	7	0	R	R	R	A	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	109	8
8. Rostenkowski (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	193	22
9. Yates (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	224	18
10. Mikva (D)	R	A	R	R	R	W	W	*	4	2	R	R	R	*	R	A	W	R	R	R	R	R	115	17
11. Annunzio (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	174	14
12. Crane P. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	A	0	7	W	W	W	A	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	A	12	138
13. McClory (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	A	1	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	34	163
14. Erlenborn (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	22	156
15. Corcoran (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	6	56
16. Anderson J. (R)	A	A	A	A	A	A	W	A	0	1	A	W	A	A	A	A	R	A	W	W	A	W	52	136
17. O'Brien (R)	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	23	104
18. Michel (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	30	199
19. Railsback (R)	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	5	3	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	69	99
20. Findley (R)	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	5	3	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	40	167
21. Madigan (R)	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	A	4	3	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	40	87
22. Crane D. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	A	W	W	1	18
23. Price (D)	R	R	R	R	A	W	R	R	6	1	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	242	8
24. Simon (D)	R	R	R	R	A	W	W	R	5	2	W	R	R	R	A	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	82	20
INDIANA																								
1. Benjamin (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	W	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	53	10
2. Fithian (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	72	32
3. Brademas (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	205	13
4. Quayle (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	1	7	W	W	W	A	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	7	52
5. Hillis (R)	A	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	A	W	W	W	53	90
6. Evans D. (D)	A	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	5	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	65	37
7. Myers J. (R)	A	R	W	W	W	R	W	W	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	A	R	W	W	W	W	W	27	147
8. Deckard (R)	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	A	R	W	W	W	W	W	5	14
9. Hamilton (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	129	60
10. Sharp (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	6	2	R	W	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	R	76	33
11. Jacobs (D)	W	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	4	4	R	W	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	118	50

Key to Symbols

R Voted Right or was paired Right.
W Voted Wrong or was paired Wrong.
A Absent and not paired.
* Not in Congress at time.

The number before each name shows the congressional district.

1. Davis-Bacon I

After thwarting labor law reform, situs picketing and other key labor legislation in the last Congress, big business tried to take the offensive in 1979. The first target: elimination of the wage protections of the Davis-Bacon Act, which requires payment of prevailing wages for work on federally-financed construction. Davis-Bacon discourages cut-throat contract bidding based on paying low wages.

The first attempt was an amendment by Rep. George Hansen (R-Ida.) to a federal housing bill. He proposed to knock out Davis-Bacon protections on Indian housing and residential housing rehabilitation projects carried out by neighborhood non-profit groups. Passage of the amendment would have set in motion a program-by-program attack on Davis-Bacon in Congress. The House overwhelmingly defeated the amendment, 155-244, on June 6. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

2. Davis-Bacon II

A second Davis-Bacon assault occurred during House debate on legislation to finance the Washington, D. C., subway system. Rep. John Ashbrook (R-Ohio) offered an amendment to deny Davis-Bacon coverage for subway construction workers. By a 127-260 margin, the House on July 16 rejected the amendment. The overwhelming defeat of this amendment resulted in no further record votes on proposals to cripple Davis-Bacon. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

3. Job Safety

The attack on working people continued in 1979 as conservatives tried to cripple the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, the agency charged with protecting the lives and health of American workers on the job.

Rep. Steven Symms (R-Ida.) once again led the "destroy OSHA" campaign. During debate on a Labor Dept. funding bill, Symms tried to slash $10.3 million in funds for OSHA job site inspection and other enforcement activities. The House rejected the Symms amendment, 177-240, on June 27.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

4. Collective Bargaining Rights

Legislation implementing last year's Panama Canal treaties included key worker protection provisions for Canal Zone workers. The bill brought these employees under Title VII of the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act, which provides for collective bargaining on all issues except wages, which are set separately by law. Without the implementing legislation, these workers would have been denied statutory collective bargaining and union rights protections. A conservative-led effort to defeat the implementing legislation was rejected as the House approved the bill, 224-202, on June 21.

For—Right. Against—Wrong.

5. Union Publications

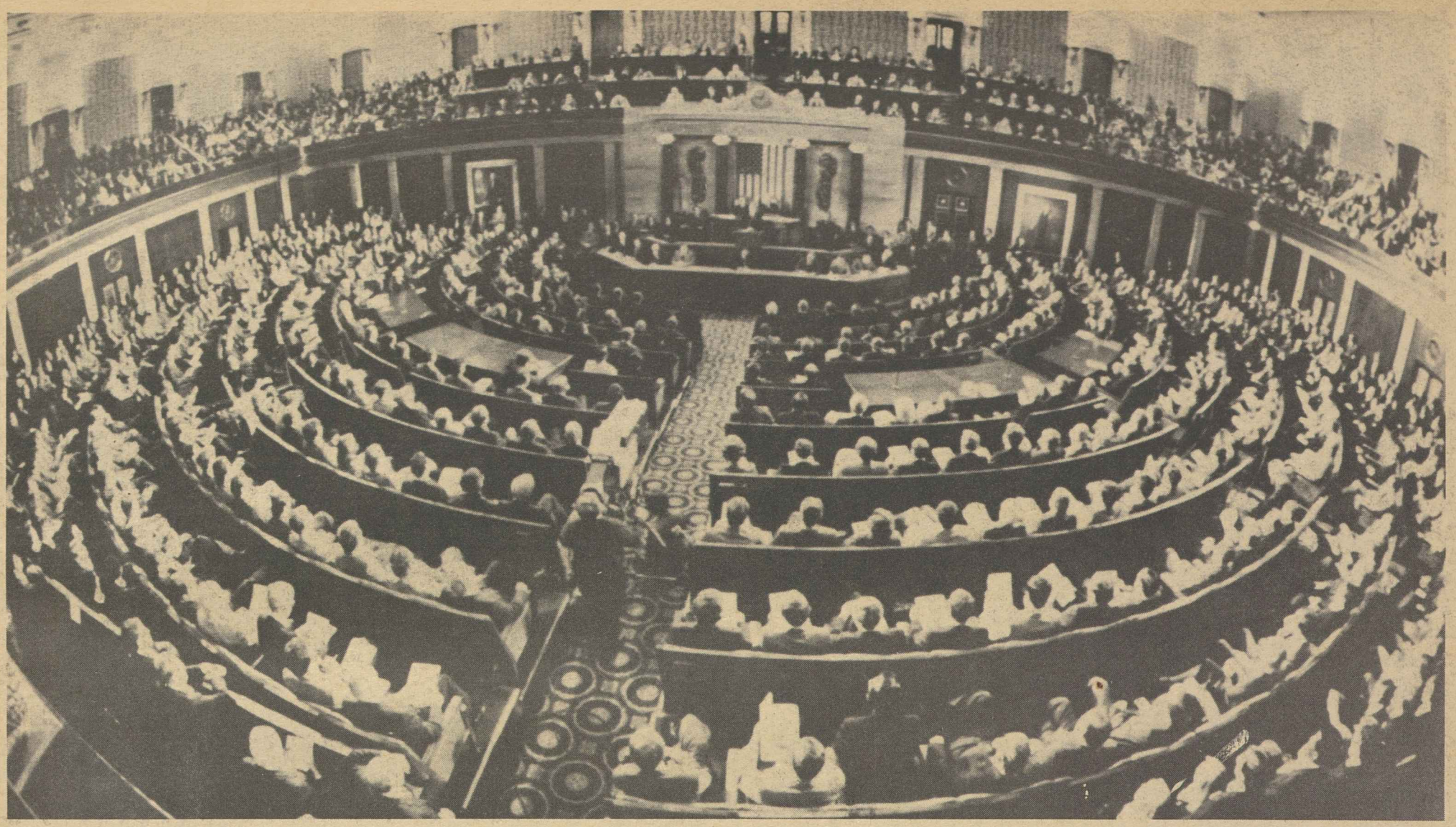
Postal rates for the publications of non-profit groups such as unions have increased over 1,200 percent during the last eight years. By 1987, rates will increase another 1,400 percent. These skyrocketing costs have already caused nearly 100 union papers to go out of business. As a result, unions are restricted in their ability to communicate with their members.

To help offset the postal price hikes, Congress established a public service subsidy for the postal service. Many more union, church and other non-profit groups would cease publication without this subsidy. During debate on postal service legislation, Rep. James Courter (R-N.J.) tried to cut the subsidy by $1.6 billion over the next five years. The House rejected this effort, 125-242, on Sept. 9.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

6. Assisting Disabled Workers

The federal social security system provides benefits to permanently disabled workers unable to be re-employed. Earlier this year, the Carter Administration



	Davis-Bacon I	Davis-Bacon II	Job Safety	Collective Bargaining	Union Publications	Disabled Workers	Export of Jobs	Jobs	Total Labor Votes 1979		Energy I	Energy II	Energy III	Energy IV	Energy V	Energy VI	Education Department	Civil Rights	Rhodesian Sanctions	Balanced Budget	Federal Budget	Food Stamps	Cumulative Voting Record	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	R	W	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	R	W
IOWA																								
1. Leach J. (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	18	45
2. Tauke (R)	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	A	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	4	14
3. Grassley (R)	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	19	90
4. Smith N. (D)	R	R	R	R	A	A	W	R	5	1	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	A	R	R	R	178	33
5. Harkin (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	A	R	R	76	26
6. Bedell (D)	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	4	4	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	70	38
KANSAS																								
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	21	137
2. Jeffries (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	A	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	17
3. Winn (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	A	W	A	R	W	W	W	W	W	31	138
4. Glickman (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	39	24
5. Whittaker (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	18
KENTUCKY																								
1. Hubbard (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	R	A	A	59	46
2. Natcher (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	5	3	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	173	72
3. Mazzoli (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	W	R	R	W	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	107	45
4. Snyder (R)	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	37	150
5. Carter (R)	W	R	R	W	A	R	A	W	3	3	W	W	W	R	W	A	R	R	W	W	W	R	60	122
6. Hopkins (R)	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	2	6	W	W	W	A	A	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	4	14
7. Perkins (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	6	2	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	224	26
LOUISIANA																								
1. Livingston (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	7	40
2. Boggs (R)	R	R	R	W	R	R	A	W	5	2	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	90	34
3. Treen (R)	W	W	W	W	A	A	A	A	0	4	W	W	W	W	W	A	R	W	A	W	A	A	11	106
4. Leach C. (D)	W	A	R	W	A	W	W	W	1	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	A	R	W	W	R	5	12
5. Huckaby (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	A	1	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	16	45
6. Moore (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	A	12	96
7. Breaux (D)	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	49	75
8. Long G. (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	5	3	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	A	A	99	75
MAINE																								
1. Emery (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	A	R	W	W	R	48	59
2. Snowe (R)	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	4	4	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	12	8
MARYLAND																								
1. Bauman (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	17	109
2. Long C. (D)	W	W	R	R	R	R	W	W	4	4	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	139	57
3. Mikulski (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	56	6
4. Holt (R)	W	W	W	W	W	A	R	W	1	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	20	108
5. Spellman (D)	A	R	A	R	A	A	R	W	3	1	A	A	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	R	R	85	12
6. Byron B. (D)	W	W	R	W	R	W	R	W	3	5	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	9	11
7. Mitchell P. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	144	8
8. Barnes (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	19	1
MASSACHUSETTS																								
1. Conte (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	138	84
2. Boland (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	224	22
3. Early (D)	R	R	R	R	A	W	R	R	6	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	86	19
4. Drinan (D)	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	135	17
5. Shannon (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	18	2
6. Mavroleus (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	18	1
7. Markey (D)	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	53	9
8. O'Neill (D)																							173	9
9. Moakley (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	116	11
10. Heckler (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	R	121	50
11. Donnelly (D)	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	R	5	3	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	W	R	W	R	R	14	5
12. Studds (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	119	12

proposed sharp cutbacks in disability insurance benefits at a time when participation rates were at a 20-year low and the disability fund was running a surplus.

The House Ways & Means Committee later reported a bill lowering benefits for future disabled workers by an average of 15 percent and sharply restricting the right of disabled young workers to exclude low-earnings years in computing benefits. The AFL-CIO opposed these cutbacks, but the House approved the disability benefit reductions, 235-162, on Sept. 6. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

7. Export of Jobs

Unregulated exports of U.S. commodities have cost the nation hundreds of thousands of job opportunities while driving up the cost of goods in short supply. Over 400,000 jobs in the shoe and leather finishing industry are threatened by the scarcity and rising price of domestic cattle hides as export demand has caused the price of this unfinished product to nearly double since 1977. Other major leather-producing countries have already clamped on export controls.

During House debate on a federal export policy bill, Rep. James Shannon (D-Mass.) offered a proposal to establish export controls on cattle hides if certain shortage conditions existed. Ignoring employment and cost impact, the House rejected the Shannon amendment, 186-218, on Sept. 18. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Right. Against—Wrong.

Key to Symbols

R Voted Right or was paired Right.
W Voted Wrong or was paired Wrong.
A Absent and not paired.
*** Not in Congress at time.**

The number before each name shows the congressional district.

8. Jobs for the Unemployed

During House debate on a Defense Dept. appropriations bill, Rep. Joseph Addabbo (D-N.Y.) tried to assist areas experiencing economic distress and high unemployment by setting aside a limited amount of funding for military supply contracts for these areas. His amendment was backed by the AFL-CIO as a means of targeting federal spending to areas most in need. Although the jobless rate is increasing, the House rejected the Addabbo amendment, 174-187, on Sept. 28.

For—Right. Against—Wrong.

9. Energy I—Oil Industry Profits

Throughout 1979, the oil lobby repeatedly won key legislative battles in the Congress. Early in the year, President Carter decontrolled the price of domestically produced crude oil, an action that the Treasury Dept. acknowledges will cost American consumers $1.1 trillion over the next 10 years. This will have a catastrophic inflationary effect on the economy and the pocketbooks of American workers.

To recover billions of dollars in excess oil company profits for development of alternative energy sources, Carter proposed a windfall profits tax. The AFL-CIO found the proposal inadequate and, facing a Congress unwilling to reinstate price controls, urged a tougher windfall tax. The House Ways & Means Committee reported a bill that was stronger than the Administration's proposal and set the tax rate at 70 percent. But when the bill came to the floor, the oil lobby succeeded in substantially weakening the committee bill. An amendment by Rep. James Jones (D-Okla.), approved, 236-183, on June 28, cut the tax rate from 70 to 60 percent and shaved billions of dollars in taxes off specific categories of oil. The Jones amendment will have the effect of giving the oil industry at least another $10 billion in windfall profits during the next decade.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

10. Energy II—Oil Industry Profits

In an attempt to strengthen the windfall tax bill, Rep. James Shannon (D-Mass.) and Rep. Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) tried to extend the duration of the tax on old oil (produced before 1973) for an additional 13 months. Their amendment would have kept some $4 billion from going back into the coffers of the oil industry during the next 10 years. Once again, big oil

How Your Representatives Voted

	1 Davis-Bacon I	2 Davis-Bacon II	3 Job Safety	4 Collective Bargaining	5 Union Publications	6 Disabled Workers	7 Export of Jobs	8 Jobs	Total Labor Votes 1979 R	W	9 Energy I	10 Energy II	11 Energy III	12 Energy IV	13 Energy V	14 Energy VI	15 Education Department	16 Civil Rights	17 Rhodesian Sanctions	18 Balanced Budget	19 Federal Budget	20 Food Stamps	Cumulative Voting Record R	W
MICHIGAN																								
1. Conyers (D)	A	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	3	0	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	154	15
2. Pursell (R)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	6	2	R	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	33	26
3. Wolpe (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	18	2
4. Stockman (R)	W	W	A	R	W	W	W	R	2	5	W	W	W	W	A	A	R	W	W	W	W	W	9	45
5. Sawyer (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	12	47
6. Carr (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	W	A	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	98	18
7. Kildee (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	58	5
8. Traxler (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	92	17
9. Vander Jagt (R)	A	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	3	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	30	136
10. Albosta (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	W	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	16	4
11. Davis (R)	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	4	4	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	7	13
12. Bonior (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	58	5
13. Diggs (D)	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	A	6	0	R	R	R	R	A	A	W	R	R	R	R	R	200	11
14. Nedzi (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	W	R	6	1	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	182	20
15. Ford W. (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	A	A	5	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	A	R	166	8
16. Dingell (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	213	16
17. Brodhead (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	101	7
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	98	11
19. Broomfield (R)	W	W	W	R	A	W	R	R	3	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	38	126
MINNESOTA																								
1. Erdahl (R)	A	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	0	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	3	15
2. Hagedorn (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	10	96
3. Frenzel (R)	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	31	120
4. Vento (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	58	5
5. Sabo (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	18	2
6. Nolan (D)	R	A	R	A	R	R	R	R	6	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	97	7
7. Stangeland (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	1	7	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	8	55
8. Oberstar (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	A	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	99	9
MISSISSIPPI																								
1. Whitten (D)	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	R	R	W	70	178
2. Bowen (D)	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	A	R	W	R	43	86
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	20	152
4. Hinson (R)	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	17
5. Lott (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	23	102
MISSOURI																								
1. Clay (D)	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	139	8
2. Young R. (D)	A	R	R	R	A	A	R	W	4	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	50	10
3. Gephardt (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	48	15
4. Skelton (D)	R	A	R	W	R	W	W	A	3	3	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	36	21
5. Bolling (D)	R	A	A	A	A	W	W	A	1	2	A	A	A	A	A	W	A	A	A	R	R	R	209	11
6. Coleman (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	8	54
7. Taylor (R)	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	14	113
8. Ichord (D)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	74	125
9. Volkmer (D)	R	A	R	W	R	W	W	W	3	4	R	W	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	39	22
10. Burlison (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	124	43
MONTANA																								
1. Williams P. (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	5	3	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	16	4
2. Marlenee (R)	W	R	W	W	R	R	W	W	3	5	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	A	W	W	W	15	44
NEBRASKA																								
1. Bereuter (R)	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	5	15
2. Cavanaugh (D)	R	R	R	R	A	R	W	A	5	1	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	W	R	43	17
3. Smith V. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	13	95
NEVADA																								
AL Santini (D)	W	R	W	W	W	R	W	R	3	5	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	48	57
NEW HAMPSHIRE																								
1. D'Amours (D)	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	84	25
2. Cleveland (R)	W	R	W	W	A	A	R	A	2	3	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	42	149
New Jersey																								
1. Florio (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	94	13
2. Hughes (D)	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	79	28
3. Howard (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	166	15
4. Thompson (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	6	2	A	R	R	R	R	A	W	A	A	R	R	R	214	12
5. Fenwick (R)	W	W	R	R	A	W	R	R	4	3	W	W	R	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	R	52	55
6. Forsythe (R)	A	A	A	A	A	W	W	W	1	3	A	A	A	W	A	W	A	A	A	W	W	W	37	96
7. Maguire (D)	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	92	14
8. Roe (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	A	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	136	16
9. Hollenbeck (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	44	17
10. Rodino (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	A	A	R	R	R	R	R	230	11
11. Minish (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	186	13
12. Rinaldo (R)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	R	102	25
13. Courter (R)	W	R	W	W	W	W	A	R	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	W	4	15
14. Guarini (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	19	1
15. Patten (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	189	14
NEW MEXICO																								
1. Lujan (R)	R	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	34	111
2. Runnels (D)	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	33	104
NEW YORK																								
1. Carney (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	3	17
2. Downey (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	A	A	5	1	R	R	R	R	A	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	92	12
3. Ambro (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	84	22
4. Lent (R)	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	6	2	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	41	105
5. Wydler (R)	A	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	5	2	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	63	131
6. Wolff (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	162	23
7. Addabbo (D)	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	W	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	197	14
8. Rosenthal (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	A	6	0	R	R	R	A	R	A	R	R	A	R	R	R	184	12
9. Ferraro (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	A	R	6	1	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	W	R	R	R	R	16	2
10. Biaggi (D)	R	R	R	W	A	R	R	A	5	1	R	R	R	R	W	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	137	24
11. Scheuer (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	149	15
12. Chisholm (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	145	9
13. Solarz (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	93	12
14. Richmond (D)	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	99	7
15. Zeferetti (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	A	W	R	R	W	R	A	R	R	94	11
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	A	A	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	117	11
17. Murphy J. (D)	A	R	A	R	R	W	R	R	5	1	W	R	R	W	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	159	19
18. Green (R)	W	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	5	3	W	R	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	22	16
19. Rangel (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	A	R	A	A	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	133	11
20. Weiss (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	57	5
21. Garcia (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	34	3
22. Bingham (D)	R	R	R	R	A	R	W	R	6	1	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	168	16
23. Peyser (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	W	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	81	15
24. Ottinger (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	126	18
25. Fish (R)	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	R	72	88
26. Gilman (R)	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	6	2	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	92	36
27. McHugh (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	87	16
28. Stratton (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	6	2	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	171	41
29. Solomon (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	4	16
30. McEwen (R)	R	A	W	W	A	A	R	R	3	2	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	28	144
31. Mitchell D. (R)	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	5	3	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	55	74
32. Hanley (D)	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	167	23
33. Lee (R)	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	6	14
34. Horton (R)	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	7	1	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	130	67
35. Conable (R)	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	R	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	33	154
36. LaFalce (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	84	24
37. Nowak (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	98	11
38. Kemp (R)	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	2	6	W	W	W	A	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	30	117
39. Lundine (D)	R	A	R	R	R	W	R	R	6	1	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	61	16
NORTH CAROLINA																								
1. Jones W. (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	R	A	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	62	113
2. Fountain (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	38	179
3. Whitley (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	23	39
4. Andrews I. (D)	W	W	R	R	R	W	R	W	4	4	W	R	R	W	W	R	W	R	A	R	R	R	54	68
5. Neal (D)	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	2	6	W	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	48	59
6. Preyer (D)	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	3	5	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	88	72
7. Rose (D)	A	W	W	W	R	W	A	A	1	4	W	W	R	W	W	A	W	R	R	R	R	R	70	48
8. Hefner (D)	W	A	W	R	R	W	W	W	2	5	W	R	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	W	R	45	61
9. Martin (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	A	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	10	117
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	6	182
11. Gudger (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	2	6	W	W	R	W	A	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	24	38
NORTH DAKOTA																								
AL Andrews M. (R)	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	57	136
OHIO																								
1. Gradison (R)	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	81	85
2. Luken (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	A	R	R	R	56	16
3. Hall T. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	17	3
4. Guyer (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	A	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	21	104
5. Latta (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	27	195
6. Harsha (R)	W	A	R	W	W	R	W	R	3	4	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	A	W	W	W	43	159
7. Brown C. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	A	A	0	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	A	30	141
8. Kindness (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	A	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	12	94
9. Ashley (D)	R	A	R	R	R	W	W	A	4	2	W	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	199	26
10. Miller C. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	20	159
11. Stanton (R)	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	61	126
12. Devine (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	23	198
13. Pease (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	51	12

won the day as the House rejected the amendment, 172-241, on June 28.

For—Right. Against—Wrong.

11. Energy III—Oil Industry Profits

The intent of the windfall profits bill was to tax a major portion of the excess oil company profits resulting from decontrol. The new tax revenues would be used for programs encouraging conservation, developing alternative energy sources, mass transit and aid to low-income families unable to pay skyrocketing home heating oil costs. The oil industry pushed hard to have the billions in windfall profits "plowed back" to the companies. This scheme was proposed by Rep. Barber Conable (R-N.Y.) when he tried to recommit the windfall profits tax bill to committee with instructions to include the "plowback" provision. The House rejected his motion, 186-229, on June 28.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

12. Energy IV—Oil Price Decontrol

The double-digit inflation of 1978 was fueled primarily by skyrocketing energy costs. Making matters worse was President Carter's decision to phase out federal price controls on domestic oil which will result in consumers paying an additional $1.1 trillion over the next decade. For a family of four, this will mean an average fuel cost increase of nearly $20,000 in the next ten years.

During debate on a Dept. of Energy funding bill, Rep. Toby Moffett (D-Conn.) offered an amendment to clamp controls back on crude oil. By 135-257 on Oct. 11, the House voted with big oil and against American consumers. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Right. Against—Wrong.

Key to Symbols

R Voted Right or was paired Right.
W Voted Wrong or was paired Wrong.
A Absent and not paired.
*** Not in Congress at time.**

The number before each name shows the congressional district.

13. Energy V—Oil Industry Monopoly

The tentacles of the oil industry exert excessive monopoly power over U.S. energy sources. For example, the top 20 oil companies control 94 percent of crude oil reserves, over 75 percent of well production, 84 percent of refining capacity, 92 percent of pipeline shipments and over 80 percent of the retail outlets. This same cartel also controls, in other energy areas, 40 percent of leased coal reserves, over 70 percent of natural gas supply and more than 50 percent of uranium stock. Big oil is also getting heavily involved in solar and geothermal energy production.

In 1979, Congress considered legislation to provide federal funds encouraging development of synthetic fuels. Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.) proposed an amendment to keep the largest eight oil companies from monopolizing this new potential energy source. The House rejected the Udall amendment, 127-263, on June 26.

For—Right. Against—Wrong.

14. Energy VI—Alaskan Oil Exports

The energy crisis of 1979 could have gotten far worse had the Congress approved a proposal to allow the oil industry to export Alaskan oil. This would have saved oil companies transportation costs, but would have done nothing to lower U.S. oil prices. The proposal would have chilled new U.S. refinery construction and potential for a California-Texas pipeline. The AFL-CIO and consumer groups vigorously fought this scheme at a time when oil and gas shortages were already driving up energy costs and threatening workers' living standards and the U.S. economy.

The House faced the issue in an export policy bill, which contained safeguards prohibiting Alaskan oil exports unless consumers benefitted. An effort by Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.) to weaken these protections was soundly defeated, 61-340, on Sept. 25.

The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

15. Education Department

The AFL-CIO opposed a Carter Administration bill to establish a separate Cabinet-level Dept. of Education because it would isolate education concerns from closely related issues such as child care, health services and income maintenance. Further, the proposed bill

How Your Representatives Voted

	1 Davis-Bacon I	2 Davis-Bacon II	3 Job Safety	4 Collective Bargaining	5 Union Publications	6 Disabled Workers	7 Export of Jobs	8 Jobs	Total Labor Votes 1979 R	W	9 Energy I	10 Energy II	11 Energy III	12 Energy IV	13 Energy V	14 Energy VI	15 Education Department	16 Civil Rights	17 Rhodesian Sanctions	18 Balanced Budget	19 Federal Budget	20 Food Stamps	Cumulative Voting Record R	W
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	133	15
15. Wylie (R)	W	R	W	W	W	R	R	A	3	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	38	135
16. Regula (R)	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	41	91
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	21	186
18. Applegate (D)	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	6	2	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	46	17
19. Williams L. (R)	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	6	2	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	9	11
20. Oakar (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	56	6
21. Stokes (D)	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	6	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	139	9
22. Vanik (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	202	20
23. Mottl (D)	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	A	W	W	R	73	32
OKLAHOMA																								
1. Jones J. (D)	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	R	W	A	W	W	R	R	W	R	R	50	74
2. Synar (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	11	19
3. Watkins (D)	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	13	56
4. Steed (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	A	5	2	W	A	A	W	W	W	W	R	A	W	R	R	153	87
5. Edwards M. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	6	56
6. English (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	A	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	25	82
OREGON																								
1. AuCoin (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	A	5	2	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	R	71	33
2. Ullman (D)	W	R	R	R	A	W	W	W	3	4	R	R	R	A	A	R	W	R	A	R	A	R	169	54
3. Duncan R. (D)	W	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	A	R	R	85	39
4. Weaver (D)	R	R	R	R	A	A	W	W	4	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	R	89	13
PENNSYLVANIA																								
1. Myers M. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	52	8
2. Gray (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	19	0
3. Lederer (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	54	7
4. Dougherty (R)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	11	9
5. Schulze (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	19	87
6. Yatron (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	W	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	130	30
7. Edgar (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	7	0	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	A	R	92	12
8. Kostmayer (D)	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	54	7
9. Shuster (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	2	6	W	W	W	W	A	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	18	111
10. McDade (R)	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	6	2	R	W	R	A	W	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	131	66
11. Flood (D)	R	A	A	A	A	A	R	A	2	0	A	A	A	A	W	A	R	A	A	R	R	R	209	22
12. Murtha (D)	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	7	0	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	97	18
13. Coughlin (R)	A	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	6	1	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	54	107
14. Moorhead W. (D)	R	R	R	R	A	W	R	R	6	1	R	W	A	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	198	18
15. Ritter (R)	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	6	14
16. Walker (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	3	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	13	49
17. Ertel (D)	R	R	R	R	A	W	R	R	6	1	W	R	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	41	18
18. Walgren (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	51	10
19. Goodling (R)	W	R	A	W	R	W	R	W	3	4	W	W	W	W	R	A	W	R	W	W	W	W	25	78
20. Gaydos (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	A	A	138	15
21. Bailey (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	17	3
22. Murphy A. (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	48	13
23. Clinger (R)	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	6	2	A	A	A	W	W	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	11	6
24. Marks (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	42	21
25. Atkinson (D)	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	15	5
RHODE ISLAND																								
1. St Germain (D)	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	A	6	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	184	18
2. Beard E. (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	96	12
SOUTH CAROLINA																								
1. Davis (D)	R	A	R	R	A	R	W	A	4	1	A	A	A	W	A	R	W	R	R	W	A	R	86	49
2. Spence (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	24	127
3. Derrick (D)	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	3	5	A	W	A	W	W	R	W	R	A	R	R	R	55	47
4. Campbell (R)	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	1	18
5. Holland (D)	R	A	W	R	A	A	W	A	2	2	R	W	R	A	W	R	W	R	W	A	R	R	49	42
6. Jenrette (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	4	4	R	R	R	W	A	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	71	33
SOUTH DAKOTA																								
1. Daschle (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	18	2
2. Abdnor (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	A	24	101
TENNESSEE																								
1. Quillen (R)	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	W	5	3	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	26	164
2. Duncan J. (R)	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	32	160
3. Bouquard (D)	A	R	W	W	R	W	R	W	3	4	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	59	48
4. Gore (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	48	15
5. Boner (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	17	3
6. Beard R. (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	14	107
7. Jones E. (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	6	2	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	89	65
8. Ford H. (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	A	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	96	11
TEXAS																								
1. Hall S. (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	R	W	15	53
2. Wilson C. (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	83	39
3. Collins J. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	12	153
4. Roberts (D)	W	W	W	A	A	A	W	W	0	6	W	W	W	A	A	A	W	W	A	W	R	W	57	135
5. Mattox (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	40	22
6. Gramm (D)	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	4	16
7. Archer (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	W	9	145
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	160	14
9. Brooks (D)	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	A	R	R	178	61
10. Pickle (D)	A	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	3	4	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	97	92
11. Leath (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	R	W	5	15
12. Wright (D)	R	R	R	R	A	W	A	W	4	2	W	W	R	W	W	A	W	R	R	R	R	R	166	57
13. Hightower (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	W	34	74
14. Wyatt (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	2	18
15. de la Garza (D)	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	A	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	R	R	95	85
16. White (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	74	116
17. Stenholm (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	4	16
18. Leland (D)	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	W	6	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	16	3
19. Hance (D)	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	4	16
20. Gonzalez (D)	R	A	R	R	R	R	W	W	5	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	185	17
21. Loeffler (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	18
22. Paul (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	W	2	18
23. Kazen (D)	R	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	94	90
24. Frost (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	6	2	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	13	7
UTAH																								
1. McKay (D)	W	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	4	4	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	W	R	R	A	R	87	55
2. Marriott (R)	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	1	7	W	W	W	A	A	R	R	A	W	W	W	W	9	51
VERMONT																								
AL Jeffords (R)	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	6	2	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	54	52
VIRGINIA																								
1. Trible (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	8	54
2. Whitehurst (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	A	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	A	W	W	W	27	132
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	A	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	16	174
4. Daniel R. W. (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	14	114
5. Daniel D. (D)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	15	149
6. Butler (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	2	6	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	12	144
7. Robinson (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	14	139
8. Harris (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	90	19
9. Wampler (R)	R	W	W	A	R	W	W	W	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	33	150
10. Fisher (D)	R	R	R	R	A	W	W	W	4	3	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	79	28
WASHINGTON																								
1. Pritchard (R)	W	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	R	54	74
2. Swift (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	17	3
3. Bonker (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	87	16
4. McCormack	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	R	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	122	24
5. Foley (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	153	33
6. Dicks (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	5	3	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	52	9
7. Lowry (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	6	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	17	3
WEST VIRGINIA																								
1. Mollohan (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	8	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	141	23
2. Staggers (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	233	18
3. Slack (D)	R	R	R	W	A	R	R	W	5	2	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	167	51
4. Rahall (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	6	2	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	47	15
WISCONSIN																								
1. Aspin (D)	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	6	2	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	123	25
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R	R	R	W	A	R	R	6	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	198	22
3. Baldus (D)	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	5	3	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	87	18
4. Zablocki (D)	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	235	18
5. Reuss (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	7	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	223	16
6. Petri (R)	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	4	4	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	A	W	W	W	7	12
7. Obey (D)	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	7	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	137	25
8. Roth (R)	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	A	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	4	15
9. Sensenbrenner (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	1	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	3	17
WYOMING																								
AL Cheney (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	8	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	A	W	W	2	18

failed to bring a number of major education programs such as Headstart and veterans' education under the new agency. Federal education policy until now has been the responsibility of the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. The House approved the Dept. of Education bill, 210-206, on July 11. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

16. Civil Rights

The AFL-CIO has supported the use of busing as a last resort to overcome clear patterns of school segregation and to assure equal educational opportunity. In 1979, Rep. Ron Mottl (D-Ohio) introduced a constitutional amendment to ban busing. The AFL-CIO opposed this measure as an attack on the purpose of the Constitution, as well as on the 25-year struggle to overcome the effects of enforced school segregation.

Mottl succeeded in securing the signatures of a majority of House members on a petition to discharge the amendment from the House Judiciary Committee. However, intensive lobbying by the AFL-CIO, civil rights, education and other groups turned the tide as the House, by a 209-216 vote on July 24, not only failed to gain the two-thirds vote necessary for a constitutional amendment, but provided a majority against the proposal. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

17. Rhodesian Sanctions

The AFL-CIO has repeatedly opposed efforts by congressional conservatives to end prematurely U.S. compliance with the United Nations trade and economic sanctions against the Rhodesian government. The installation of a new government in June 1979 brought hope of eventual majority rule and full democratic rights in Rhodesia. Until real progress is made in reaching these goals, the AFL-CIO and the Carter Administration oppose efforts to unilaterally lift economic sanctions.

During House debate on Rhodesian policy, Rep. William Broomfield (R-Mich.) offered an amendment to cripple the President's authority to maintain the sanctions as leverage on the new Rhodesian government. His effort was rejected, 147-242, on June 28.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

18. Balance the Federal Budget

In 1979, conservatives launched a campaign to force Congress to balance the federal budget, regardless of economic conditions. A balanced budget requirement would prohibit federal spending that exceeds federal revenues. Without the option of deficit spending, recessions could easily turn into depressions as economic stimulus programs, including public works, public service jobs, mass transit, housing, etc., could lead to an unbalanced budget and, therefore, would be outlawed.

A key fight on the balanced budget requirement came when Rep. Phil Gramm (D-Tex.), proposed an amendment mandating a balanced budget by 1981 unless two-thirds of the House and Senate voided the requirement. This would have effectively left a legislative minority in control of federal fiscal policy. The House on Mar. 15 killed the amendment by narrowly upholding, 201-199, the debate rule blocking consideration.

For the rule—Right. Against the rule—Wrong.

19. Federal Budget

The 1974 Budget Act requires Congress to set federal spending goals. The initial step in that procedure—the first budget resolution—establishes spending targets for the next fiscal year and must be enacted by May 15 of each year.

During debate on the first budget resolution for fiscal year 1980, the House fought off repeated conservative attempts to cut back spending for human needs in such program areas as health, education and jobs. The key vote came on an amendment by Rep. Majorie Holt (R-Md.) to slash over $6 billion in non-defense spending, primarily in social programs. The House rejected the Holt amendment, 198-218, on May 9. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

20. Food Stamps

The food stamp program has been the major federal weapon in the war on hunger. By the end of 1978 the program was helping some 15.6 million poor people. In 1979, conservatives targeted this much-needed food assistance program in their drive to ax federal spending for human services.

Rep. Thomas Coleman (R-Mo.) offered an amendment to slash some $650 million from the food stamp program. The House rejected the proposal, 147-276, on May 9.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

How Your Senators Voted

	Right-to-Work	Davis-Bacon I	Davis-Bacon II	Collective Bargaining	Job Safety I	Job Safety II	Jobs	Total Labor Votes 1979		Energy I	Energy II	Balanced Budget	Federal Budget	Waste in Government	Housing	Food Stamps	Rhodesian Sanctions	Civil Rights	Subsidies	Federal Regulations	Filibuster Reform	Cumulative Voting Record	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	W	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	R	W
ALABAMA																							
Heflin (D)	R	R	R	W	A	R	A	4	1	A	R	W	W	W	A	R	W	R	W	W	R	8	7
Stewart (D)	W	R	R	W	W	R	R	4	3	R	R	R	W	A	A	R	R	R	A	W	R	11	5
ALASKA																							
Gravel (D)	A	R	R	R	A	R	R	5	0	A	R	R	R	R	R	A	A	R	R	A	A	99	21
Stevens (R)	W	W	A	R	R	W	R	3	3	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	R	A	W	W	75	62
ARIZONA																							
DeConcini (D)	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	4	3	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	30	25
Goldwater (R)	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	0	6	W	W	W	A	W	R	W	W	W	W	A	W	16	162
ARKANSAS																							
Bumpers (D)	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	4	3	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	R	R	R	W	R	52	41
Pryor (D)	R	W	R	W	W	W	W	2	5	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	11	8
CALIFORNIA																							
Cranston (D)	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	6	1	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	A	A	133	14
Hayakawa (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	R	A	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	8	47
COLORADO																							
Hart (D)	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	5	2	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	79	18
Armstrong (R)	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	0	6	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	17
CONNECTICUT																							
Ribicoff (D)	R	A	R	R	A	R	A	4	0	A	R	R	R	A	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	158	22
Weicker (R)	R	R	W	W	R	R	R	5	2	A	W	A	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	A	W	80	46
DELAWARE																							
Biden (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	A	W	A	R	R	R	A	R	W	R	A	R	82	26
Roth (R)	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	24	115
FLORIDA																							
Chiles (D)	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	1	6	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	W	R	W	R	61	78
Stone (D)	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	6	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	R	R	W	R	W	45	53
GEORGIA																							
Nunn (D)	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	1	6	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	44	76
Talmadge (D)	R	R	R	W	A	W	A	3	2	A	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	A	A	76	133
HAWAII																							
Inouye (D)	A	R	A	W	R	W	R	3	2	R	R	R	R	W	A	R	A	R	A	A	R	139	19
Matsunaga (D)	R	A	R	W	W	R	R	4	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	A	48	8
IDAHO																							
Church (D)	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	4	3	R	R	W	W	A	W	R	R	R	R	A	R	161	38
McClure (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	12	103
ILLINOIS																							
Stevenson (D)	R	W	W	W	R	W	R	3	4	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	109	30
Percy (R)	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	5	2	W	W	A	W	W	W	A	R	R	W	R	W	90	52
INDIANA																							
Bayh (D)	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	6	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	A	R	155	11
Lugar (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	4	54
IOWA																							
Culver (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	A	R	A	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	83	8
Jepsen (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	A	W		0	18
KANSAS																							
Dole (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	25	117
Kassebaum (R)	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	2	5	W	W	A	R	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	4	14
KENTUCKY																							
Ford (D)	R	R	W	R	A	A	A	3	1	A	R	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	R	W	R	66	28
Huddleston (D)	R	R	W	A	W	▲	R	3	2	R	R	A	W	A	A	R	W	A	R	W	R	80	31
LOUISIANA																							
Johnston (D)	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	5	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	42	66
Long (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	5	2	W	R	R	R	A	R	A	W	W	A	W	R	109	107
MAINE																							
Muskie (D)	A	R	R	R	R	A	W	4	1	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	165	30
Cohen (R)	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	1	6	A	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	7	11
MARYLAND																							
Sarbanes (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	A	R		53	1
Mathias (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	112	37
MASSACHUSETTS																							
Kennedy (D)	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	6	0	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	A	163	15
Tsongas (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	A	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	17	0
MICHIGAN																							
Levin (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	18	1
Riegle (D)	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	6	0	R	W	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	R		50	4
MINNESOTA																							
Boschwitz (R)	R	W	W	R	W	W	W	2	5	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	4	15
Durenberger (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	6	1	A	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	12	6
MISSISSIPPI																							
Stennis (D)	R	A	W	W	W	W	W	1	5	W	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	A	R	51	175
Cochran (R)	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	1	6	A	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	W	3	15
MISSOURI																							
Eagleton (D)	R	A	R	A	R	R	R	5	0	R	R	A	R	A	A	R	R	R	R	W	R	121	21
Danforth (R)	R	R	R	R	W	W	W	4	3	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	20	38
MONTANA																							
Baucus (D)	R	R	R	W	W	R	R	5	2	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	17	2
Melcher (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	45	12
NEBRASKA																							
Exon (D)	R	W	W	W	A	W	A	1	4	A	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	6	10
Zorinsky (D)	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	2	5	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	R	18	40

	Right-to-Work	Davis-Bacon I	Davis-Bacon II	Collective Bargaining	Job Safety I	Job Safety II	Jobs	Total Labor Votes 1979		Energy I	Energy II	Balanced Budget	Federal Budget	Waste in Government	Housing	Food Stamps	Rhodesian Sanctions	Civil Rights	Subsidies	Federal Regulations	Filibuster Reform	Cumulative Voting Record	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	W	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	R	W
NEVADA																							
Cannon (D)	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	4	3	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	A	W	R	W	R	128	69
Laxalt (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	6	W	R	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	A	A	13	75
NEW HAMPSHIRE																							
Durkin (D)	A	R	R	R	R	W	R	5	1	R	R	R	R	W	R	A	W	R	R	W	R	74	10
Humphrey (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	6	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	2	17
NEW JERSEY																							
Bradley (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	18	1
Williams (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	6	1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	196	15
NEW MEXICO																							
Domenici (R)	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	3	4	W	W	W	R	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	31	83
Schmitt (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	6	W	W	W	R	A	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	9	45
NEW YORK																							
Moynihan (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	51	5
Javits (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	R	R	W	A	R	199	34
NORTH CAROLINA																							
Morgan (D)	R	W	A	W	R	R	R	4	2	A	R	R	R	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	35	55
Helms (R)	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	1	6	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	13	105
NORTH DAKOTA																							
Burdick (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	R	167	30
Young (R)	W	W	W	R	W	A	W	1	5	A	R	W	R	W	W	W	A	W	R	A	W	51	172
OHIO																							
Glenn (D)	R	R	R	W	R	W	R	5	2	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	74	21
Metzenbaum (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	61	7
OKLAHOMA																							
Boren (D)	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	1	6	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	R	5	14
Bellmon (R)	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	1	6	W	R	W	R	W	A	R	W	R	A	W	W	32	113
OREGON																							
Hatfield (R)	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	4	3	A	R	W	W	A	R	R	R	R	R	A	W	88	64
Packwood (R)	R	R	R	W	W	W	W	3	4	R	W	W	R	W	R	R	W	A	R	W	A	69	76
PENNSYLVANIA																							
Heinz (R)	R	A	W	R	R	R	R	5	1	W	W	A	R	W	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	37	18
Schweiker (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	6	1	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	118	35
RHODE ISLAND																							
Pell (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	A	R	175	16
Chafee (R)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	W	W	W	W	W	R	A	R	A	W	R	W	30	24
SOUTH CAROLINA																							
Hollings (D)	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	4	3	R	R	W	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	A	A	80	78
Thurmond (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	W	W	A	W	27	200
SOUTH DAKOTA																							
McGovern (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	A	145	18
Pressler (R)	R	W	R	R	W	W	R	4	3	R	W	A	W	W	A	R	W	R	R	W	W	8	9
TENNESSEE																							
Sasser (D)	A	R	R	R	W	W	W	3	3	R	R	R	W	R	R	A	W	W	W	W	R	39	15
Baker (R)	W	W	W	R	A	W	A	1	4	W	W	W	R	A	R	R	W	A	W	A	W	40	106
TEXAS																							
Bentsen (D)	R	R	W	R	W	W	W	3	4	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	W	W	R	W	R	66	72
Tower (R)	W	W	W	W	A	W	W	0	6	A	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	16	168
UTAH																							
Garn (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	11	86
Hatch (R)	W	A	W	R	W	W	W	1	5	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	5	49
VERMONT																							
Leahy (D)	R	R	R	R	W	W	R	5	2	R	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	78	21
Stafford (R)	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	6	0	R	R	W	A	W	W	A	R	R	R	R	W	92	38
VIRGINIA																							
Byrd H. (D)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	21	152
Warner (R)	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	1	6	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	2	17
WASHINGTON																							
Jackson (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	218	11
Magnuson (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	A	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	213	17
WEST VIRGINIA																							
Byrd R. (D)	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	4	3	W	R	R	R	W	R	R	R	W	W	W	R	144	79
Randolph (D)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	7	0	R	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	W	W	A	R	156	51
WISCONSIN																							
Nelson (D)	R	R	R	R	R	A	A	5	0	R	W	R	R	A	W	R	R	R	R	R	R	158	27
Proxmire (D)	R	R	R	W	R	R	W	5	2	R	W	W	W	R	W	W	W	W	R	R	R	170	52
WYOMING																							
Simpson (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	19
Wallop (R)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	0	7	W	W	W	W	W	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	8	50

Key to Symbols

R Voted Right or was paired Right.
W Voted Wrong or was paired Wrong.
A Absent and not paired.
* Not in Congress at time.

Votes by senators while members of the House are not included in this record.

Labor's Stand on Major 1979 Senate Issues

1. Right-to-Work

Newly elected right-wing conservatives wasted little time in beginning their anti-labor assault in the 96th Congress. Freshman Sen. Roger Jepsen (R-Iowa) tried his luck with a "right-to-work" amendment during debate on a bill creating a separate Dept. of Education. His amendment would have forced the new department to write federal regulations prohibiting school bargaining units from negotiating union security agreements that require new employees to join the union and pay their fair share of contract costs.

Ruled out of order, Jepsen appealed the ruling. Majority Leader Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) offered a motion to table the appeal, which the Senate approved, 68-24, on Apr. 30, thus killing the proposal.

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

2. Davis-Bacon I

After thwarting labor law reform, situs picketing and other key labor legislation in the last Congress, big business launched a major effort in the 96th Congress to undo longstanding labor standards. Their first target: elimination of the wage protections of the Davis-Bacon Act, a 48-year-old law requiring the payment of prevailing wages to building trades workers on federally-financed construction projects. Davis-Bacon discourages cut-throat contract bidding based on paying low wages.

The first attack came on an amendment by Sen. Jake Garn (R-Utah) to a federal housing bill. He proposed exempting the Davis-Bacon journeymen-apprenticeship ratio from residential rehabilitation projects undertaken by federally-funded, non-profit neighborhood groups. The Senate on July 13 rejected the amendment, 35-57. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

3. Davis-Bacon II

Conservatives on the Senate Armed Services Committee succeeded in tacking onto a military funding bill a provision waiving Davis-Bacon protections on military construction projects. During floor debate Sen. John Melcher (D-Mont.) offered an amendment increasing to $10,000 from $2,000 the dollar threshold on contracts exempt from Davis-Bacon. His amendment, which excluded maintenance and repair work, also carried safeguards preventing builders from subdividing contracts to escape the new threshold.

The AFL-CIO and its building trades' unions backed the Melcher amendment as a realistic change in the law and as a way to block a pending amendment by Sen. James Exon (D-Neb.) to bump the threshold to $50,000. If Exon had succeeded, one-fourth of construction workers on all federal projects would have lost Davis-Bacon protections. Exon's attempt to table the Melcher amendment was beaten, 40-57, on July 30. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

4. Collective Bargaining Rights

The Senate Armed Services Committee, dominated by conservatives, continued its anti-worker ways by eliminating House-approved collective bargaining protections for Canal Zone workers in legislation to implement the 1978 Panama Canal treaties. The House bill gave these workers the safeguards of Title VII of the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act which established a collective bargaining system covering all issues except wages, which are set separately by law.

During floor debate, Sen. Charles Mathias (R-Md.) succeeded in reversing the committee action. The Senate adopted his amendment to restore the Title VII protections, 53-45, on July 26.

For—Right. Against—Wrong.

5. Job Safety I

The business-backed attack on working people was also directed at crippling the federal Occupational Safety & Health Act which protects American workers on the job. Sen. Frank Church (D-Ida.) offered an OSHA amendment to a Labor Dept. funding bill exempting job-safety inspections on all businesses of 10 or fewer employees with so-called "low" overall accident rates. His amendment excluded some 9.7 million workers or 15 percent of all employees covered by OSHA as well as 70 percent of businesses now subject to OSHA inspections. The industry classifications used in the Church amendment lumped safe and hazardous business together, leaving unprotected many workers in the most dangerous occupations.

Despite strong AFL-CIO opposition, the Church amendment was ruled germane, that is, relevant to the bill, by a 54-38 vote on July 20, thus clearing the amendment for passage. (However, a compromise amendment, proposed by Senators Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) and Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.) was adopted in place of the Church amendment, substantially narrowing the circumstances under which a job site would be exempted.) *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For germaneness—Wrong. Against germaneness—Right.

6. Job Safety II

A second assault on federal job safety programs came when Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.) tried to exempt hazardous sand, gravel, and other surface mining operations from the training requirements of the Mine Safety & Health Act. The law currently mandates 24 hours of employee job safety training in these occupations.

The key vote on the Bumpers amendment came when Sen. Harrison Williams (D-N.J.) attempted to modify, and thus sidetrack, the Bumpers amendment. This strategy was blocked on July 19 when Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) persuaded the Senate to table the Williams modifier, 59-35.

For tabling—Wrong. Against tabling—Right.

7. Jobs for the Unemployed

A major weapon against high unemployment is the federally funded public service jobs program under the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA). Title VI of CETA provides an important counter-cyclical component that adds funding for jobs when the unemployment rates increase. In 1979, about a half-million jobs were funded under the counter-cyclical program.

CETA became a target of conservatives who sought to cut federal spending at the expense of the unemployed. During debate on a Labor Dept. funding bill, Sen. Lawton Chiles (D-Fla.) tried to slash $505 million from counter-cyclical job funds. This would have cut the program to 100,000 jobs by the end of the fiscal year. The Senate rejected this amendment by agreeing to a tabling motion by Sen. Warren Magnuson (D-Wash.) 50-43, on July 20. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

8. Energy I—Alaskan Oil Exports

The energy crisis of 1979 could have gotten far worse had the Congress approved a proposal to allow the oil industry to export Alaskan oil. The export of Alaskan oil would have saved oil companies transportation costs but would have done nothing to lower U.S. oil prices. The proposal would have chilled new U.S. refinery construction and potential for a California-Texas pipeline. The AFL-CIO and consumer groups vigorously fought this scheme at a time when oil and gas shortages were already driving up energy costs and threatening workers' living standards and the U.S. economy.

The Senate addressed this issue in federal export policy legislation that contained restrictions on the export of Alaskan oil unless it benefitted U.S. consumers. An amendment by Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) to water down these safeguards was rejected as the Senate approved, 52-30, a tabling motion by Sen. Donald W. Riegle (D-Mich.) on July 21. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

9. Energy II—Energy Development

If the United States is to become energy self-sufficient, all energy sources need to be developed so long as they are safe, clean and cost efficient. One of these sources is hydroelectric power—energy generated by water power—of which the Dickey-Lincoln Power Project is a key component. On the drawing board since 1965, the project along the St. John's River in Maine would provide low-cost, TVA-type power to the New England area and cut U.S. oil imports by 2.3 million barrels yearly. The project has been strongly opposed by private utility interests and environmental groups.

During debate on an energy appropriations bill, Sen. William Cohen (R-Me.) tried to cut funds for continued development of the project. The Senate rejected his amendment, 46-51, on July 17.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

10. Balance the Federal Budget

In the wake of the so-called tax revolt of 1978, conservatives attempted to prohibit deficit spending by forcing Congress to adopt a balanced federal budget, regardless of economic conditions. Without the option of deficit spending, recessions could easily turn into depressions as economic stimulus programs, including public works, public service jobs, mass transit, housing, etc., could lead to an unbalanced budget and, therefore, would be outlawed.

A key fight on balancing the budget came during floor debate on a bill to increase the public debt ceiling. Sen. Robert Dole (R-Kan.) tried to prevent debt limit increases regardless of economic circumstances after 1980 unless the budget is balanced or a deficit is approved by a three-fifths vote of Congress. His amendment would give control over congressional economic programs to a legislative minority. The Senate killed the Dole amendment, 46-44, on a tabling motion by Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) on Mar. 26.

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

11. Federal Budget

The 1974 Budget Act created a congressional process to review and set federal spending goals. The initial step—the first budget resolution—establishes desired spending targets for the next fiscal year and must be enacted by May 15 of each year. The next step—the second budget resolution—sets the specific funding levels for the next fiscal year taking into account economic changes since the first budget resolution.

During Senate debate on the second budget resolution, floor amendments to increase defense spending caused a $3.2 billion increase in the federal deficit. To eliminate this added deficit, Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.) proposed a $2.9 billion cut in spending other than defense, primarily reducing social programs. The AFL-CIO opposes any such "guns-or-butter" transfer amendment which would sacrifice one program, be it social needs or national defense, at the expense of the other. The Senate voted 57-41 to table the Bumpers amendment on Sept. 19.

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

12. Waste in Government

A major example of waste in government spending occurs when industry collects excessive profits on Defense Dept. contracts. To stop business from defrauding the taxpayer and to recover overcharges, Congress established the Renegotiation Board in 1951. Since its creation, the board has made overcharge determinations resulting in federal savings of $1.3 billion. In fiscal 1978 alone over $34 million in excess profits were uncovered. For years, big business has sought to eliminate this effective watchdog agency.

Despite their calls for reductions in wasteful federal spending, the Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers and other allies succeeded, in 1979, in cutting off funds for the board. A last gasp effort by Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) to provide interim funding was rejected, 28-56, on Apr. 2. When the Renegotiation Board went out of business, 6,000 cases were still pending, of which 11 alone amounted to claims of over $11 million in taxpayers' funds.

For—Right. Against—Wrong.

13. Housing

Low and middle-income families have been hardest hit by spiraling housing costs and mortgage interest rates. Many workers are either priced out of the market altogether or face the prospect of spending up to 50 percent of their income on housing.

The federal government has a variety of subsidized housing and rental assistance programs to bring monthly housing payments within reach of average-income families. However, amid congressional efforts to cut back federal spending, subsidized housing programs to help the needy were targeted by the budget-cutters. Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) attempted to slash $700 million in appropriations to subsidized housing for fiscal 1980. The Senate on July 27 rejected the amendment, 36-52. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

14. Food Stamps

The food stamp program has been the major federal weapon in the war on hunger. By the end of 1978, the program was helping some 15.6 million poor people. However, 1977 legislation rewrote the original food stamp law and clamped a short-sighted spending lid on the program. Legislators had underestimated the current number of eligible poor people and failed to anticipate the skyrocketing cost of food over the last few years. Keeping an unrealistic spending lid on the program threatened to cut off food assistance to the hungry.

The Senate Budget Committee recognized this need and removed the funding cap from its version of the first budget resolution. An attempt by Sen. Richard

(Continued on next page)

Labor's Stand on Major 1979 Senate Issues

(Continued from previous page)

Lugar (R-Ind.) to restore the cap, thus cutting over $1 billion from the program, was rejected by the Senate, 30-61, on Apr. 25.

For—Wrong. Against—Right.

15. Rhodesian Sanctions

The AFL-CIO has repeatedly opposed efforts by congressional conservatives to end prematurely U.S. compliance with the United Nations trade and economic sanctions imposed against the Rhodesian government. The installation of a new government in June of 1979 has brought hope of eventual majority rule and full domestic rights in Rhodesia. Until real progress is made in reaching these goals, the AFL-CIO and the Carter Administration oppose efforts to unilaterally lift economic sanctions.

In 1979, Senate conservatives on the Armed Services Committee succeeded in amending a Defense Dept. funding bill with language to end the sanctions immediately. During floor debate, Sen. Paul Tsongas (D-Mass.) led efforts to reverse the committee. His amendment to reinstate the sanctions was blocked by the Senate, 52-41, on June 12, on a tabling motion by Sen. John Stennis (D-Miss.).

For tabling—Wrong. Against tabling—Right.

16. Civil Rights

The anti-busing controversy reared its head again in 1979 as Senate conservatives sought to curry favor among this single-issue constituency. The AFL-CIO has supported the use of busing as a last-resort tool to achieve equal education opportunity when all else fails.

During Senate debate on a funding bill for the federal Civil Rights Commission, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) tried to prohibit both court-ordered and voluntary busing. His amendment was defeated, 49-46, on a tabling motion by Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) on June 7.

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

17. Subsidizing Big Business

The 1902 Federal Reclamation Act provides federal subsidies for dam and irrigation projects designed to make arid western land agriculturally productive. To prevent corporate land-grabbing, the 1902 law restricted subsidized water to small, 160-acre family-sized farms. However, lax enforcement has provided billions of dollars in windfall tax subsidies to large agribusiness land-holding monopolies.

To end this corporate welfare scheme, the AFL-CIO has long supported stricter enforcement of the law and loophole-closing reforms in the reclamation program. During 1979 debate on reclamation legislation, Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) offered such an amendment to restrict large growers from evading acreage limitations through unlimited land-leasing schemes. An attempt by Sen. Robert Morgan (D-N.C.) to weaken the amendment was beaten, 52-43, on a tabling motion on Sept. 13, paving the way for adoption of the Hatfield reform. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For tabling—Wrong. Against tabling—Right.

18. Federal Regulations

Throughout 1979, business groups campaigned to eliminate federal regulation of industry. In an attempt to hamstring regulatory agencies, Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.) sponsored an amendment to a federal courts bill that would deny federal regulations the legal presumption of validity as formulated and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. By switching the burden of proof from persons contesting a rule to the agency issuing it, the Bumpers amendment would make it much easier to induce federal courts to strike down or interpret regulations against the public interest, including those dealing with health, safety, consumers and other economic, political and social affairs. Despite already overburdened court dockets, the Senate on Sept. 7 rejected, 27-51, an attempt by Sen. John Culver (D-Iowa) to table the Bumpers amendment.

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

19. Filibuster Reform

The filibuster is a Senate procedure allowing unlimited debate on a bill unless 60 senators vote to invoke cloture to end debate. Filibuster has allowed a minority of Senate conservatives to repeatedly thwart labor-backed economic and social legislation, including the 1978 House-passed Labor Law Reform bill. However, even after 60 senators have voted to invoke cloture, many dilatory tactics have been devised to carry out a second or post-cloture filibuster.

Majority Leader Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) moved to restrict these tactics by limiting debate after cloture to one hundred hours. Conservatives led by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) tried to cripple this important rule change by proposing that only eight hours of the 100-hour post-cloture debate could occur each day, thus guaranteeing at least 8½ days of post-cloture filibuster. The conservatives were beaten when the Senate, on Feb. 22, approved a tabling motion by Sen. Byrd, 52-39. *The AFL-CIO urged grass roots activities on this vote.*

For tabling—Right. Against tabling—Wrong.

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Problems for Catholic Colleges:

Academia Allowing Its Groves To Be Used by Union-Busters

By Msgr. George G. Higgins

THE LABOR MANAGEMENT Relations subcommittee of the House of Representatives held hearings recently on "pressures in the modern workplace." The hearings focused on how management practices and policies not directly related to the work process itself affect and influence the way in which workers experience their jobs.

The pressures examined were not those that arise out of specific work tasks, but rather those that derive from management's ability to control and influence other aspects of what an employee experiences in the workplace—e.g., the use of lie-detector testing for prospective or new employees, the use or misuse of personnel files and, perhaps most importantly, the use of so-called management consulting firms to discourage or prevent workers from organizing into unions of their own choice.

Alan Kistler, director of organization for the national AFL-CIO, told the subcommittee that the anti-union techniques of many of these consulting firms are "analagous to the methods of control used in totalitarian countries where in place of elections, there are plebiscites; in place of legislatures that make real decisions, there are assemblies; in place of unions, there are labor fronts whose mission is to frustrate genuine worker organizations."

That's rather strong language but, on the whole, it's an accurate description of what many consulting firms are really up to. Their main objective, as Kistler put it, is "the denial of democracy in the workplace. Their bottom line is unchallenged management rights."

Unfortunately a number of prestigious colleges and universities—including at least one Catholic institution that I know of, Loyola College in Baltimore—are supporting the efforts of management consulting firms to create what is euphemistically referred to these days as a "union-free environment." They are doing so by sponsoring or co-sponsoring training programs for employer representatives to show them how to exploit the fears of workers and convert those fears into a rejection of collective bargaining. To make matters worse, the union-busting programs being sponsored by a number of colleges and universities openly, even crassly, admit that that's their main objective.

One example will suffice. A brochure bearing the imprint of Loyola College is entitled "Management in a Union-Free Environment; A Unique One-Day Labor Relations Program." Alas, there is nothing "unique" about this union-busting program. It is quite typical of dozens of other seminars or training courses being held throughout the United States. The purpose of these programs, as outlined in considerable detail in the Loyola brochure, is, in Kistler's words, the denial of democracy in the workplace; and their bottom line is unchallenged management rights.

The Loyola brochure puts it very bluntly: "Without unions, there are no restrictive work rules . . . no strong union officials . . . no time wasted in processing union grievances and arbitrations . . . no time lost in contract negotiations, strikes or other non-productive activities."

I simply can't imagine how a Catholic college can justify or rationalize lending its good name to this kind of anti-union propaganda which runs directly counter to traditional Catholic teaching (and directly counter to long-established federal policy) on the subject of trade unionism and collective bargaining.

The last time I made a similar statement in print, a Catholic layman—Joseph O'Connor, who heads a labor relations consulting firm that has several Catholic institutions as clients—courteously took issue with me in the pages of the National Catholic Reporter. He admitted, of course, that any number of official church documents from Leo XIII to the present day speak to the issue of worker rights to form and join labor unions without fear of reprisals from employers." He then went on to argue, however, that unionization is not the only way for the worker to get a fair shake.

THAT'S A NICE THEORETICAL distinction but it is clearly beside the point. The point is that many management consulting firms—including the one that conducted the Loyola program referred to above—are anything but neutral on the right of workers to organize. As stated above, they have only one objective, namely, to thwart the efforts of workers to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining. Some of them unfortunately are prepared, if necessary, to resort to what can only be described as very foul tactics in pursuit of this objective.

Let me cite but one example. A very influential management consultant speaking in what he obviously but mistakenly thought was an off-the-record forum, crassly advised his clients to hire as few black workers as possible because, in his opinion, "blacks tend to be more prone to unionization than whites. . . . If you can keep them at a minimum you are better off." He said that he felt exactly the same way about Indians and Puerto Ricans.

I am not suggesting that all management consulting firms resort to such immoral tactics. As stated above, however, the record will show that far too many of them, while staying within the letter of the law and eschewing racist tactics, have only one objective—to prevent workers from organizing for the purpose of collective bargaining. With all due respect to O'Connor, I find it impossible to reconcile this with the basic principles of Catholic social teaching.

First Decade Reviewed:

Labor Studies Center Courses Keyed to Union Leaders' Needs

THE GEORGE MEANY CENTER for Labor Studies has, during its first decade of operations, demonstrated the value of a national worker education program to better equip union officers and staff for increasingly complex responsibilities.

That view was expressed by Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., executive director of the center, who noted that union leaders must now cope with a large body of legislation, job and community-related problems and "a whole host of issues that weren't with us a number of years ago." He pointed out that the training and education needed in the specific areas of a union representative's job are not available in high schools or colleges, a principal motive for establishment of the center.

Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, Hoehler said earlier generations of union officials were "thrown into the job of business agent or staff representative and told to sink or swim. Fortunately, a great many of them swam," he said.

Hoehler said use of the center and increasing interest in the various programs it offers has grown steadily over the years. He noted that in its first decade, the center has expanded from a small facility in downtown Washington, D.C., to a 47-acre, five-building campus in the Maryland suburbs. More than 3,000 students enrolled last year for courses, institutes and seminars, as well as a long-term degree program conducted in cooperation with Antioch University.

Hoehler said AFL-CIO President George Meany will have an office at the center after his retirement, and plans to lecture periodically in classroom and seminar sessions.

He said Meany's participation will probably be in courses dealing with labor legislation and political issues.

Questioning Hoehler on the public affairs program were Dale McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Harry Conn of Press Associates, Inc.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE RECENT NEW YORK MARATHON seemed like living proof that America is on a physical fitness kick. There were 11,533 starters in that 26-mile, 385-yard race.

On the other hand, there were an estimated 2.5 million spectators.

The jogging craze that is sweeping the nation is seen by some observers as good evidence that more and more people are taking better care of themselves.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Surgeon General said it much more authoritatively in issuing a report titled "Healthy People." The report was the result of a two-year effort to bring together in compact form all the important findings about "health promotion and disease prevention."

In releasing the report almost as his final act as Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare, Joseph Califano said the report's purpose is "to encourage a second public health revolution."

The first public health revolution was, he said, the successful struggle against infectious diseases that spanned the late 19th Century and the first half of the 20th Century in the United States and other industrial nations.

In 1900, the leading causes of death were influenza, pneumonia, diptheria, tuberculosis and gastrointestinal infections. Now the pattern has shifted dramatically, to where the proportion of mortality from major chronic diseases, such as heart disease, cancer and stroke has increased more than 250 percent.

Cardiovascular disease, including heart disease and strokes, accounts for roughly half of all deaths. Cancer accounts for some 20 percent. And accidents take a heavy toll, especially among young people.

"Clearly, the American people are deeply interested in improving their health," declared the Surgeon General's report. "The increased attention now being paid to exercise, nutrition, environmental health and occupational safety testify to their interest and concern with health promotion and disease prevention."

Then, in a burst of what may be excessive optimism, the report declared that "prevention is an idea whose time has come."

The report listed the major risk factors responsible for most early deaths and disabilities. Cigarette smoking led the list as the single most preventable cause of death. Alcohol and drug misuse rate next in exacting a heavy toll, with alcohol a factor in more than 10 percent of all deaths.

OCCUPATIONAL RISKS rate high as another preventable hazard to health and life. The report noted that up to 20 percent of total cancer mortality may be tied to job hazards. It cited asbestos, rubber and plastics workers, along with coke oven workers, as showing significantly higher cancer rates.

Injuries take a heavy toll of life, with accidents accounting for some 50 percent of deaths in the 15 to 24-year-old age group. In 1977, highway accidents killed 49,000 people and disabled another 1.8 million. Firearms were next, claiming 32,000 lives.

Where the report was understandably weak was in describing the social and economic causes underlying so many health problems and discussing political solutions. Reputable scholars have been establishing probable links between unemployment and pathologies such as crime, mental illness and alcohol and drug abuse. And when powerful employer groups fight government regulation of workplace health and safety standards, then progress will be long delayed.

The proponents of a system of universal national health insurance long have argued that there must be basic reform of the present wasteful, inadequate approach to health care. The public by now is aware of runaway hospital and physicians' bills, the maldistribution of care, overspecialization and unnecessary surgery.

While there is much that individuals can do to promote their own health and prevent disease, the crucial battle in any health "revolution" is going to have to be on the political and legislative front.



FILLING SPECIAL EDUCATION needs of union leaders is a prime objective the George Meany Center for Labor Studies, Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., said on Labor News Conference. Interviewing the center's executive director were Harry Conn, left, of Press Associates, Inc., and Dale McFeatters, right, of Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Job Injuries Showed Rise During 1978

(Continued from Page 1)

ers, although the industry's rate of lost time edged down from 1977.

Based on the employer reports, BLS said that about 143,500 recognized new occupational illnesses were estimated for 1978, compared with 162,000 in 1977.

The BLS pointed out that the recording and reporting of job-related illnesses remain difficult, since they may take years to develop before being detected. It also noted that many occupational illnesses may not be recognized.

Focusing on 4,590 job fatalities in 1978, BLS said over-the-road vehicle accidents accounted for 29 percent of the deaths and aircraft crashes for 7 percent.

Other key findings on occupational fatalities show:

- Heart attacks accounted for 9 percent of the total.
- Falls resulted in 13 percent of the deaths, with half of those involving construction workers.
- Six of every 10 deaths resulting from contact with electrical current occurred to workers in the construction and transportation and utilities industries.
- Of all deaths resulting from workers being struck by objects, more than one half occurred in manufacturing.
- Manufacturing also accounted for 61 percent of all deaths due to the inhalation of gases.

According to industry groupings, manufacturing recorded the highest occupational death toll in 1978 —1,170. It was followed by construction, 925; transportation and public utilities, 835; wholesale and retail trade, 655; services, 365; mining, including oil and gas extraction, 165, and agriculture, forestry and fishing, 95.



PRESSING ISSUES affecting workers and their unions in both Portugal and the United States were discussed by representatives of the Portuguese General Union of Workers (UGT) and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland. Meeting with Kirkland were CGT Gen. Sec. Jose Manuel Torres Couto, right, and Jose Luis Canessa, UGT assistant director of international affairs.

West Virginia Delegates Press Energy Program

Charleston, W.Va.—The 12th convention of the West Virginia AFL-CIO unanimously called for reinstatement of oil price controls and for "a realistic tax" on profits of the oil companies. The resolution also urged a greater emphasis on coal as an important factor in answering the energy needs of the United States.

The convention also supported legislative action to bring West Virginia's workers' compensation law into line with the recommendations of the National Commission on State Workmen's Compensation Laws. This would include raising the maximum benefit for total disability and fatality claims to 133-⅓ percent of the state's average weekly wage. In addition, the convention called for an increase in funeral benefits to $2,500 from the present $1,500.

Raising the West Virginia minimum wage to federal standards and reducing maximum hours before overtime to 40 from the present 42 also was urged. The current state minimum wage is $2.20 and has not been increased since 1977.

The 400 delegates also unanimously approved a resolution calling for "the use of American-made products, supplies and materials in all government contracts, when available, without exception."

Other resolutions included several aimed at assuring workers safer work environments. One called for detailed listings of substances at work sites that are "potentially harmful to workers and their families." Another would mandate specific guidelines on voltage differential to protect workers who must work with and around high electrical current.

The delegates also urged legislative action to ban the use of lie detectors by employers and to ensure the marking of prices on individual grocery items.

During the convention, unions in the food and service industries created the West Virginia Food & Beverage Trades Council and committed it to a vigorous program of organization in the state.

The convention elected Eugene Shaffer of Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers Local 627 in Fairmont as first district vice president to fill a vacancy.

Among speakers addressing the convention were Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, Gov. John D. Rockefeller IV, Sen. Jennings Randolph (D-W.Va.), Sen. Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (D-Del.), and Rep. Nick Joe Rahall II (D-W.Va.).

Nebraska Unions Set Legislative Program

Lincoln, Neb.—Needed improvements in workers' compensation and unemployment benefits are priority items in the legislative agenda drafted by delegates to the 23rd convention of the Nebraska AFL-CIO.

Citing the continuing erosion of real benefits by inflation, the 261 convention delegates called for action by the state legislature to raise maximum workers' compensation payments from the current $180 per week to $209. The proposed increase would bring payments to two-thirds of the states' average weekly wage.

The state federation will also be pressing for a substantial boost in jobless benefits from the current ceiling of $108 per week when the next session of the legislature opens in January.

Delegates were welcomed to the convention by President Gordon L. McDonald, who assumed office Sept. 1. McDonald was elected by the executive board to succeed William E. Brennan, who died Aug. 7.

McDonald, 43, has been business manager of Iron Workers Local 21 for the past seven years and president of the Omaha Building & Construction Trades Council. He also has served as president of the Lincoln building trades council.

Top officers of the state federation, including McDonald and Sec.-Treas. Victor G. Meyers, are in the midst of four-year terms. The next elections will be conducted at the 1981 convention.

In other action at the three-day convention, delegates called for improvements in the state collective bargaining law for public employees, stepped-up coordinated union organizing efforts, and continued support of the J. P. Stevens and Coors beer boycotts.

Delegates urged Republican Gov. Charles Thone, a convention speaker, to halt the purchase of J. P. Stevens products by state agencies and institutions.

Other major convention speakers included President Wiliam H. Wynn of the Food & Commercial Workers, William Roehl of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, and John Flynn, president of the Renewable Energy Trade Association.

Debs-Thomas Award Presented to Rogin

Lawrence Rogin, former education director of the AFL-CIO, received the Debs-Thomas Award at a dinner sponsored by the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee and more than a score of international unions.

During his long career, Rogin served also as education director of the Textile Workers, Hosiery Workers, Brookwood Labor College and the University of Michigan-Wayne State Institute of Industrial Relations. He is now at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies and the Asian-American Free Labor Institute.

CORRECTION

The Nov. 3, 1979, issue of the AFL-CIO News on Page 2 carried an AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation report on Senate Finance Committee votes to exempt certain categories of oil production from the windfall profits tax. Three committee members were mistakenly reported absent for votes on two of the exemptions, which were opposed by the AFL-CIO.

Senators Mike Gravel (D-Alaska) and Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) were reported absent on the vote to exempt hard-to-reach oil from the tax. In fact, Gravel voted wrong and Bradley voted right. On the vote to exempt part of Alaskan oil production from the tax, Sen. William V. Roth (R-Del.) was reported absent, but actually voted wrong.

In Final Panel Report:

Stiffer Rules Urged On Toxic Chemicals

Recommendations of a federal task force for tighter regulation of toxic substances are a good start toward curbing health hazards in the workplace and environment, but further studies leading to even stronger rules are needed in certain areas, the AFL-CIO said.

George H. R. Taylor, director of the federation's Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health, commended the overall efforts of the Toxic Substances Strategy Committee in its two-year study. In its draft report to President Carter, the committee of federal agencies called for a bolder regulatory approach of toxic chemicals, particularly in workplaces.

Taylor, however, expressed concern that the committee's recommendations do not fully address the problems of industry's claims of confidentiality, federal coordination of regulatory programs and the government's cost-benefit determinations.

He questioned industry's overuse of "trade secrets" to withhold information on toxic substances.

"Confidentiality claims are frequently raised erroneously simply to deny workers access to information about chemical identities and their hazards," Taylor said in a letter to Committee Chairman Gus Speth, who also heads the Council on Environmental Quality.

On the coordination of regulation among government agencies to achieve greater consistency and efficiency, Taylor said present attempts to reach that goal may not be fully met.

With interagency groups taking additional time to review regulations and policy, Taylor warned that "overly optimistic attempts at coordination in regulatory action may result in major delays, promulgation of regulations weaker than can be achieved by a single agency, or no regulation at all."

Taylor said the problem of cost-benefit analysis is well-researched in the council report, but that it comes to no conclusion on resolving the issue.

A part of the problem is that economic data are mainly derived from management sources, which tend to grossly overestimate cost factors, Taylor said.

He called for the exemption of certain agencies from the cost-benefit studies and for the formation of a special interagency committee to develop a valid cost-benefit analysis system.

House Votes To Set Floor On Welfare

(Continued from Page 1)

grant approach, which the AFL-CIO said would perpetuate inequities and "destroy the principle of individual entitlement to assistance based on need."

The House passed the bill by a 222-184 vote after defeating by only 205-200 a Republican motion to substitute a bill mandating a 10-state test of the block grant approach to federal welfare aid.

The only substantive change in the committee bill was approval by a near-unanimous vote of a non-controversial amendment allowing states to give cash instead of food stamps to elderly people in households containing only persons over 65.

Surveys have shown that only 18 percent of eligible people over 65 actually participated in the food stamp program, and advocates of the cash provision suggest that some elderly feel ashamed to use food stamps and sometimes need help in shopping.

The next move is up to the Senate, where the Finance Committee has not yet held hearings on the Administration bill. It is not expected to reach the Senate floor until the second session of Congress.

Donald Cowette Heads New Hampshire Labor

Hampton Beach, N.H.—The New Hampshire AFL-CIO elected Donald B. Cowette president at its 23rd annual convention to succeed Thomas J. Pitarys, who has headed the state labor federation since its inception in 1957.

Pitarys did not seek re-election to a new two-year term as president-emeritus by special action of the 250 delegates.

Cowette, 45, is business agent of Iron Workers Local 474 in Manchester and serves as president of the Manchester and Concord Building & Construction Trades Council. He also has been a vice president of the State AFL-CIO for the past eight years.

Pitarys will continue as New Hampshire-Vermont regional director for the Clothing & Textile Workers. After serving as a union organizer in New England shoe factories during the 1930s, Pitarys joined the Textile Workers in 1940. He was president of the New Hampshire CIO before the merger and later a vice president of TWUA and ACTWU.

In other key elections at the three-day convention, delegates chose Harland Eaton of the Operating Engineers executive vice president to succeed Raymond Moran, elected 17 new vice presidents and seven incumbents and re-elected Saverio Giambalvo to his sixth term as secretary-treasurer.

Focusing on the next session of the state legislature, the convention outlined the need to improve workers' compensation and unemployment benefits along with public employee bargaining rights and to repel renewed attempts to enact a "right-to-work" law.

Earlier this year, New Hampshire's House passed R-T-W legislation, but the measure was killed in the Senate.

Major speakers included Democratic Gov. Hugh Gallen, State Labor Commissioner Robert Duvall, AFL-CIO Regional Director John F. O'Malley, Deputy AFL-CIO Organizing Director Don Slaiman, Paul Ornburn of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. and Barrett Seeley of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Social Security.

Controlling Pollution:

Environmental Goals Backed By Economic Impact Studies

American labor's commitment to a clean environment has long been predicated on the impact this will have on workers, jobs and the economy.

An article in the American Federationist explores the immediate and long-range costs and benefits of cleaning up the air, water, soil and workplaces.

"Labor continues to assure itself that environmental laws will not disrupt the nation's goals of full employment and economic growth," Charles Doherty writes in the October issue of the AFL-CIO magazine.

Doherty cites a number of studies that dispel frequently quoted arguments that environmental controls are highly inflationary and would raise unemployment rates.

One such study conducted for the Environmental Protection Agency by Data Resources, Inc., covers a period from 1970 to 1986. Over that time span, the study concludes, the impact on the consumer price index from the installation and maintenance of pollution controls would run three-tenths of 1 percent annually, or 4.2 percent for the 14 years.

"Throughout the period of analysis," Doherty observes, "the unemployment rate is lower with pollution control expenditures than without."

Doherty, who recently served as an intern with the AFL-CIO Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health, also notes that the study showed an increase in the gross national product resulting from investment in pollution controls and corresponding higher employment.

However, the rate of productivity for businesses is reduced slightly during the period because of capital investments and added labor to meet pollution control requirements while producing a given amount of marketed output.

"But at the same time," Doherty stresses, "they are producing cleaner air and water which cannot be measured by dollar values of productivity."

Despite the minimal inflationary impact and positive employment effect from environmental improvements, the article notes, industry tends to view clean air and water standards as an intolerable burden.

"Often the deadline for abatement is not met, and such industries as steel, coal, chemicals and petroleum claim the only alternative is to lay off workers, shut down plants, or move away to regions or countries that aren't so concerned with environmental quality," the author observes.

"The threat of job loss by employers, which has come to be known as 'environmental blackmail,' has often been used as a convenient method to disguise declining profitability, costs of modernization and shifts in demand."

Claims by industry that expensive pollution control equipment would increase product costs, trigger a drop in demand, and therefore result in layoffs, plant closings and relocations are weak in face of the evidence, Doherty writes.

He points out that more jobs have been created because of environmental measures during the 1970s than were lost through plant closings.

Even so, Doherty notes, the AFL-CIO remains concerned over the tradeoff of jobs, particularly the impact of layoffs and plant closings on small communities "where the economic mainstay of the community dies a slow death attributable to source regulation of the environment."

The pollution control industry, which manufactures equipment and environmental monitoring systems, has been a key source of jobs growth in recent years, the article reports.

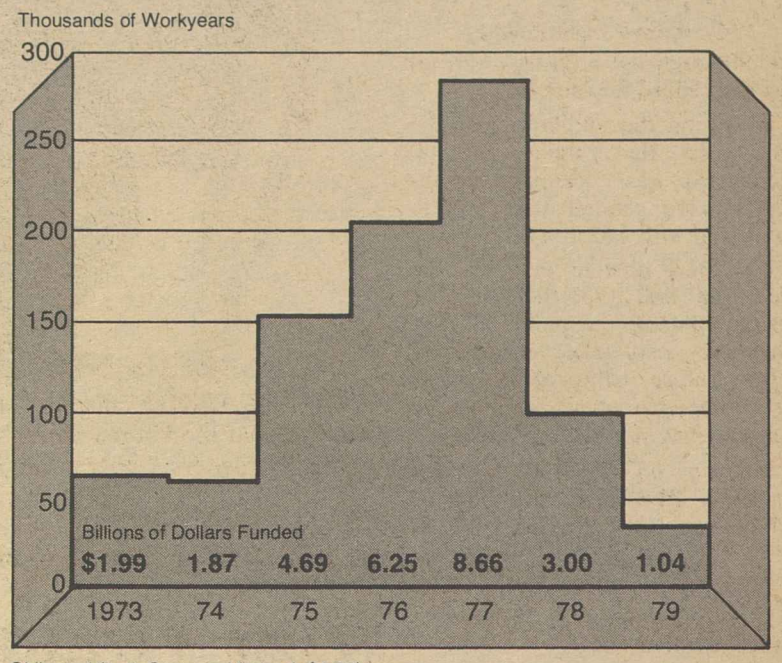
According to a 1978 study, the pollution control industry had an annual growth rate of 16 to 22 percent from 1972 to 1976, compared with a 9 percent growth rate for all U.S. manufacturing.

Sharp growth also has been noted in investment for water and waste treatment facilities by municipalities and private industry, further adding to job expansion.

Additional growth is expected in the future in air pollution controls, resource recovery and solar energy, Doherty notes.

He also cites a study submitted to Congress earlier this year that foresees the creation of 2.2 million jobs by 1990 through a $65.6 million investment in energy conservation programs and solar energy systems.

Construction Workyears Created by Municipal Waste Water Programs



Obligated (both State and federal: $1.99)

Nevada Delegates Vote Per Capita Tax Boost

Carson City, Nev.—Delegates to the Nevada State AFL-CIO's 23rd annual convention here approved several constitutional amendments, including an increase in per capita payments, and set policy for the coming year.

The 150 delegates also re-elected President Mark Massagli and Sec.-Treas. Claude Evans without opposition and heard several national, state, and regional speakers during the two-day meeting.

Among the 15 resolutions adopted at the convention was one supporting construction of the federal government's proposed MX missile system in Nevada. Massagli said the defense project would raise employment in the state not only during the construction phase but also "on a continuing basis."

The MX program, which also has the backing of the national AFL-CIO, would involve the shuttling of 200 missiles on mammoth transporters among 4,600 shelters located around circular roadways, or "racetracks." Two-thirds of the shelters would be in Nevada and one-third in Utah.

Gov. Robert List, in an address to the convention, said that the MX program would pump about $8 billion into the state's economy, and create 22,000 temporary and 15,000 permanent jobs.

The new per capita tax will rise from 25 to 35 cents a month, effective Nov. 1. Of this amount, 20 cents will go to a general fund and 15 cents to the state COPE fund. The amendment stipulated that when the organization's membership reaches 40,000, the per capita will revert to 25 cents.

Another constitutional change creates a standing Union Label Committee to promote the purchase of union-made goods and services, publicize and gather support for boycotts, and encourage the use and observance of the union label shop card, store card, and service button.

Speakers included Secretary Ralph A. Leigon of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, national COPE Director Al Barkan, COPE Regional Director LaMar Gulbransen, AFL-CIO Regional Director James Baker, and Regional Field Rep. Grace Carroll.

Labor Studies Center Schedule for November

Two institutes for full-time officers and staff members of AFL-CIO affiliates are scheduled at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies, Silver Spring, Md., during November.

Math Anxiety, Nov. 11-13, is a two-day program to help unonists who have problems with math. Sessions will cover use of a calculator, costing-out benefits, understanding useful math concepts, and overcoming math anxiety.

New Staff, Nov. 25-Dec. 7, is a two-week program for newly-elected or appointed members of union staffs. The program covers negotiating, organizing, servicing and the role of unions in American society.

The Service Employees are using the campus facilities for two leadership training programs, Nov. 4-9 and Nov. 25-30. The Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization has scheduled training sessions the same weeks, and the Painters will sponsor a class on job health and safety Nov. 11-16.

The American Institute for Free Labor Development will graduate 39 trade union leaders from 17 Latin American countries on Nov. 14. AIFLD has called its 40 country directors to a conference on campus Nov. 4-10.

The Asian American Free Labor Institute has called its annual staff conference at the center, Nov. 25-Dec. 7.

More information on these or other labor studies programs may be obtained from Fred K. Hoehler, Jr., executive director, George Meany Center for Labor Studies, 10000 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20903. Telephone: 301/431-6400.

Religious Panel Assails Stevens Labor Policy

The Inter-Religious Conference on Justice at J. P. Stevens, charging that the giant textile firm has stepped up its anti-union activities, called upon the nation's religious bodies and public agencies to stop purchasing the company's products.

Following a review of recent Stevens actions, the inter-religious group concluded that instead of moving toward greater compliance with moral and civil laws guaranteeing respect for workers' rights Stevens is accelerating its efforts to prevent employees from gaining a union contract.

The group said it will expand its monitoring of Stevens's labor relations practices and continue to speak out on the company's anti-union policies.

The conference especially urged religiously sponsored health, education, and welfare institutions to stop purchasing or leasing Stevens products. It also called on religious and other groups to refrain from holding conventions, dinners or other events at hotels and motels that use Stevens products in their rooms and dining areas.

The 18 cosponsors of the conference include the Methodist Federation for Social Action, National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice, Synagogue Council of America, United Church Board for Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ, United Presbyterian Church, National Federation of Priests Councils, and National Coalition of American Nuns.

In its call to public officials to halt purchasing and leasing of Stevens goods for use in public institutions, the inter-religious group referred specifically to sheets, pillow cases, towels, blankets and carpets bearing the labels Utica, Tastemaker, Fine Arts, Meadowbrook, Dinah Shore, Suzanne Pleshette, Yves St. Laurent, Snoopy, Gulistan or Forstmann.

Among other Stevens practices, the group cited numerous illegal firings of pro-union workers, threats of firings and plant closings, illegal surveillance of workers and union organizers, and collusion between public officials and management representatives apparently for the purpose of denying workers their rights in Milledgeville, Ga.

It also noted that since Stevens workers at High Point, N.C., chose the Clothing & Textile Workers as their collective bargaining agent in a National Labor Relations Board election, the company has refused to accept the verdict of the ballot box, and is attempting to delay justice through the exploitation of legal technicalities with the aid of a law firm specializing in union-busting activities.

During the High Point election, the group found, Stevens resorted to its usual tactics of intimidation and harassment. A committee of anti-union workers was used to issue a plant-closing prediction and to make other threats prohibited by law.

Oklahoma City Teachers Vote To Retain AFT

Oklahoma City—Public school teachers here voted by a comfortable margin to retain the Oklahoma City Federation of Teachers as their bargaining agent.

The vote for the OCFT, an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers, was 1,088 to 891 for the Association of Classroom Teachers, an affiliate of the National Education Association. There were 40 votes for no union.

OCFT President Michael Barlow said the election victory "indicates that despite a bitter strike earlier this year, during which our local was decertified as the bargaining agent, support for AFT has not eroded."

The Oct. 30 election challenge was rooted in an Aug. 22 OCFT strike over wages and working conditions in the face of a state law prohibiting teachers' strikes. It was the first teachers' strike in the state's history.

Although the NEA affiliate supported the strike initially, it later decided to cross the picket lines, return to the classroom, and take advantage of the OCFT's decertification to circulate petitions for a new representation election. The OCFT was forced to abandon the strike to meet the challenge.

Barlow said the union is eager to return to the bargaining table. Starting teachers in the city make about $9,500 a year and can earn only up to $15,000 with a doctorate and 17 years of classroom experience.

Key Inflation Factor:

Costs of Necessities Soar at 17.6% Rate

(Continued from Page 1)

prices during the July-September period compared with an annual rate of 64.2 percent in the second quarter of the year and a 25 percent rise in the first three months.

The housing inflation rate of 17.6 percent in the third quarter compared with a 15.9 percent increase in the second and a 14.3 percent advance in the first. Inflation in housing has accelerated steadily for the past four quarters, and the cost of shelter is now 14.4 percent higher than it was a year ago, the research group said.

Rents, which have had a moderating effect in housing costs for the past few years, have now achieved double-digit inflation rates, 10.7 percent in the third quarter, the center observed.

"This statistic, and the general escalation trend in home purchase prices, testify to the growing housing shortage this country is experiencing," commented Gar Alperovitz and Jeff Faux, co-directors of the center.

"Although we may see some short-term dampening of prices, ultimately the Fed's repeated tightening of the monetary screws will reduce investment, devastate the home building industry, and intensify the fundamental housing shortage, thereby guaranteeing continued inflation in the housing sector for years to come."

The two economists said that higher mortage rates, which were not fully reflected in the latest quarterly data, will also increase the monthly cost of housing for new homeowners and homeowners with variable-rate mortgages.

"So far this year, mortgage interest costs by themselves have added a full percentage point to the inflation rate," they said.

The energy inflation rate for the July-September period reflects the first significant impact of the Administration's decision to begin phased decontrol of domestic crude oil prices, the center noted.

"This quarter, the impact of decontrol was overshadowed by the effect of the June OPEC price increase," the research group observed. "But the Administration's plan involves a rapid phaseout of controls, and the inflation effects will be significant every quarter for the next two years, no matter what OPEC does."

Comparing necessity inflation in the first nine months of 1979 with all of 1978, the center noted that energy prices since last December rose 469 percent faster than they did in 1978, shelter costs escalated 38 percent faster, and medical care costs rose at about the same rate.

Food prices during the first nine months of this year rose 19 percent slower than they did in 1978. Necessity prices overall rose 62 percent faster in the first nine months of 1979 than they did in 1978, while the rate of non-necessity inflation was virtually unchanged.

Calhoon Named Trustee Of White House Fund

President Jesse M. Calhoon of the Marine Engineers has been elected to the board of trustees of the White House Preservation Fund.

The fund was established recently to assure that the presidential mansion is properly furnished and decorated to preserve and enhance its historic values.



IMPACT OF MICROTECHNOLOGY on workers and their jobs was explored by representatives of the British Trades Union Congress and the AFL-CIO during a two-day meeting in Washington. The British delegation, headed by David Basnett, chairman of the TUC economic policy committee, included General Sec. Frank Chapple of the Electrical & Plumbing Union, and TUC Research Director David Lea. AFL-CIO representatives included Thomas R. Donahue, executive assistant to President George Meany; Vice President Paul Hall and Research Director Rudy Oswald.

Democrats Win 2 Governorships, Dominate State, Local Elections

Labor-endorsed Democrats won the governorships of Kentucky and Mississippi with surprising ease, each with almost 60 percent of the vote.

State legislative and big city mayors' races also were dominated by Democrats in other 1979 off-year elections. The governors' outcome left the nation's lineup at 32 Democrats and 18 Republicans with a runoff yet to come in Louisiana.

John Y. Brown won the Kentucky governorship over former Gov. Louie Nunn, and William Winter was the victor in Mississippi over Gil Carmichael. In each case, Republicans had high expectations because Nunn had previously won the Kentucky governorship and Carmichael had run a surprisingly close race four years ago against current Gov. Cliff Finch, a Democrat, who could not succeed himself.

Democrats retained control of both houses of the state legislatures in both those states plus New Jersey and Virginia. And Democratic candidates held on to mayors' offices in Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, Miami, Toledo, Minneapolis, Charlotte, N.C., Gary, Ind., and Salt Lake City.

The most notable Republican winner among the mayors was Ohio Lt. Gov. George Voinovich, who had labor's endorsement in his victory over embattled Democratic incumbent Dennis Kucinich.

Two major mayors' races, in San Francisco and Houston, went into runoffs.

Voters in the states of Ohio and Washington decisively rejected state initiatives for compulsory deposits on beverage containers, but tax initiatives were enacted in Washington and California, each setting a ceiling on state and local government spending. The California question, Proposition 4 limiting future budgets to increases in the cost-of-living and population, passed by 3 to 1. The Washington formula ties future state revenue to increases in personal income in the state.

Oklahomans barely rejected—with a 51.3 percent vote—a Republican-sponsored ballot question. The state legislature, with Democratic majorities in both houses, had earlier enacted a cut in the state income tax, but the ballot question was a GOP attempt to revise the formula.

The Ohio "ban the bottle" ballot question would have required a 10-cent deposit on both bottles and cans and banned the flip-top can. Washington's question, also rejected, called for a five-cent deposit on each.

A similar question passed in Maine, where voters were asked to affirm a deposit law adopted previously by the legislature.

Former Democratic congressmen who lost state-wide races in their last outing were elected mayors of Philadelphia and Minneapolis. Former Rep. William Green, son of a previous mayor, was elected in Philadelphia to succeed Frank Rizzo. And former Rep. Don Fraser, who gave up his seat to run for the Senate in 1976, won by 2-1 in Minneapolis over former mayor Charles Stenvig, running as an independent conservative.

In all, eight of the nation's 20 largest cities had races for mayor.

In the Dec. 8 Louisiana runoff, first-round leader Rep. David Treen, a Republican, will apparently be opposed by Louis Lambert, a Democrat. Lambert has not yet been certified by the recount after unofficial final returns showed him finishing second with 283,045 votes to 280,605 for Jimmy Fitzmorris, who has filed a court appeal.

Increase in Jobless Rate Reflects Economic Lag

(Continued from Page 1)

holds. The October level was not much different than July's.

Another BLS survey, this one based on payroll records of businesses other than farms, showed an increase of 300,000 jobs, virtually all of them in service-producing industries.

Treasury Sec. G. William Miller said the rise in joblessness—nearly 200,000 to 6.2 million—over the month "is consistent with the general trend of the economy."

Most of the increase in unemployment occurred among people who had lost their jobs rather than those newly entering the labor market, and most of the increase was among adult women and blacks. The jobless rate for women advanced over the month from 5.5 to 5.8 percent while the rate for blacks rose from 10.6 to 11.7 percent.

In contrast, the unemployment rate for adult men, at 4.3 percent, was only one-tenth of 1 percent changed from September, although it was up four-tenths of 1 percent from the May-June level. Joblessness rates for most other major worker categories — teenagers, whites, and full-time workers—were about the same as in the previous month.

The workforce held at 103.5 million in October as the over-the-month increase in unemployment was offset by the decline of about equal magnitude in employment reflected in the household survey. The civilian labor force participation rate, at 63.7 percent, returned to its August level after hitting an all-time high of 63.9 percent in September.

The payroll survey of employment showed that the largest job gains occurred in wholesale and retail trade and services. Transportation, public utilities, finance, insurance, and real estate also posted increases, while government employment was about unchanged.

Overall manufacturing employment was essentially the same as in September, BLS said. Jobs in construction increased 30,000, while employment in mining was unchanged.

Transport Unions Assail Bypassing of Refugees

Hollywood, Fla.—The executive board of the International Transport Federation condemned the failure of passing merchant vessels in the South China Sea to answer the distress calls of refugee boats.

Jack Otero, secretary of the ITF's North American Caucus, said the board unanimously adopted a resolution at its meeting here scoring "any action, whether by governments, shipowners or seafarers, inconsistent with the humanitarian traditions of the sea and the generally accepted legal standards requiring assistance to those in distress at sea."

The board noted that despite ITF's efforts in the past to encourage assistance for the "boat people," ships continue to ignore refugees' distress calls. It urged all its affiliates to "employ sanctions against any shipowner that directly or indirectly instructs or encourages the master of any of its ships to ignore distress calls from or concerning refugees at sea."

The ITF, an international trade secretariat based in London, represents some 7 million workers in the road, rail, airline, travel bureau and maritime industries throughout the free world.

Otero, who is vice president of the Railway & Airline Clerks, is a member of ITF's executive board, along with Machinists Vice President J. J. Peterpaul and Longshoremen's President Thomas W. Gleason.

Otero noted that the resolution adopted here was originally introduced by the Masters, Mates & Pilots, a division of the Longshoremen, and the Seafarers at the ITF Seafarers' Section meeting in Stockholm earlier this fall.

New Jump in Prime Rate Aggravates Credit Costs

New York—Still higher borrowing costs loom for businesses and consumers as the banking industry appeared poised for another round of increases in its prime lending rate.

Chase Manhattan, the nation's third largest bank, led the pack by jumping its prime rate a quarter point to a record 15.5 percent. Other major banks seemed almost sure to follow its lead.

The prime rate is the interest that commercial banks charge their most creditworthy corporate customers. While it applies directly only to borrowing by top-rated, big businesses, the prime rate affects all lending rates, including those on consumer loans and mortgages, since the costs of "hiring" money are passed on.

The new prime rate now stands four full percentage points above its level of last June.

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Meany's Gift to Workers—Strong, Unified Federation



IN RESPONSE TO an emotional ovation at the conclusion of his final keynote speech to the 13th AFL-CIO convention, Federation President George Meany hails the delegates. He urged them to take a strong and united labor movement and move forward to new growth and expansion.

Era of Expansion, Growth Predicted

By Saul Miller

George Meany stepped down as president of the AFL-CIO with a gift for America's workers—a strong and unified trade union movement, a well-built house of labor "ready to stand and shelter workers long beyond the lifetime of everyone in this hall."

To the thousands who jammed the convention hall at the Sheraton Washington hotel in Washington, D.C., Meany in his final keynote address said that while "workers face tough days ahead" the labor movement is "vital, dynamic and growing" and it is ready to embark on another period of "significant growth and expansion."

Meany had announced that he would not seek re-election as president. He has served as the first and only president of the AFL-CIO since the merger of the AFL and CIO in December 1955. He has been hospitalized or at home a good part of this year because of illness.

In a strong speech, Meany asserted that "the labor movement cannot be content with defending the status quo or reliving past glories. We must constantly look to the future, develop new leadership and adapt policies to changing conditions and new technologies."

A long, standing ovation greeted his introduction, and the 3,000 delegates and guests and observers were on their feet applauding for five minutes at the conclusion with Meany acknowledging the emotional response with salutes and waves from his wheelchair.

The AFL-CIO president opened his address by noting that 98 years ago to the day, 107 unionists in Pittsburgh established the Federation of Organized Trades & Labor Unions of which the AFL-CIO is a direct descendant. The torch lit then has been handed down generation by generation, he said, and "it

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Firmness with Restraint:

Carter Stand on Iran Wins Solid Convention Support

By John M. Barry

The AFL-CIO convention gave President Carter a strong vote of confidence on his handling of the crisis with Iran over the holding of American hostages in that country.

The President was interrupted repeatedly by vigorous applause from the delegates as he recounted the actions taken to assure the safety of the hostages held at the U.S. embassy in Tehran and to pressure the Iranian government for their release.

Following Carter's address, Federation President George Meany told the President that "every step you have taken on this matter to date deserves the full approval of the American people."

"I am sure from the response you got here this afternoon," Meany said, "without question your actions on this matter have the full approval of the American trade union movement. . . ."

Meany said he had never seen a peacetime international crisis such as that in Iran. He described it as a "very, very difficult situation for the President, a situation that could not be handled by some knee-jerk reaction that would perhaps jeopardize the lives of the people in the American embassy in Tehran, but something that had to be handled."

The President, in his address, had paid special tribute to Meany for his long years of leadership of the trade union movement. He observed that no American had fought harder for economic justice and human dignity "for union members and also for millions who have never carried a union card than your leader has, George Meany."

On the Iranian situation, Carter, too, stressed the central concern for the safety of the hostages, 62 of them U.S. citizens, even as "every American feels anger and outrage at what is happening to them."

He noted that the United States "has done nothing and will do nothing" that could be used to justify violent reactions to the situation, but continues to pursue diplomatic solutions and to take appropriate unilateral steps — "with restraint,

(Continued on Page 16)

Senate Asked To Toughen Windfall Tax

The AFL-CIO called on the Senate to strengthen a committee-gutted windfall profits tax and stop "the ripoff of America's consumers" by the big oil companies.

As the Senate debate opened, labor's efforts to bolster the Finance Committee bill focused on three major amendments that would recoup an additional $114.2 billion in windfall taxes over the next 10 years.

Even that amount would leave the estimated tax revenue below the House-passed bill and substantially less than the Administration had proposed. The AFL-CIO also endorsed other strengthening amend-

(Continued on Page 16)

3-Cent Hike Proposed in Per Capita

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has unanimously recommended a 3-cent increase in the federation's per capita tax to prevent a projected deficit over the next few years.

The council adopted a recommendation from a special subcommittee on finances urging that the per capita paid the federation by affiliates be increased from 16 cents to 19 cents per member per month effective Jan. 1, 1980.

The council sent the proposed increase to the Committee on Constitution of the 13th convention for its approval and further action by the delegates.

The subcommittee of AFL-CIO Vice Presidents Sol C. Chaikin, John H. Lyons, Lloyd McBride, Albert Shanker, J. C. Turner and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland reviewed income and expenses for the past two years, noting the current balance of $750,000 due on a bank line of credit, and projected expenses for the next two years.

Anticipating increases in operating costs and repayment of the bank credit, the subcommittee fore-

(Continued on Page 3)

Council Spells Out Labor's Role In Major National, World Issues

The AFL-CIO has remained a "strong and effective voice" for American workers over the past two years as the country has grappled with the energy crisis and the problems of inflation and recession.

That is the basic theme of the report of the Executive Council to the 13th AFL-CIO convention, a 376-page document that reviews the developments in the labor movement, the nation and the world since 1977.

The council notes that there has been "a weakening of public confidence" in the ability of the country to deal with some of its problems and that there have been new threats to the basic governmental structure of the country.

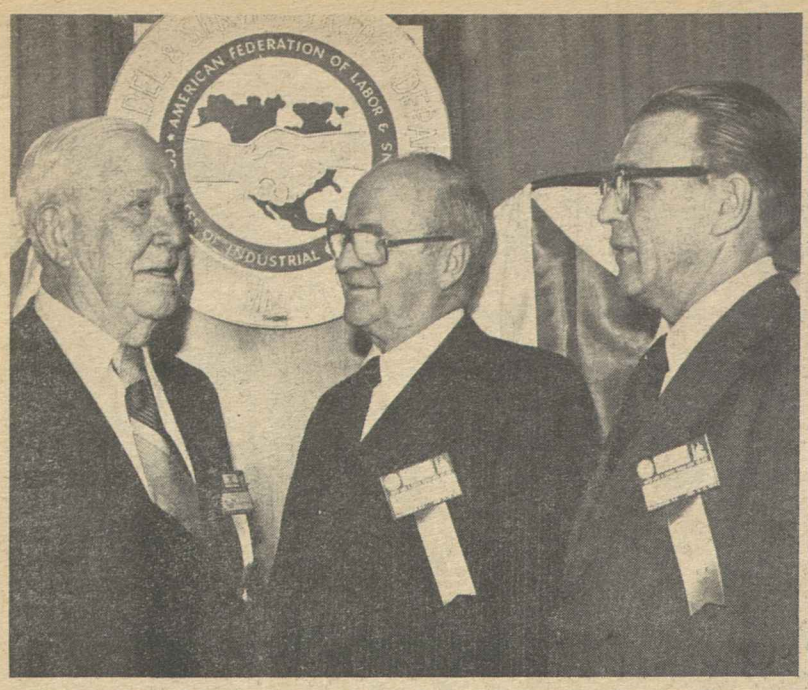
The plight of the boat people of Indochina, it added, symbolizes the drift in world affairs as well as "the aspirations of all people for freedom."

The report of the 35-member council covers internal changes and developments, finances, the national economy, labor relations, national development, worker protections, education, social welfare, civil rights, world affairs, labor in the community, national and state legislation, political activities and labor and the law.

Detailed proposals for action support the survey of the past two years and will be referred to various convention committees and to the delegates for discussion and action.

In the report to the convention, AFL-CIO President George Meany said he is retiring "with confidence in the future of the labor movement and the nation" and its commitment never to quit, never to give

(Continued on Page 15)



NEW PRESIDENT of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept. is John E. Mara, center. He is flanked by outgoing President Joseph Keenan, left, and ULSTD Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid. Mara, 58, is an international vice president of the Food & Commercial Workers Union. His father was ULSTD president in the 1950s.

Keenan Steps Down:

Label Trades Elect Mara, Expand Executive Board

The 220 delegates to the Union Label & Service Trades Dept.'s 59th convention elected John E. Mara to succeed Joseph D. Keenan as president of the department for the next two years.

Mara, 58, whose father headed the ULSTD in the 1950s, is a vice president of the Food & Commercial Workers and director of its footwear division. He was president of the Boot & Shoe Workers before it merged into what is now the UFCW.

Keenan, 83, former secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, was honored by the convention for his service over the past four years as president of the department.

Delegates to the two-day meeting also re-elected Sec.-Treas. Earl D. McDavid, elected three new vice presidents, and voted to expand the department's executive board from 11 to 17 members to provide broader representation.

The three new vice presidents are IBEW Sec. Ralph Leigon, President John T. Joyce of the Bricklayers, and Sec.-Treas. James J. Riley of the Stage Employees. They fill vacancies created by the departure of Harold J. Chadwick, former IATSE secretary-treasurer, and former Bricklayers' President Thomas F. Murphy and Mara's elevation to the ULSTD presidency. All of the new officers will be sworn in during January 1980.

In expanding the size of the ULSTD executive board, the convention stipulated that the six new vice presidents be elected by the executive board between January and July 1, 1980. Thereafter, no further expansion of the board will be considered before the department's 63rd convention in 1987.

Reporting on his stewardship as secretary-treasurer over the past four years, McDavid said 85 new ULSTD councils have been chartered during that period and many of these are in previously unorganized areas. There are now nearly 190 councils, he said.

The department is "alive and well and growing," McDavid declared. ULSTD's policy, formulated in 1976, of taking the department out to the labor movement by sending staff representatives to as many state federation conventions as possible, as well as visiting and assisting the chartered councils, will continue, he said.

The department, which seeks to promote the purchase of union-made products and services, "is a servant of the entire labor movement, and we encourage the entire labor movement to become involved and take advantage of what we offer," McDavid said.

The Union-Industries Show, which ULSTD sponsors annually, is a successful and expanding effort under the direction of John S. Lutz, McDavid noted. The only problem is that it has grown to the point where there are only a limited number of exhibition halls in the country that are big enough to accommodate it. The show is designed to highlight the skills of union workers. It will be held in Cincinnati next year.

Among resolutions adopted during the convention, delegates reaffirmed the department's position on investment of union pension funds, urging that they be used in the best interests of workers. They warned that third parties handling the funds have at times used union investments to finance operations of anti-union employers or to subsidize multinational firms that export American jobs.

In his address to the convention, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland hit on this theme, warning that "in all too many cases the economic power of union members is unrealized or even turned against them. . . . That has to stop. We shall be pursuing every available means to ensure that pension money is invested creatively and constructively, to the benefit of workers and fair employers."

Meanwhile, union wages are under the complete control of union members, and the power that those wages represent must be mobilized to help members and union companies, not to injure them, Kirkland declared.

"In mobilizing that power in national boycotts of merchandise made or sold by employers who actively oppose unions, this department has made the difference between victory and defeat, and even between survival and extinction, for a great many hard-pressed union members struggling with unfair employers," Kirkland said.

Other major resolutions approved by the convention endorsed the AFL-CIO's fair trade policy with other nations; urged government action to limit the import of foreign beer, wine and water, and condemned those firms that engage management "consultants" in efforts to destroy the labor movement.

Among other principal speakers, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall warned that anti-union, anti-worker firms have mounted an all-out campaign to diminish labor's standing, and said the public perception of the labor movement as weak and declining is faulty.

Also addressing the convention were President Robert Harbrant of the Food & Beverage Trades Dept., Director Alan Kistler of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services; Executive Director William Hutton of the National Council of Senior Citizens; Gene Klare, outgoing president of the International Labor Press Association; President William H. McClennan of the Public Employee Dept.; President Frederick O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes; President Robert Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept.; Sec.-Treas. Jean Ingrao of the Maritime Trades Dept.; Director Leo Perlis of the AFL-CIO Community Services Dept., and President Howard Samuel of the Industrial Union Dept.

Legislation Termed Key To Health Care Gains

St. Louis—As good as many health care plans are that unions negotiate for their members, coverage could be improved through a national health insurance program, AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman said.

Addressing a St. Louis University community conference for union, management and public officials, Seidman noted that labor's goal is to provide comprehensive coverage for all necessary services without limitations and without deductibles, coinsurance or copayments of any kind.

Seidman expressed doubt that the goal can be achieved through collectively bargained health plans alone. That is why the AFL-CIO strongly favors congressional passage of the Kennedy-Waxman Health Care for All Americans measure, he stressed.

"National health insurance," Seidman said, "is the most practical way to achieve adequate health care not just for workers, but all Americans."

Until the legislative goal is reached, unions will continue to bargain for improved health plans for their members and their families, he said.

"But we are the first to admit that this does not resolve the problems of the unorganized, nor most of the working poor whose coverage is either non-existent or very meager.

"Too often we tend to ignore the sad fact that there are 25 million Americans without any health insurance, public or private, and another 50 to 75 million Americans with inadequate coverage," he observed.

Organized labor has a direct economic interest in providing quality health care for its members, Seidman said, noting that by negotiating health coverage, unions mass purchase an extremely large volume of health services.

"At least the equivalent of a month's wages is spent annually for the health care of each worker and his or her family," he said. "With this kind of bite out of the wage-dollar allocated for the procurement of health protection, it is no wonder that labor is concerned with the adequacy and the quality of health care."

Suit Opposes Rise in Federal Parking Fees

The American Federation of Government Employees and other union groups representing federal workers have filed suit to stop the General Services Administration from unilaterally raising parking fees to commercial levels.

President Carter had listed abolishment of subsidized parking that is provided at some federal facilities as a planned energy conservation measure in a televised speech last spring.

GSA, which is the government's housekeeping agency, and the Office of Management & Budget followed through with directives raising parking fees to one-half the commercial rate in nearby locations as of Nov. 1, 1979, rising to the full commercial rate a year later.

The unions contend that the government has no legal basis for the unilateral change in employee benefits. Joining in the suit are the AFGE, the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept., the State, County & Municipal Employees, and the Service Employees.

AFGE President Kenneth Blaylock said the court suit was needed because of "inaction" by the Federal Labor Relations Authority on unfair practice charges protesting the GSA order.

McBride Hits Challenge To USWA Election Rule

Pittsburgh—Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride announced that the USWA will "vigorously" defend its constitutional provision that bars candidates for union office from soliciting or accepting contributions from non-members.

The constitutional ban, which applies to contributions from companies and foundations as well as individuals, was adopted overwhelmingly by delegates to the union's 1978 convention.

It has been challenged in a federal court suit brought by a group headed by Edward Sadlowski, Jr., who in 1977 ran unsuccessfully for president of the Steelworkers.

Sadlowski received substantial outside contributions in his election campaign and his suit alleges that he would have been unable to offset contributions from union staff members to McBride's campaign without such outside funding.

His suit also challenges approval of the constitutional provision by Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, who found that it did not infringe on the rights of union members.

McBride said the USWA is confident that its election rules meet all tests of fairness and legality.

"The union belongs to the members," McBride said, "and we are not going to expose our internal election campaigns to interference from outside persons or organizations, including foundations, most of which are heavily supported by American corporations."

The Steelworkers "is not for sale," he declared.

Three More Rail Unions Settle with Ailing B&M

Seven unions with members employed by the Boston & Maine Railroad have settled with the financially ailing carrier.

Following agreement between the four member unions of the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept. and the railroad last month, three other unions—the Machinists, Sheet Metal Workers, and the Railway & Airline Clerks—agreed to the same general package.

Meanwhile, the National Mediation Board, which had been assisting the parties in reaching a settlement, said it has resumed talks with the B&M and the Signalmen and Maintenance of Way Employes, and planned discussions with the railroad and the Locomotive Engineers and the United Transportation Union.

President James E. Yost of the Railway Employes' Dept. said the rank-and-file vote on the settlement with the four shopcraft unions was overwhelming. The four unions—the Firemen & Oilers, Carmen, Boilermakers & Blacksmiths, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers—represent about 600 workers.

Wages were the main issue in the talks. The new contracts provide for wage increases similar to those negotiated last year with most major railroads and are fully retroactive for 1979.

Workers will receive an immediate increase of about $1.50 an hour more than under the old agreement. The new wage scale will go into effect as soon as the reorganizing court supervising the railroad's fiscal affairs approves the agreement.

Pay retroactivity for 1978 will consist of a cash payment of 25 percent of the money owed workers and the remaining 7 percent in the form of "personal days off." Some adjustments in entry-level rates also were made and for vacations as well.

The B&M has been in bankruptcy proceedings since March 1970. Its old contracts with the rail unions expired on Dec. 31, 1977.

Boycott to Follow Coors Name Change

It may not have the Coors label, but the union-busting Adolph Coors Co. makes it and labor's boycott will apply also to he new brand, "Herman Joseph's 1863" premium beer.

The boycott committee of former Coors workers said it is the first time the firm has marketed a beer without the Coors name. The brand is to be test marketed before going into national distribution.

Changing Workforce:

Professional Unions Press New Growth

By David L. Perlman

An increasing number of professionals carry a union card, and the 26 affiliates of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees made clear their determination to step up the pace of that growth.

The message that emerged from the department's convention was that a continuing decline in the blue-collar share of the nation's workforce doesn't have to mean a shrinking or less influential labor movement.

America's trade union movement is changing along with the workforce, DPE President Albert Shanker stressed in his opening remarks. Professionals and workers in related occupations have been among the growth areas in the AFL-CIO as well as in the labor force, he said.

Executive Director Jack Golodner reported on the multitude of projects and activities that have been undertaken in the 22 months since the department received its charter, after a decade as a smaller council of unions. The range includes launching of the Labor Institute for Human Enrichment, with federal funding for a broad array of job-related cultural programs, and sponsorship of a prestigious national conference on the impact of new technologies.

It includes lobbying on bills of special concern to the department's affiliates, such as copyright law revision and public broadcasting, and the preparation of basic organizing material designed to appeal to groups of workers still dubious about identification with unions.

There are so many possibilities, Golodner told the 200 delegates that "the question is not what can be done but what will be done."

Resolutions adopted during the one-day convention reflected the range of concerns of the department's constituencies.

There were affirmations of basic trade union policy—issues that concern all workers.

Other convention statements dealt with the public employment field, where there has been substantial progress in organization of professionals. The convention called for full bargaining rights throughout the public sector and the same occupational safety and health protection that private workers receive by law.

The department broke new ground in trade union concern in a resolution dealing with laboratory research involving the manipulation of genetic material and the transfer of genes from one type of organism to another.

Research involving what is technically known as recombinant DNA molecules carries "potential for both good and evil," the resolution noted.

The department opposed any weakening of National Institutes of Health guidelines for DNA research, supported strong federal health and safety controls over industrial applications, and urged legislation that would lead to binding regulations.

In another relatively new area of technology, the department pressed for a continuing program to monitor the fast-growing use of video display terminals, which emit either microwaves or soft X-rays.

A statement on legislation to amend the 45-year-old Communications Act urged retention of the public interest standard as the basis for granting broadcast licenses and judging the performance of television and radio licenses.

It called for measures "to restore to public broadcasting its original mission of providing the American people with an alternative to commercially determined programming. As for common carrier telecommunications, the resolution said the test of any proposed changes must be "whether the public would be better and more economically served."

A resolution urging amendment of the National Labor Relations Act to assure that performers "are not to be treated as independent contractors" and are entitled to the full protections of federal labor law brought an immediate encouraging response from Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.), who addressed the convention.

Thompson told the delegates that his Subcommittee on Labor-Management Relations will work with the department to see if legislation can be developed "to accommodate the special problems of professional employees."

The convention re-elected the top officers of the department by acclamation and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland installed them. Shanker, who is president of the Teachers, will serve a new two-year term as department president. Musicians President Victor Fuentealba will continue as vice president and President Rodney A. Bower of the Professional & Technical Engineers was re-elected treasurer.

The convention approved an increase in the department's per capita from the present 4 cents to 5 cents a month on the first 150,000 members and from 1 cent to 1.25 cents on each additional member. Affiliates of over 5,000 members will be required to pay a per capita on at least 5,000 members. The previous minimum was 3,000.

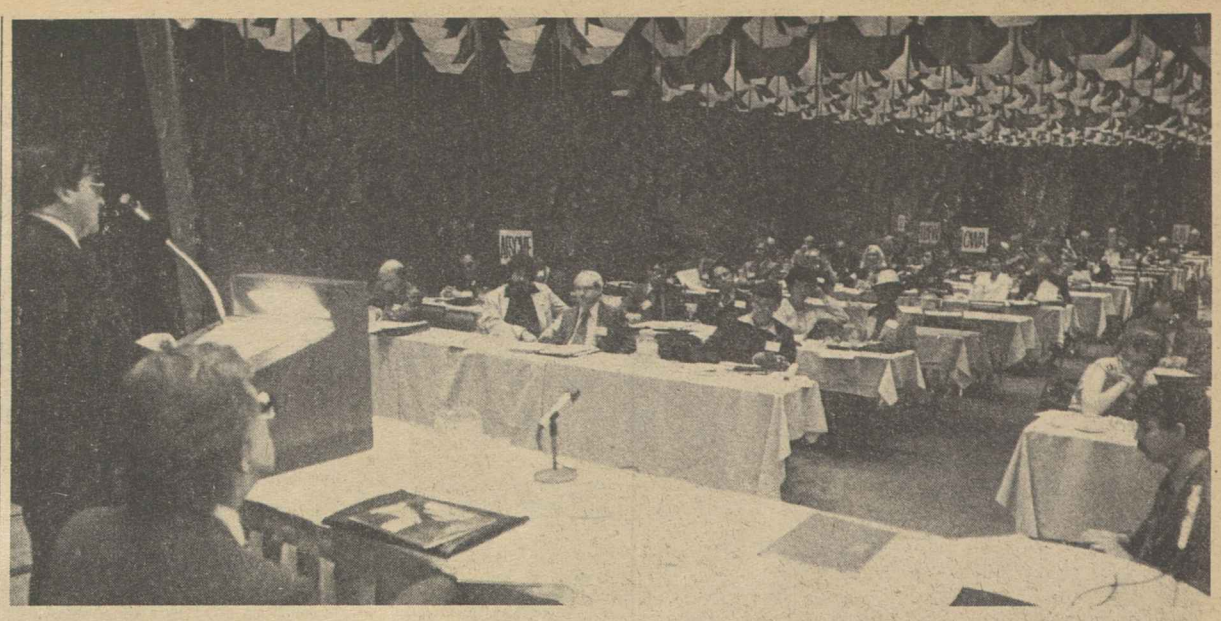
A highlight of the convention was a spirited give-and-take discussion dealing broadly with "The Future of Organized Labor." It was moderated by CBS economic correspondent George Herman, a former AFTRA vice president, who is host of the Face the Nation program.

It featured Donald Slaiman, deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, former Sec. of Labor Willard Wirtz and Robert Schrank, a Ford Foundation project specialist who recently wrote a book critical of today's labor movement.

Schrank said the labor movement as a whole has not adjusted to the "post-Industrial Revolution era" and most white-collar workers are "not very interested in unions."

Slaiman challenged the conclusion with evidence of the surge of union membership in the expanding fields, acknowledged problems but stressed they are not insurmountable and said the structure of unionism remains the only effective means of representing the interests of working people, whatever the nature of their work.

Wirtz saw a bright future for unions in an expanding economy and spoke out strongly against "no-growth" approaches. He urged a strong interrelation between education and work, and said creation of jobs is basically a policy issue since "there's plenty to be done in this country."



PROGRESS REPORT on the first two years of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees is given delegates from 26 affiliated unions by the department's director, Jack Golodner. Seated, in foreground, is President Albert Shanker.

Council Asks 3-Cent Boost In Per Capita

(Continued from Page 1)

saw deficits of about $750,000 in 1980 and $3,525,000 in 1981, and urged the increased per capita "to more adequately meet the projected expenses in the coming years."

The projections were based, the subcommittee said, on a 9 percent annual increase in payroll and related costs and a 6 percent annual increase in all other costs.

With AFL-CIO President George Meany presiding, the council also approved three resolutions supporting President Carter's decision to suspend oil imports from Iran, calling for a strong and effective windfall profits tax on oil companies and urging a widespread, worldwide relief program to save the people of Cambodia from a new holocaust. The resolutions were sent to the convention's Committee on Resolutions.

The council also approved unanimously the chartering of the Federation of Professional Athletes as the 105th affiliate of the AFL-CIO. The group had applied to the federation for a charter. It currently includes the 1,400 members of the National Football League Players Association and about 500 members of the professional soccer players' organization.

It is continuing talks with other groups of professional athletes and is shooting for an organization of about 5,000, Ed Garvey, executive director of the football players association, told reporters.

Meany appointed a council subcommittee to come in with recommendations on filling four vacancies on the council due to mergers of unions and retirements.

During the session, John E. Reinhardt, director of the International Communications Agency, presented to Meany a film made by the ICA, "Reflections — George Meany," which will be shown during the convention. The film was made for overseas use, and a special action of Congress was necessary to allow it to be shown in the United States.

The last increase in the federation's per capita tax was at the 1977 convention in Los Angeles when the delegates voted to increase it from 13 cents to 16 cents.

Rail Clerks Polling LIRR Membership

Members of the Railway & Airline Clerks employed by the Long Island Railroad are taking a strike vote in the aftermath of a National Mediation Board announcement that it has been unable to bring an agreement on the issues in dispute. The union will be free to strike on or after Dec. 8, 1979.

Congress Approves Synthetic Fuel Funds

Congress gave final approval to a $20 billion set-aside to fund development of synthetic and alternative fuels, even though the final shape of the program is still being worked out.

The appropriations measure earmarked $1 billion for solar energy development and conservation, leaving $19 billion for a special Energy Security Reserve used for various forms of "synfuel" development and subsidies. Of the total, $2.2 billion would be available immediately.

Meanwhile, the Senate approved a labor-supported bill authorizing a five-year crash development program designed to make the nation more energy self-sufficient and turn away from dependence on costly and uncertain oil imports.

The Senate defeated amendments that would reduce the size of the program, and the principal change made on the Senate floor was addition of a $5 billion gasohol program.

The House earlier had passed a smaller-scale bill and a House-Senate conference will be needed to resolve differences.

While the $20 billion appropriation is from general revenues, Congress may still decide to shift funding to the windfall tax revenues.

Including in the same appropriations bill is $1.35 billion for a program to help poor households pay inflated heating bills this winter.

In other developments:

- The House opened debate on a labor-supported hospital cost containment bill that had been postponed the previous week because the Democratic leadership couldn't count the votes to pass it.

President Carter, leading a strong Administration push for the measure, wrote House members that "no other bill before Congress will have such a direct effect on reducing the cost of living for all Americans."

- The House voted 252-133 in favor of a bill to make the birthday anniversary of the late Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., a national holiday. But the bill will have to be brought up again because it fell short of the two-thirds majority needed to pass it under a no-amendment rule. The holiday proposal has been endorsed by the AFL-CIO.

- House-Senate conferees agreed on a military construction authorization bill and, in the process, dropped a Senate-passed amendment that would have raised the minimum "threshold level" for applying Davis-Bacon prevailing wage provisions. The dropped provision would have set the threshold at $10,000 instead of $2,000 on new construction but kept the $2,000 level for maintenance or rehabilitation contracts.

COPE Candidates Win in Mississippi

Complete returns from the Mississippi elections show that in addition to election of COPE-endorsed gubernatorial candidate William Winter, labor-supported candidates also did well in the state legislative races.

"The combination of governor and new members of the legislature is one we can be proud of," said Claude Ramsay, president of the Mississippi state AFL-CIO.

Typical of the gains for the black-labor coalition, Ramsay said, was the election of 14 blacks to the state legislature where there had been four before and two blacks in the state senate, which previously had one.

U.S. Inflation Close to Rate In Europe

America's inflation rate is comparable with the general inflation rate in other Western industrialized nations, a new study shows.

Figures from the Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development show that the U.S. inflation rate of 11.3 percent for the 12 months ended in July compares with a 10.8 percent average rate for OECD European countries.

Countries experiencing more rapid inflation than the United States were the United Kingdom, 15.6 percent; Italy, 13.6 percent; Greece, 16.7 percent; Iceland, 39.1 percent; Ireland, 12.4 percent, Portugal, 22.7 percent; Spain, 15.5 percent, and Turkey, 59.6 percent.

Fairly close to the United States were France, 10.3 percent, and Denmark, 10.8 percent. Substantially lower inflation rates were reported for West Germany, 4.6 percent; Austria, 3.9 percent; Belgium, 4.8 percent; Sweden, 6.7 percent, and Switzerland, 4.4 percent. Japan's rate was 4.2 percent.

In the last six months, however, the rate of inflation has increased more rapidly in many OECD countries. Over the last few decades, the U.S. inflation rate has been below the average OECD rate, substantially better than Japan's and only slightly worse than West Germany's.



LIEBLING MEMORIAL LECTURER Leon Stein calls on union editors at the International Labor Press Association convention to help establish links between workers and scholars in the humanities. Stein helped found the ILPA and was its president in 1964-65. At left is ILPA President Gene Klare while Joseph D. Duffey of the National Endowment for the Humanities is at right.

Union Editors Urged to Create Link Between Scholars, Workers

Editors of the nation's labor publications were called on to help bridge "the widening gap that separates scholar and citizen" and thus bring the humanities into closer touch with the world of work.

The call was sounded by Leon Stein, editor emeritus of the Ladies' Garment Workers publication, Justice, and a member of the National Council on the Humanities, as he delivered the 8th Liebling Lecture at the International Labor Press Association's convention in Washington. The lecture was established as a memorial to the late A. J. Liebling, who for years was press critic for the New Yorker magazine.

Stein said that "for far too long the world of work has been excluded from the humanities," but now "bright young scholars have rediscovered work and the worker. New realms of history and culture are being explored—still largely in classrooms, archives and scholarly journals. It is time for scholar and worker, professor and trade unionist to get to know each other."

A founder of the ILPA and one of its early presidents, Stein appealed to his colleagues "to restore more of the spirit of the humanities in your own work...."

"You, too, stand in mid-ground," he said. "In trade union structure, you are the craftsmen of language who appreciate scholarship, who know history and understand its importance. Better, perhaps, than all others, you can reach out across the gap and grasp the hands of the professional scholars and then teach them the realities of the world of work.

"Just as important," he urged, "you can also learn from them."

The keynote address to the more than 200 delegates by outgoing ILPA President Gene Klare, editor of the Oregon Labor Press in Portland, reported that membership in the organization has reached a peak of more than 600 trade union publications.

This was achieved, Klare noted, during a period when the labor press has been staggered by skyrocketing postal rates, which have risen six times higher than the increase in the consumer price index in the past eight years, leading to reductions in size and frequency of many labor papers and magazines and to the extinction of others.

He expressed particular concern over the decline of weekly community labor papers of the type he edits.

"This decline," Klare observed, "comes at a time when some in the labor movement seem to have rediscovered the need for communication with the membership."

He noted that "a single one-minute prime time network television spot, including production expense, costs about the same as printing and mailing an eight-page tabloid newspaper to every member of a national union with 250,000 members. You can say a lot more in eight pages than in one minute."

He agreed that there is a need to explain the labor movement to the general public, "but it should not be done at the expense of reaching our members."

Klare was succeeded as ILPA president by James M. Cesnik, editor of the Newspaper Guild's Guild Reporter, who defeated William Moody, editor of the Graphic Arts Union's Union Tabloid. Sec.-Treas. Allen Y. Zack, assistant public relations director of the AFL-CIO, was re-elected without opposition. Joe Hanafin of the Canadian Machinist was chosen by Canadian delegates as vice president from that country.

The convention also elected 14 U.S. vice presidents from a field of 20. Incumbents given new two-year terms are Jerry Archuleta, OCAW Union News; Diane Curry, Railway Clerk/ interchange; Russ Gibbons, Steelabor; Rochelle Hart, Chicago Teacher; Robert Kalaski, the Machinist; Greg Kenefick, the Government Standard, AFGE; Gordon Spielman, Union Advocate, St. Paul; Bernard Stephens, Public Employee Press, AFSCME, New York; and Glenn Martin, California AFL-CIO News.

Elected to their first terms as vice president are Kenneth Germanson, Allied Industrial Worker; Tom Herriman, Labor Unity, Clothing & Textile Workers; Carolyn Jacobson, BC&T News, Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers; Jean Hughes Wright, San Francisco Actor, Screen Actors Guild, and Marl Young, Overture, Los Angeles Musicians.

A two-step dues increase was approved overwhelmingly by the delegates to cope with rising costs of operation and increasing expenses in challenging postal rates and regulations.

The dues rate will go to $2 per 1,000 circulation effective Jan. 1, 1982, with a lower schedule set for local unions.

A major part of the four-day convention was devoted to workshops covering such professional concerns as layout and graphics, photography, the electronic media, legal matters and freedom of the press, postal problems and solutions, news sources, and political coverage.

Among major speakers were Transportation Sec. Neil Goldschmidt; President Joyce Miller of the Coalition of Labor Union Women; Commissioner Sam Zagoria, Consumer Product Safety Commission; Director Alexis Herman, Women's Bureau, Labor Dept.; Attorneys Harry Green and Warren Woods; Jack C. Landau, editor of The News Media and the Law; Walter Comer, chief of the Labor Dept.'s election advisory unit; Henry Frazier III, member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority; Nancy Brigham, coordinator of the UAW Local Union Press Association; and reporters John Herling of Herling's Labor Letter, Sara Fritz of U.S. News & World Report, and David Ignatius of the Wall Street Journal.

Grant Aids Issuance Of Gompers Papers

A grant of $69,847 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to the University of Maryland to support publication of the papers of Samuel Gompers, first president of the AFL, was announced at the International Labor Press Association convention.

Joseph D. Duffey, chairman of the Humanities Endowment, said publication of the Gompers papers "will provide invaluable information about the formative years of the modern labor movement to a wide audience."

Editor of the more than one million papers involved in the project is Stuart Bruce Kaufman. The grant calls for production of a microfilm edition and publication of 12 to 15 volumes of selected papers.

Maritime Trades Warn:

U.S. Left Vulnerable By Lack of Shipping

By Rex Hardesty

America will be vulnerable to economic blackmail as long as it does not have a strong merchant marine, delegates to the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. convention were told, and the Iranian crisis serves to indicate how fast time is running out on the nation.

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) told the convention that the percentage of U.S. trade carried on American bottoms has declined to the point that an embargo called on the whim of some Soviet or other official could bring "the nightmare you have had for so long."

And Rep. John M. Murphy (D-N.Y.) said the recent collapse of U.S. simulated military maneuvers in support of NATO was directly traceable to the inability of the U.S. military forces to transport the 600,000 troops called for in the war games.

Finally, newly-elected MTD Vice President Stephen J. Leslie of the Operating Engineers told the convention that "we live and die by legislation," urging all MTD delegates to work actively on behalf of the legislative package outlined by the convention.

Elected with Leslie to four-year terms as officers of the department were President Paul Hall, president of the Seafarers, and Executive Sec.-Treas. Jean Ingrao. Leslie replaces Jack McDonald, also of the Operating Engineers, who retired after serving as the department's vice president since the office was formed in 1952.

Hall, who has been president of the MTD since the merger of the AFL and CIO, was unable to attend the 1979 convention because of a fall that injured his back.

In Hall's absence, the two-day convention was chaired by Frank Drozak, executive vice president of the Seafarers, who was named temporary chairman by the MTD executive board.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, whose appearance at the convention was accompanied by an outpouring of delegate emotion, was saluted with a special resolution as an international leader "who dedicated his life to helping American workers to achieve their needs and expectations."

Meany said the world has known many terrorists, but the holding of American hostages at the embassy in Iran is "the first time I have ever seen a nation as a whole acting as an international terrorist." He questioned how repeated U.S. administrations could see a friend in Shah Reza Pahlavi, "a murderer who robbed his people blind." And he described Ayatollah Khomeini as "this new dictator, who sticks people against a wall and executes them and claims this is in keeping with his religious beliefs."

Meany said President Carter "had made the right move to let the Iranians know that we're going to get along somehow without their oil, but at the same time we've got to get a message to them that they can't treat our citizens the way they're being treated." And Meany said for the United States to turn the Shah over to the Iranians "would be a national disgrace."

The plight of the U.S. merchant marine, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told the convention, "makes the construction industry, which is collapsing before our eyes under the pressure of 15 percent interest rates, seem like boom times by comparison. The U.S. merchant marine has been bleeding to death for 30 years because of two things—corporate greed and government neglect."

For the revitalization of U.S. merchant marine capacity, a convention resolution outlined the necessary program, noting that much of it has stayed the same through numerous administrations and sessions of Congress.

The outline included:

- Shipping agreements with trade partners that would "increase U.S. sailings, maritime employment, protect against overtonnage and provide entry for restricted trades."
- More U.S. shipbuilding.
- Use of the merchant marine as a military auxiliary fleet.
- Tightening the Jones Act's protection of internal U.S. sea traffic from foreign intrusion.
- Rebuilding the U.S. dry-bulk fleet, now deteriorated to where it carries less than 2 percent of U.S. imports.
- A national energy policy and encouragement of seabed mining to break U.S. dependence on foreign-flag vessels for both energy and vital minerals.



NEW VICE PRESIDENT of the Maritime Trades Dept. is Stephen J. Leslie, right, of the Operating Engineers. He replaces Jack McDonald, left, also an Operating Engineers vice president who held the MTD office since 1952. At center are Frank Drozak, chairman of the 1979 biennial convention, and Jean Ingrao, elected to her first full term as executive secretary-treasurer.

Taking the Offensive:

Food Trades Unions Adopt Action Program for Eighties

By James M. Shevis

The Food & Beverage Trades Dept., marking its third anniversary since its reconstruction as an AFL-CIO department, unveiled an expanded legislative program to make it an even greater force in the Eighties.

"We will be action-oriented," FBTD President Robert E. Harbrant told the 85 delegates to the departmental convention. "We have answered the question: Is the department going to make it? We have made it. Now the question is: How good does it want to be."

Harbrant declared in a keynote speech that the department "will go on the offensive because all of us are weary from the attacks of our enemies and tired of being on the defensive, reacting to the likes of the Chamber of Commerce, the New Right, Big Oil, the Reader's Digest, and the likes of Ronald Reagan or Big John Connally."

The main issues facing workers in the food and beverage industry are corporate concentration, the use of "lie detectors" in employment, and workplace hazards, Harbrant said.

The convention resolved to push through Congress a bill to outlaw polygraph tests as a condition of employment; encourage FBTD affiliates to use the Occupational Safety & Health Administration to follow up cases, fight when companies contest citations and provide technical help, and combat the conservative business interests that are seeking what they call a "union-free environment."

The delegates approved an increase of 1.5 cents per member in monthly per capita payments beginning Jan. 1, 1980, to fund the FBTD's stepped-up programs and "to continue the orderly growth" of the department.

In other action, delegates authorized Harbrant and the FBTD executive board to explore and adopt a name change for the department that would be more reflective of the food and service trades industries and heard a number of state, local and national figures.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland, congratulating the FBTD on its progress over the past three years, cited several important contributions to the "health, welfare and personal freedom" of all Americans.

"Your leadership in the fight to outlaw the use of the polygraph and other instruments for the invasion of privacy is one example. Another is your development of techniques for documenting the interlocking relationships of corporations and transnational conglomerates," Kirkland said.

Other speakers included Rep. Daniel Rostenkowski (D-Ill.); Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii); Sandra Willett, executive director of the National Consumers League; White House aide Landon Butler; Anne Wexler, assistant to President Carter; Sec.-Treas. Earl McDavid of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept.; Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.); Ray Rogers, head of the Clothing & Textile Workers' corporate campaign against J. P. Stevens & Co.; House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, and AFL-CIO Public Relations Director Albert Zack.

Rogers, whose strategy against the anti-union Stevens firm led to board member resignations at other companies linked to the textile giant, warned that the Stevens struggle is against "an intricate web of insurance companies, banks and firms that will destroy everything in their way. . . . When you're confronting a power elite, you're confronting a group that has absolutely no morality or, if so, shows it only rarely."

The goal of a union corporate campaign is to bring corporate pressure to bear on a target company to grant workers' rights, he said.

"By alienating the corporate community against a firm like Stevens, it will be forced to the bargaining table," Rogers said.

Warning against the growing strength of conservative forces within corporate America, Moynihan said that opposition to labor-law reform legislation last year was the angriest he has seen in his public life in Washington. Companies such as Stevens, which continue to violate basic labor law, "have to be brought to the bar of justice just like any other lawbreaker," he said.

Both Harbrant and Harry R. Poole were elected by acclamation to serve their first full terms as FBTD's president and secretary-treasurer, respectively. Harbrant, who had been serving as secretary-treasurer until last summer, succeeded President William H. Wynn of the Food & Commercial Workers when he stepped down from the post. At the same time, Poole was named by the department's executive board to succeed Harbrant.

Among the 33 resolutions adopted by the delegates was one amending the department's constitution to give the executive board the option to expand its membership to provide each of FBTD's 13 affiliated unions representation on the panel. The measure allows the board to appoint up to three at-large members.

In other areas, the department placed high priority on a series of resolutions demanding stricter standards and better enforcement of health and safety protection measures in traditionally female industries, organizing women workers, backing a national health insurance program, supporting ratification of an amendment to the U.S. Constitution giving voting rights to citizens of the District of Columbia, and requiring employers who assume ownership of a business to honor the terms and conditions of an established collective bargaining agreement.

In a report to the convention, Harbrant noted that the department has now chartered 28 state, local, and regional councils—11 since the past convention—and is in the process of forming others.

The delegates honored former FBTD President Wynn with a plaque for his leadership and "unswerving devotion" to the aims of the department.



FOOD & BEVERAGE TRADES Dept. President Robert Harbrant, right, presents plaque to President William Wynn of the Food & Commercial Workers in recognition of the latter's service to the department. Wynn served as president of the department until last summer when the Retail Clerks and the Meat Cutters merged into the Food & Commercial Workers, creating the largest union affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

Train Dispatchers Vote Higher Dues Schedule

Chicago—The American Train Dispatchers' convention approved major constitutional changes which will increase dues to the national organization, change the delegate apportionment at future conventions, and require ratification of future national agreements on wages and rules by the general assembly. Members of the assembly are convention delegates and hold office for the four years between conventions.

The delegates engaged in spirited debate and close votes on several controversial issues, and there were several contests in the election of officers.

Incumbent President B. C. "Barney" Hilbert easily defeated a challenge for the top spot from D. V. Gebard, delegate from the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad. Hilbert will be serving his first full term. He was appointed president in 1976 to fill out the term of C. R. Pfenning, who retired on disability.

Sec.-Treas. Dan Collins and Vice Presidents D. V. Chandler, R. J. Irving, R. E. Johnson and J. P. Erikson were all re-elected without opposition.

Annual dues to the national organization will increase to $204 effective Jan. 1, 1980, and will increase in steps each January until 1983, when dues will peak at $276 per year.

In a series of resolutions, delegates approved a comprehensive legislative program calling for federal aid for financially troubled railroads, for a shorter work day for Train Dispatchers, for corrective action to guarantee adequate income levels for the railroad retirement system and use of the U.S. railroad network for the transportation of mail.

Reports presented to delegates revealed that the ATDA represents train dispatchers on 73 of the nation's railroads and that membership has increased since the previous convention.

Speakers included Clarence MacIntosh, executive secretary of the Railway Labor Executives Association; C. J. Chamberlain, labor member of the Railroad Retirement Board, and J. A. McNally, representing the Federal Railroad Administration Office of Safety.

Birth Defects in Workers' Children Prompt Call for Ban on Herbicide

Based on the evidence that Oryzalin may be responsible for birth defects in the children of members, the Chemical Workers has urged government safety agencies to stop further exposure of workers and the public to the herbicide.

ICWU President Frank Martino announced at a Washington press conference that the union has petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety & Health Administration to ban the use of and halt the production of Oryzalin.

The action was taken, Martino said, on the basis of reports of "unexplained birth defects in the children of ICWU members who were exposed to this chemical during the production process and because of numerous cases of severe dermatitis."

Nicholas Crudo — visibly shaken and at one point on the verge of tears—recounted the experience of his four-year-old son, who has undergone surgery costing about $300,000 to correct transpositioned heart vessels, a rare birth defect. The boy has spent half of his four years in the hospital.

"We almost lost him at least eight times," Crudo said.

A member of ICWU Local 227, Crudo was one of some 80 employees of the GAF Corp. plant in Rensselaer, N.Y., which manufactured the Oryzalin for the Eli Lilly Corporation from January 1975 until June 1976.

During that time, according to the union, there were no known normal pregnancies and several cases of heart defects among children of the workers.

The union reported there had been one miscarriage, one son born who died of pneumonia after two months but who had a heart problem, one son born with a hypoplastic heart who died, and two sons born with transpositioned great vessels of the heart. While Crudo's son lived, the other child with transpositioned heart vessels died.

Oryzalin is currently being produced by Bofors-Lakeway Corp. in Muskegon, Mich., and by producers at other locations. ICWU Local 854, which represents workers at the Bofors-Lakeway facility, has found at least 30 cases of dermatitis among workers at that plant.

The ICWU has held meetings with government safety and health officials as well as with company representatives from Lilly, BASF Wyandotte (which now owns the GAF facility in New York) and GAF.

Following the ICWU press conference, OSHA chief Eula Bingham declared, "We in OSHA, as well as officials of EPA and the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health, are deeply concerned" about the reproductive problems that may have resulted from exposure to Oryzalin.

"Both as researchers and as regulators," she said, "we are determined to get to the bottom of the problem as quickly as possible, so we can prevent any further damage to workers or their children."

Although OSHA has not declared an "imminent danger" exists to halt production of the herbicide as the union requested, Bingham announced other actions by the agency.

Similarly, though EPA has taken steps to declare a ban on use of the chemical, the agency said it will work with OSHA and NIOSH to study the effects of Oryzalin. According to EPA's assistant administrator for toxic substances, Steve Jellinek, a report should be ready "within weeks."

In the audience at the ICWU press conference were two representatives of the Eli Lilly Corp., who answered questions from the press after the union completed its presentation.

Stephen Stitle, director of government relations for the company, said the deaths and defects occurring to children of Rensselaer plant employees were attributable to "multiple coincidences." He contended that animal studies and other tests of Oryzalin indicate "there is no cause for concern."

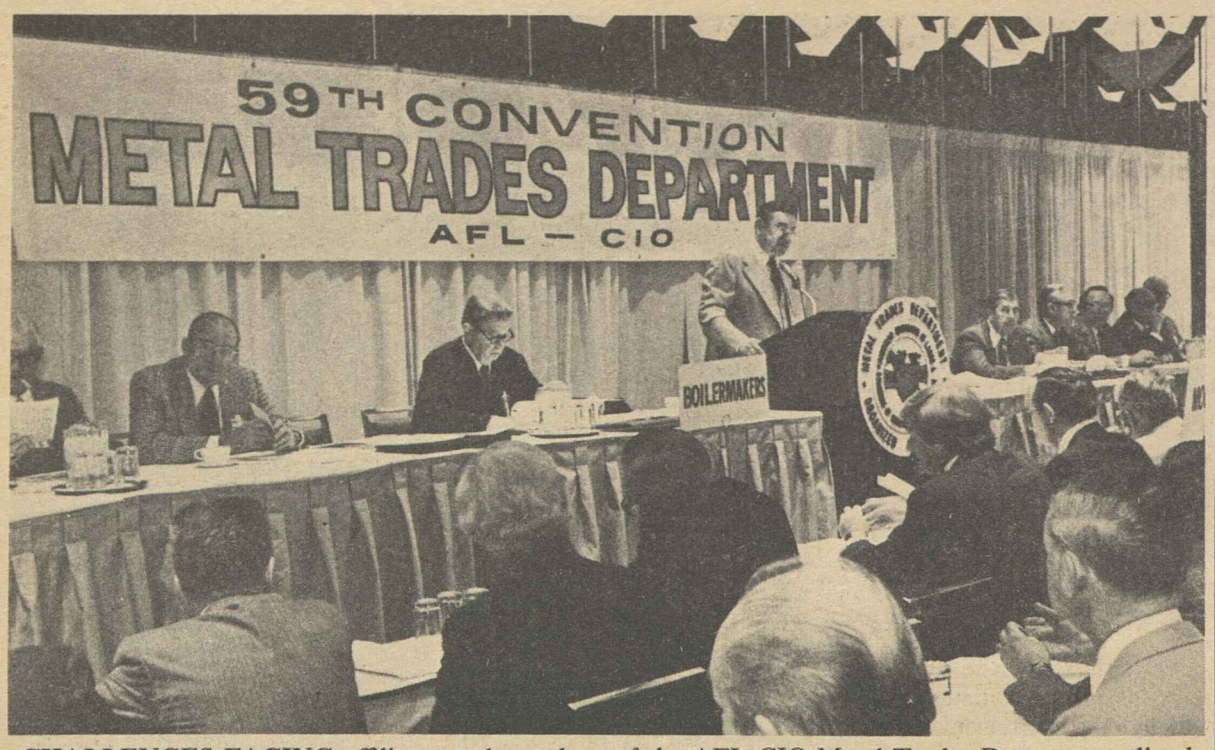
CORRECTION

A picture caption in the Nov. 10 issue of the AFL-CIO News on an inter-religious conference backing the rights of J. P. Stevens workers incorrectly identified Ruth Ruttenberg as being with the American Jewish Committee. She serves on the Urban Commission of the American Jewish Congress.

Labor Dept. Renews IUE Training Grant

The Labor Dept. has renewed a contract with the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers to arrange on-the-job training for 450 jobless, underemployed and handicapped persons in 12 states.

The one-year grant for $538,990 is funded through the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act. The trainees' wages will range from $4 to $5 an hour.



CHALLENGES FACING affiliates and members of the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept. are outlined by President Paul J. Burnsky in his address to the department's 59th convention in Washington.

Woes of Nation's Cities Magnified By Depressed Economic Climate

America's major urban cities have it bad in the best of times, the Executive Council noted in its convention report, so the economic climate of recent years has made those problems horrendous.

The council cited a survey of cities showing that 70 percent were worse off in 1975 than in 1960. "In other words, those cities were facing problems they were still unable to solve after 15 years," the council noted.

The cities' problems involve a chain reaction that is extremely hard to overcome. First, a business leaves, with a ripple effect on the entire neighborhood, and a reduced tax base. When city services sink, more companies leave, the council observed.

In human terms, that means a whole generation of young people growing up without a job to stabilize their lives, the council said, and the cost in crime, drug usage and violence is extensive.

"Nearly 60 percent of unemployed black workers live in central cities, as compared with 27 percent of unemployed whites," the council said, pointing out that in March 1979, when the national average for unemployment was 5.7 percent, 44 metropolitan areas had unemployment rates of 7 percent or more and 22 had rates of 8 percent or more.

For the nation as a whole, investment in the central cities is a sound project, the council said, because "the taxpayers' dollar is used more efficiently when it is invested in reconditioning central city public facilities, which is less costly than constructing entire systems in new suburban or rural locations.

The overall problem is too big for any cure other than federal investment, the council said, and that's why the AFL-CIO has been advocating full funding for a series of needed programs.

- Mass transit improvement is particularly important to break the cycle of unemployment in central city families both in terms of jobs, neighborhoods and access to the shifting jobsites.
- Public works and public service employment are both essential.
- The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is designed to benefit primarily low- and moderate-income people and communities.
- Cooperation in investment between private and public sources is provided by the Economic Development Administration of the Commerce Dept.
- That EDA effort works in tandem with a Housing & Urban Development program designed to improve local economies particularly plagued with high unemployment.

And through all of the relocation America has experienced, the council said, it's of vital importance that equal access and fair housing standards be enforced to make sure housing opportunities are available to all.

But the price of homes has also become a highly discriminatory factor in that housing, the council pointed out, with every homeowner and prospective buyer bearing the brunt of an incredible runaway in price and shortage in supply.

Using figures compiled before the October 1979 increase in interest rates, the council said the nation needs about 2.5 million housing starts a year to meet its needs, but has fallen 3 million behind while prices between 1970 and 1979 increased 157 percent for new homes and 126 percent for existing homes.

"But while the prices of homes have risen at a rapid pace, earnings have not kept pace," the council said. "Annual average weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers rose by 75 percent from $120 in 1970 to $210 by the beginning of 1979."

The housing downturn has hit hardest at moderate and middle-income families, the council said, and low-income families most in need of rent subsidy have been hurt by 1979 congressional actions which put public housing at low levels of authorization.

The report pointed out an increase in unemployment will start from already high levels, with 10 percent of construction workers unemployed throughout the early parts of 1979.

At 59th Convention:

Metal Trades Press Shipyard Programs

By John R. Oravec

Delegates to the 59th Metal Trades Dept. convention approved a two-step increase in per capita payments, drafted an agenda addressing the nation's economic, employment and energy problems, and re-elected top officers.

The per capita change raises monthly payments from the current 5 cents to 8 cents effective next Jan. 1, and to 10 cents on Jan. 1, 1982.

In proposing the increase, the department's executive council cited the need to boost revenues to meet increasing operating costs. The per capita for Metal Trades members has been at 5 cents since 1972.

The more than 100 delegates also called on the department's executive council to explore the possibility of expanding the council to 13 members through the addition of two vice presidents.

The convention re-elected all 10 incumbent vice presidents and President Paul J. Burnsky to new four-year terms by acclamation.

Among the 35 resolutions adopted at the two-day convention, emphasis was put on the immediate concerns of department members in calling for a strong federal commitment to revitalize the American maritime and naval fleets. A large part of the department's members are employed as shipbuilders and in related crafts.

Delegates cited a crucial need of gaining assurances from the Carter Administration and Congress to modernize U.S. Navy ships as a condition in the ratification of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty.

A number of convention speakers cited the decline of America's merchant fleet, and traced it to the federal government's failure to meet the goals of legislated policy for merchant marine modernization and revitalization.

Further deterioration of the merchant fleet can come from legislation now before the House, the convention warned. The measure, titled the Omnibus Maritime Regulatory Reform, Revitalization & Reorganization Act, was introduced to supposedly cure the ills of the shipbuilding industry, a resolution noted.

In calling for the defeat of the measure, the convention warned that instead of rejuvenating the shipbuilding industry, it would destroy it.

Citing the need for increased cooperation among regional Metal Trades councils and affiliated unions representing shipbuilders, the convention approved a plan for future nationwide conferences to deal with organizing and bargaining issues at shipyards.

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland told delegates that the National Accord that the federation reached with Carter Administration in September addresses a number of Metal Trades Dept. concerns.

Kirkland noted that the language of the accord is fairly general in some areas, but that it directly addresses certain key issues, such as energy independence, housing construction and U.S. shipping.

"It is specific about the need to build the ships America must have to restore her merchant marine, about the need to reserve a fair portion of America's sea-carriage trade for American-flag shipping," he said.

The accord promises labor a voice in government councils on a broad range of economic and social issues, he stressed.

"What we have not had in the past is a welcome mat at the door of government policymakers and the recognition of our right to contribute ideas and recommendations before policies are adopted—rather than just to comment on them afterward," he said.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall, issued an alert to delegates that foes of the trade union movement are gearing up for new attacks on established labor standards protecting the interests of American workers.

While their immediate targets are prevailing wage standards, job safety and health regulations, service contract protections and minimum wage guarantees, their ultimate objective is a national "right-to-work" law, he charged.

In addressing the nation's energy problems, the convention adopted a series of resolutions endorsing the construction of nuclear power plants with federal provisions for needed safety precautions for workers and the public, as well as an effective nuclear waste disposal program. The convention also called for development of alternate energy sources, including solar power and synthetic fuels.

The 10 re-elected vice presidents —all presidents of affiliated unions —are John H. Lyons, Iron Workers; S. Frank Raftery, Painters; Charles H. Pillard, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Edward J. Carlough, Sheet Metal Workers; Harold J. Buoy, Boilermakers; Charles Romelfanger, Pattern Makers; John J. McNamara, Firemen & Oilers; J. C. Turner, Operating Engineers; Carl Studenroth, Molders, and William W. Winpisinger, Machinists.

Foreign Trade, Investment Changes Erode U.S. Industrial Base, Jobs

Broad shifts in international trade and investment practices are exacerbating the nation's economic, political and social problems as the 1980s approach, the Executive Council said.

Imports of foreign goods far outpaced U.S. exports last year, resulting in a $30 billion trade deficit. The serious imbalance was not eased by a $2 billion reduction in oil imports, even though incoming petroleum accounted for much of the deficit. Imports of manufactured goods exceeded U.S. exports by $6 billion.

"In specific industries and product lines, trade trends continue to produce serious production impact and job dislocations," the council observed.

"In some instances, Administration actions helped produce improvements; in others, the action was too little, too late."

Some relief came from orderly marketing arrangements, negotiated agreements, quotas and countervailing duties. But more jobs were lost in a number of industries because the nation lacks a comprehensive program to deal with trade problems, the council said.

"This continued export of jobs and production eroded the industrial base. The past decade has been a series of recurring shocks to the U.S. and world economy. International trade has become a much larger share of U.S. economic life, and the impact of both imports and exports now affects the daily lives of most Americans."

During the 1970s, the United States has experienced these shifts in international trade:

- It has changed from a net exporter to a net importer of goods, seriously affecting jobs.
- It has lost its No. 1 ranking as exporter of manufactured goods to West Germany, and is in danger of losing its No. 2 position this year to Japan.
- It has more than doubled the share of imports as a percentage of output.
- It has sharply changed its trading relations with lesser developed countries in both raw materials and manufactured goods.

"Imports as a share of U.S. output in manufacturing industries grew rapidly even in broad industry groups," the council said.

"Despite reporting problems that understate the impact of imports, the figures show sharp import rises in such industries as transportation equipment, electrical and nonelectrical machinery, leather and leather products, rubber and miscellaneous products, apparel, furniture, scientific equipment and miscellaneous manufacturing."

The nation also felt the economic impact of the sharp deterioration of the dollar against the West German mark, Swiss franc and Japanese yen last year, adding to inflationary pressures at home.

The drop in the dollar's value encouraged American exports, particularly raw materials and food, in addition to many manufactured products.

Even so, imports continued to pour into U.S. markets, the council observed, as other countries subsidized their exports to correct for changes in the value of their currency.

Then came a surge of foreign investments, rising to $40 billion in 1978 and continuing into 1979. Foreign investors bought heavily into U.S. retail chains, construction firms, agriculture and timberland.

"Americans, recognizing the problems incident in the foreign takeover of U.S. assets, are raising questions about tax benefits, incentives and other lures that attract the vast horde of largely unreported monetary flows," the council said.

"No other nation has such a large amount of unreported income and non-control of its resources and industries."

'Relentless Treadmill':

Steady Drop in Real Wages Keeps Squeeze on Workers

The American worker is losing ground "on a relentless treadmill of living costs rising faster than paychecks," the AFL-CIO Executive Council declared in a report to the convention on the state of the economy.

"Inflation washes away the value of dollar gains in the paycheck so that workers and their families are suffering cuts in their real buying power and cuts in their standard of living," the council pointed out.

Over the past two years, inflation has worsened, and even workers employed full-time and year-round found the buying power of their average weekly take-home pay cut substantially, the council said. The squeeze on those who do not work year-round because of unemployment is even greater.

In 1978, the average worker's weekly pay, after deduction of federal income and social security taxes and after adjustment for higher prices, was 4.3 percent lower than in 1972, the council pointed out. By April of this year, more slippage had taken place—to 7.3 percent below the 1972 average.

"Many working families, faced with insufficient incomes, are forced to lower their standard of living or augment their earnings through moonlighting or the incomes of working spouses or other family members," the council noted.

Meanwhile, the productivity of American workers is the highest in the world, the council said. And unit labor costs have gone up much less than in other nations. Although overall U.S. productivity measures show a slowdown, this is not true of the basic manufacturing sector, the council pointed out.

"In fact, since manufactured goods make up a declining share of total output, there is a serious question about the validity of productivity measurement for the total private economy, which also includes construction, finance, insurance, real estate, and personal and business services," the report said.

In terms of output per worker hour, productivity in the manufacturing sector increased 2.5 percent in 1978. For the 1970s, factory productivity growth averaged 2.4 percent a year—less than the 3 percent average of the 1960s, but the same as the 2.4 percent average yearly growth of the 1950s.

This respectable rate for the '70s came despite two back-to-back recessions and an under-utilization of plant and equipment during most of the decade, the council observed.

Next to inflation, the nation's top economic problem continues to be unemployment—and once again working people and their families are among the chief victims, the council declared.

The results of these twin problems of inflation and unemployment —"in terms of lost jobs, lost production, loss of buying power, loss of income and lower living standards — have sent shock waves throughout the entire economy, threatening the future for all Americans."

Largely responsible for the persistent inflation, the AFL-CIO said, has been the steep rise in the prices of necessities—food, fuel, medical care, and housing—as well as interest rates.

The Carter Administration's attempt to combat inflation through an inffective program of one-sided wage and price guidelines instituted in October 1978 worked hardships on American workers, the council declared, as wages and salaries of working people were held down while prices and profits were allowed to soar.

The so-called "trade-off" theory—"the immoral theory that the way to fight inflation is to create unemployment"—has been thoroughly discredited by the experience of the last 30 years, the report observed. In early 1979, after six months of the Administration's anti-inflation program, inflation actually got worse. For the three months ending in April, the compound annual inflation rate was 14 percent.

"Unfortunately, the discredited 'trade-off' theory continues to dominate the thinking of many economic policymakers in the Administration and Congress, and thus weakens the nation's commitment to full employment," the council said.

Last September, the Administration and the AFL-CIO reached agreement on a National Accord, which establishes the framework for labor's participation in the development of economic and social policy. This accord, which emphasizes the need for equality of sacrifice in the fight against inflation, provides the basis under which the federation has agreed to participate in the development of a new wage restraint program, the council reported.

An important aspect of the accord's anti-inflation effort is responsible behavior with respect to pay and prices.

The accord, described by the council as an "historic document," points out that discipline and restraint are required to deal effectively with inflation.

"This will mean a period of austerity for Americans—individual and collective sacrifices for a time so that we may then enjoy the greater bounty of our land in the years to come.

"Such austerity must be fairly shared. The burdens need to be distributed equitably. And in the process we must protect those least advantaged in our society, who are not able to bear the costs."



AN AFL-CIO CHARTER to the Federation of Professional Athletes was voted by the Executive Council. Here, Ed Garvey, executive director of the NFL Players Association; Brig Owens, his assistant, and Bobby Moore, director of the NFLPA West Coast office, look over the report with President George Meany.

Labor and Allies Battle Cuts in Social Programs

There has been only small progress toward labor's goals in the broad range of social welfare legislation covered by the Executive Council report.

On social security, the council noted that labor's hopes for improving benefits were pushed aside by the still-continuing battle to prevent cutbacks in the existing program.

Last January, President Carter proposed to reduce existing benefits in order to hold down costs of the program. In the AFL-CIO's view, this would have amounted to a major breach of faith with America's workers.

The Executive Council credited the effort of a broad coalition of some 150 organizations, including unions and senior citizen groups, with sidetracking most of the Administration's cutback proposals.

Over labor's objections, the House approved a reduction in future social security disability benefits, particularly for younger workers with families. But the council report was optimistic that the adverse portions of the bill may be mitigated in the Senate next year.

Nevertheless, the council warned, the risk of cutbacks is not ended. "The Administration proposals appear to be a trial balloon for what may be a larger effort next year to cut back the program and to adopt alternative financing to avoid the payroll tax and wage base increases scheduled for 1981."

The council report discussed the various national health insurance bills that have been introduced in Congress and reiterated the AFL-CIO's conviction that the comprehensive Health Care for All Americans Act is the only bill that meets the need for full coverage for everyone "as a matter of right" while also having the machinery for holding down costs.

The AFL-CIO has strongly supported as an immediate step the Administration's hospital cost containment bill, but the measure failed to pass in the last Congress and has not yet come to a vote in this Congress.

Meanwhile, the Executive Council noted, "medical care costs continue to escalate at about twice the rate of all goods and services, as measured by the consumer price index." The council report pointed out also that the escalating cost of medical care "has forced many unions to divert more money from collective bargaining packages from wages to health benefits."

On welfare reform, the council expressed concern at the failure of Congress over the past two years to take "even the most modest step toward reform."

Since the Executive Council report was prepared, the House has approved a labor-supported "first step" welfare reform bill. But it now must move through a hostile and conservative Senate Finance Committee.

"The needs of the poor have been relegated to a low priority," the council protested. "Welfare payments are falling far behind rising living costs as the poor are cruelly victimized by high and ever rising food, utility and housing costs."

On the food stamp program, the council welcomed the improvements that were enacted shortly after the last AFL-CIO convention, especially elimination of a purchase requirement that had kept many households from benefiting from the program.

But the report warned that rapidly rising food costs have outdated congressional budget ceilings on the program at a time when rising unemployment is likely to add to the number eligible for assistance.

Anti-labor groups continued to try to get Congress to disqualify families of strikers from food stamp assistance, but the attempts have regularly been beaten back, the council noted.

Unions, Civil Rights Groups Face Common Adversaries in Struggles

Labor and civil rights groups continue to form an alliance that is brought into sharper focus by the fact their opponents are identical, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said in its report to the convention.

The forces who fought labor law reform and are now trying to repeal Davis-Bacon "also lead the opposition to equal rights for women, the extension of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and seek to weaken civil rights enforcement agencies and slow down school integration," the council said.

Conversely, the victories for labor and minority groups in the Missouri "right-to-work" fight, improved federal minimum wage standards and passage of the Humphrey-Hawkins full employment act show that the alliance is well and progressing, the council said.

It warned against entertaining any notion that women and minorities "have made it," with too much evidence to the contrary in the black unemployment rate and women concentrated in the dead-end, lowpaying jobs.

The council noted that the addition of 1.8 million more women workers in the last two years has brought the total of working women to 43 million, and that means they have passed the halfway mark, with 50 percent of all adult U.S. women now holding jobs.

"Failure to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment is besmirching this nation's reputation for promoting human rights," the council said. The federation will be going into its fifth convention since first urging the states to ratify ERA, and the goal remains unattained.

The council said the gains that have been made in the past two years have included court definitions of the relationship between seniority and affirmative action, continued success of the outreach concept and improved federal agency enforcement of civil rights.

- Supreme Court decisions have helped move the nation off considering affirmative action and seniority as an either-or proposition, the council said. "The AFL-CIO remains committed to the principle that seniority systems which are as broad as possible are most desirable for all union members—male and female, black and white," the report declared.
- Outreach programs have now placed more than 53,000 apprentices in the skilled trades and made another 30,000 skilled trades placements of older workers, the council report noted.
- Labor's relations with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission improved remarkably under the Carter Administration, the council reported, with advance notice to the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights speeding compliance. The EEOC has also dropped its practice of automatically making a national or international union respondent in every case of local noncompliance, the council noted.

It praised the work of three of labor's support groups for continued help in civil rights affairs —the A. Philip Randolph Institute among blacks; the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) and the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA) among Hispanics.

Similarly, the council reported on labor's efforts to help in membership drives of the NAACP and paid particular tribute to the role the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights stayed in the successful minimum wage fight in Congress.

16 Locals Shift Affiliation to Internationals

Sixteen local unions directly affiliated with the AFL-CIO elected during the past two years to become affiliated with national or international unions, the Executive Council reported to the convention.

The transfer, the council noted, reflected the desires of the members of the locals for active participation in the affairs of national or international unions with similar concerns.

During the two-year period since the last convention, three directly affiliated locals with membership totaling 142 were disbanded and two with membership of 824 had their charters revoked. As of June 30, 1979, there were 102 directly affiliated locals with a membership of 27,057. This compares with 123 locals with 41,401 members at the start of the two-year period.

Losing Ground

THE AMERICAN WORKER is losing ground on a relentless treadmill of living costs rising faster than paychecks.

Inflation washes away the value of dollar gains in the paycheck so that workers and their families are suffering cuts in their real buying power and cuts in their standard of living.

The CPI measures changes in the buying power of the dollar, but it does not take into account the effect of income taxes and payroll taxes on workers' buying power. For example, if prices rise 8 percent, a worker needs 1 to 2 percent more in earnings to pay the taxes on the higher earnings and still have 8 percent left to maintain the buying power of the paycheck.

While the buying power of an average wage and salary worker's earnings improved modestly between 1967 and 1972, there has been a net loss since 1972. The period since 1972 has encompassed extremes of both price inflation and unemployment, the worst since World War II.

In 1978 and 1979, inflation worsened and even workers employed full-time and year-round found the buying power of their average weekly take-home pay substantially cut. The squeeze is even worse for those workers who didn't work a full 52 weeks because of unemployment during the year.

Average wage and salary earners—some 55 million production and non-supervisory workers in private, non-farm employment—constitute the major group of consumers, as well as producers, in the American economy. The squeeze on the buying power of their earnings not only poses a severe problem for individual workers and their families, but also has a depressing effect on the entire economy.

IN 1978, THE AVERAGE worker's weekly pay, after deduction of federal income tax and social security taxes, and after adjustment for higher prices, was 4.3 percent lower than in 1972. And by April 1979, more slippage had taken place—down to 7.3 percent below the 1972 average.

The average gross weekly earnings for non-supervisory workers in private, non-farm establishments were $213.82 in April 1979. When federal income and social security taxes are deducted the average wage and salary earner with three dependents had a weekly take-home pay of $190.08. Expressed in constant 1967 dollars, taking into account increased living costs, the resulting figure, $89.58, indicates the buying power of the paycheck. The buying power of the average wage and salary earner's paycheck in April 1979 was 4.5 percent below the April 1978 level and even below 1965.

Weekly earnings of $213.82 would give a year-round worker an annual before-tax income of $11,118.64. Yet, the Labor Dept. reports, the typical American urban family of four would require an annual before-tax income of $19,547 just to maintain a modest standard of living in April 1979, including few amenities. The Labor Dept.'s austere level or "lower" budget—which allows for minimum adequacy—required $12,123 before taxes in April 1979. Thus, the average wage earner was not assured an adequate standard of living for a family of four, even with year-round work.

—From the AFL-CIO Executive Council's Report to the 13th Convention.

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GEORGE MEANY, *President*

LANE KIRKLAND, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Executive Council

Paul Hall	John H. Lyons	A. F. Grospiron
Matthew Guinan	Peter Bommarito	Thomas W. Gleason
Frederick O'Neal	Jerry Wurf	S. Frank Raftery
George Hardy	Al H. Chesser	Martin J. Ward
William Sidell	Murray H. Finley	Albert Shanker
C. L. Dellums	Glenn E. Watts	Sol C. Chaikin
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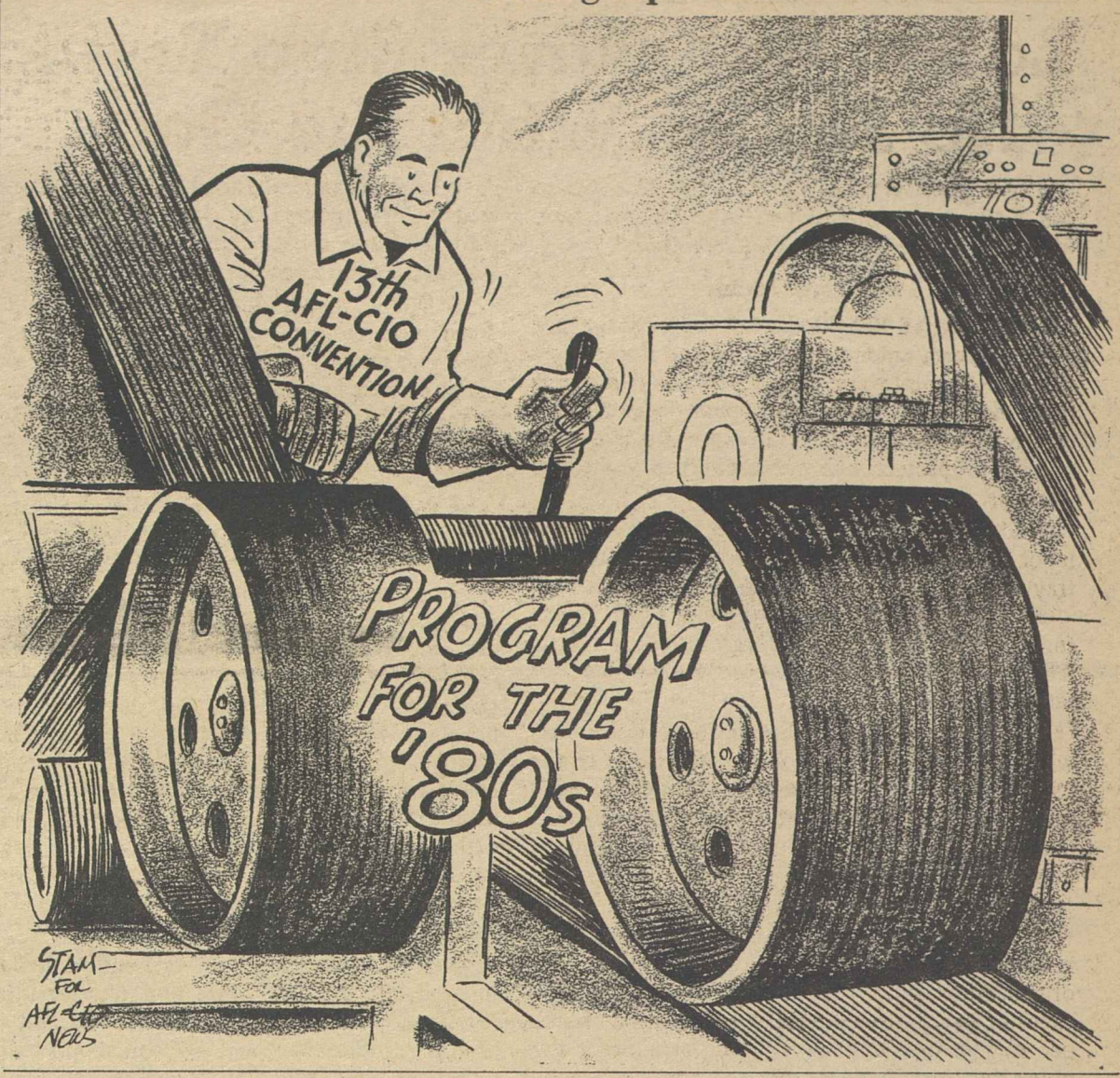
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Gearing Up



Domestic Hitlers:

Depression Era a Reminder Of How Hunger Breeds Hate

By Gus Tyler

FATHER COUGHLIN'S death, at age 88, coming almost a half-century to the day after the great stock market crash of 1929, is a grim reminder of the way America might have gone in the 1930s.

Charles E. Coughlin was once a power in America. He preached political sermons over the air waves that stirred millions of people who were caught in the crushing grip of the depression. He denounced capitalism and its lackeys—Herbert Hoover and J. P. Morgan, and "every moneychanger in Wall Street." He called for nationalization of key industries, including the banks. He wanted to turn the system topsy-turvy.

His appeal was personal as well as ideological. His voice ranged from screeching soprano to booming bass; his language rang with biblical pomp and street patios. Folks used to form parties to tune in on this man who offered both economic and spiritual salvation.

He started out before the depression, hitting the air waves to explain Catholicism after some Ku Klux Klanners had burned a cross in his churchyard in Royal Oak, Mich. He decided to speak to all Americans to combat bigotry.

It was the depression, however, that gave him a ready ear. His assault upon the capitalists brought him a listening audience of more than 40 million people. When Roosevelt ran for President in 1932, Father Coughlin backed him with a full voice. And FDR was publicly grateful.

Then something happened. Coughlin fell in love with Hitler. "I take the road to fascism," he said in 1936.

He fantasized a worldwide conspiracy of capitalists, Communists and Jews. His magazine, Social Justice, published the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," a famous forgery that showed Jews manipulating everyone and everything to take over the world.

His followers, organized into the Christian Front, painted swastikas on the doors of Jewish shops, desecrated tombstones in Jewish cemeteries, formed gangs to beat up Jews.

He was stopped by his own church. His bishop denounced him; the Pope backed the bishop.

Coughlin was our own Hitler. Like the Fuehrer, he appealed to the little man. (Hitler called his party the National Socialist Workers Party.) He sounded like the revolutionary tribune of the oppressed. But like Hitler, his ultimate purpose was fascist: a dictatorship built on easy hate.

America did not go Coughlin's way—as Germany did. But we could have, if FDR had not shown a democratic way to escape the clutches of the depression.

Coughlin's death, with its invitation to retrospection, reminds us that bad times make bad tempers, that hunger can breed hate and Hitlers as easily as Roosevelt and reform.

Coughlin's obituary is a timely reminder at this hour as we toy with the idea of a new depression.

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National Accord A New Approach

Under the terms of the National Accord reached between the labor movement and the President, labor will contribute ideas and recommendations on the whole range of national economic and social issues while government policies are being developed, and we intend to make the most of our opportunities.

There has never been a time when labor did not speak up on national issues of all kinds, on every matter that affects people and their families. Until now, we have not been able to do this inside the government councils where policies are developed. We have been in the position of commenting on actions already taken.

No one can now predict how well this new approach, which evolved from the leadership of George Meany, will actually work in the months ahead. I do firmly believe that it is worth a try, and that if it should fail it should not be through any lack of effort on our part.

There are many in positions of power in government who still want to keep labor at arm's length, way out of any real role in the picture. But we intend to hold the Administration to its commitment to us, and we shall not hesitate to react to any breach of that accord.

—AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland to the Food & Beverage Trades Dept. convention, Nov. 9, 1979.

Meany's Final Editorial:

Labor Will Never Stop Trying —No Matter What the Odds

The November issue of the AFL-CIO American Federationist contains George Meany's farewell editorial, titled "We Will Not Quit."

By George Meany

AS LONG AS PEOPLE work for a living, they will form unions. And as long as workers are subject to employers whose sole motivation is profit or personal aggrandizement, workers will continue to build stronger and more effective trade unions to protect and advance their collective interests.

And as long as there are such trade unionists, labor will be opposed by those who seek to portray workers and their unions as separate entities —referring to unions as an unneeded "third force," just as the diehard segregationists falsely labeled civil rights organizations as "outside agitators."

There's no reason to believe those basic facts will change much—not now, on the dawn of the 1980s, or in the foreseeable future. Labor's methods may change; allies and enemies will shift occasionally; the jobs and needs of our members may change.

But the basic definition of who we are and what we do will remain. American unions have been and will remain the only major private U.S. organization whose sole purpose is advancing the cause of American workers. That covers the hours per day people must work, but also the other hours they must live—as citizens, consumers, taxpayers and users of a wide variety of services.

That is why labor's interests are so broad and why the AFL-CIO is so deeply involved in virtually every legislative battle. It is a fact of life that everything that concerns people concerns workers and their unions.

From workers' needs and concerns, we have derived a trade union body of principles which become the "labor response" and reflect our best instincts as citizens and as trade unionists.

It has been my honor and privilege to have served as president of the AFL-CIO for 24 years, as a federation officer for 40 years and an active trade unionist for more than 60 years. Yet when I was elected to my first office, I was as much an inheritor of a trade union body of thought as any one is today, or will be tomorrow. And the same was true of Samuel Gompers, William Green, Philip Murray or anyone before me.

That body of thought has grown and changed, just as the labor force has changed incredibly. But the more we move to new job descriptions and new colors for our collars, the more we return to our roots—with the college professors of today seeking the same collective strength won long ago by the very first trade unionists.

Our "trade union response" will always be steeped in truths we believe are self-evident. From them, it is easy to predict that the labor movement of the future:

● Will continue to put the defense of the nation and the Constitution first, whether the test be from a foreign foe or from those who would destroy the Constitution for the sake of their own narrow single issue.

● Will continue to mold responses born of our own democratic processes through which workers are quite adept at letting their leaders know what they do or don't want. A major milestone in that process was the merger of the AFL and CIO. We have retained and expanded the strength symbolized by that hyphen we put in our name when we united into a single trade union center nearly a quarter-century ago.

● Will not hesitate to cooperate with the business community when the goal is good and the cause worthy. But it will not hesitate to disagree and fight, for we know that the united strength of labor is greater than all the wealth of the employers and that the common good is not always found on the bottom of a ledger sheet.

● Will stick closely to our credo of watching what elected officials do, not what they say. Our requests for legislative change will not be couched as either begging or demanding, but will be made with a clear perception of whom we represent and how they, through COPE, participate in the legislative process. Chief among our legislative goals will be jobs, education, health care and housing—the central concerns of every worker's family. And labor will protect and defend, in every forum and court in the land, our rights to assemble freely, to bargain collectively and to withhold our labor. These are rights absolutely essential for all free men and women and we will never surrender our rights nor let anyone take them away.

● Will never forget our responsibilities as an integral part of the richest and freest nation in the history of mankind to our brother and sister workers around the world. We will support all free and democratic trade unions against any would-be oppressor. We will aid in every legal and legitimate way all workers now bound by the chains of totalitarianism and who yearn to be free. We will proclaim in every manner possible our sure and certain knowledge that trade union rights and human rights are as interchangeable as they are indispensable. We will not stand by for the export of our jobs by those whose motivation is the exploitation of some far-away fellow workers far less equipped than we to protect themselves.

IN SUM, THESE ARE the principles that have always guided us, but they form a living, changing testament. Many of the goals we seek today are goals we have sought every day of the last quarter-century. We have not, for example, achieved either tax justice or national health insurance, but we have not and we will never stop trying. And that is a demonstration of the final, enduring strength of the American labor movement: simply that we will not quit.

Labor never quits. We never give up the fight—no matter how tough the odds, no matter how long it takes.

That is the message of this, my final editorial as the president of the AFL-CIO and the editor of this magazine.

Being editor of the Federationist, one of the responsibilities of the president, has been a rich and rewarding experience. It has given me a new appreciation of the importance of the labor press as a method of getting labor's opinion—straight and factually—to a nation whose public press all too often reports labor's position meagerly, if at all, and misinterprets its goals and motives more often than not.

So I particularly add labor editors to the millions of trade unionists whom I both thank and exhort with this final message:

Yours is a good labor movement.

Now go out and make it better.

Arts Job Project Gains Support

A MAJOR EFFORT to more fully utilize the skills and talents of professional and technical workers in the performing arts has drawn the joint support of the industry's unions, employers and the government, said Executive Director Jack Golodner of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees.

Golodner stressed that the career counselling and job creation program will concentrate on upgrading the skills of "persons in these professions, not training new people" in these fields, which "is the job of the universities and colleges." He said that the industry has been heavily affected by rapid technological change that has forced the displacement of many professional and technical workers.

It would be a tragedy and a waste for our country to lose the full use of these highly skilled experienced workers and performers, Golodner declared on Labor News Conference.

Golodner said the new program will be funded by a Labor Dept. grant to the Labor Institute for Human Enrichment, created by the DPE "to form a bridge between the professions and the public that the professions seek to serve."

He said that in addition to counselling and training programs, the contract under which the federal grant was made calls for the establishment of joint apprenticeship committees and union-employer programs to "stimulate more jobs in the professions that have, historically, been terribly impacted by unemployment and underemployment."

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

LONDON BRIDGE ISN'T falling down, but the same cannot be said with 100 percent accuracy about the Brooklyn Bridge or hundreds of others across the United States.

In fact, the nation's bridges and other basic capital facilities—water and sewer systems, highways and mass transit systems—are wearing out faster than they are being replaced.

Item: One-third of the 163 bridges for which the City of Cleveland has maintenance responsibility are in such bad shape they either have to be replaced entirely or undergo major repairs. The price tag on bringing all of the city's bridges up to standard would be at least $150 million, according to one study. The replacement cost for one bridge alone that was closed last year would be $30 million.

Item: About 22 percent of the city of Buffalo's streets are in such bad shape that they should have immediate repairs. That's 163 miles of roadway.

Item: Beneath the city of Hot Springs, S.D., lie 29.55 miles of water main distribution pipes. Rust, corrosion and mineral deposits have caused a "hardening of the arteries" that has resulted in a pipe diameter of less than four inches for 17.69 miles of that pipe. Some 2.2 miles more is severely decayed. To fix the entire system would cost the town of 5,000 people more than $1.5 million. To fail to correct the faults—and therefore fail to increase the water pressure—could make fire fighting an impossible task and leave Hot Springs in danger.

Item: Three streets and sidewalks of New York city are so hazardous that there have been 35,000 suits against the city over the last seven years, resulting in a payout of $61 million in damages. The streets are so full of potholes that 35 percent of the city's sanitation trucks and more than half of its street sweepers have been knocked out of commission.

Most of these figures come from the Urban Institute, a nonprofit research group established in 1968 to study problems of the nation's urban communities. And what these figures document according to George E. Peterson, director of the institute's public finance program, is "widespread deterioration of performance in older urban areas in . . . five basic functional areas: streets and highways, bridges, water distribution systems, sewer collection systems, and mass transit systems.

Researchers discovered many similarities between New York and Cleveland—similarities in the state of the city's "infrastructure," or basic capital facilities, as well as similarities in local finances. In both cities, for example, elements of the infrastructure were put in place a century or more ago. In both cases, shifting populations and industrial operations played havoc with the city's tax bases; in both cases, political considerations often took precedence over practical decisions in determining how and where to spend limited resources.

There is a growing understanding, in the afflicted cities and towns themselves and in Congress as well, that much of the nation's physical plant is crumbling. Total collapse is not imminent, but neither can the deterioration be ignored indefinitely.

The problem was the subject of congressional hearings this spring and summer, and the House and Senate are considering ways to help. A bill in the Senate proposes federal loans to local governments—perhaps at lower-than-usual interest rates—to finance necessary work, while a House bill would combine local bond issues with some federal money.

Neither bill is expected to make much progress during this session of Congress. Testimony on each has been limited, and their merits have yet to be fully explored. What is clear, however, is that some form of assistance is necessary. What also is clear is that the nation is entering a recession in which the ranks of the present 6.2 million unemployed will be swelled by another 1 or 2 million jobless.

It would seem to make sense for legislators and policymakers to relate the two problems and put many of the unemployed to work rebuilding the great cities of America.



EFFORTS TO UPGRADE the skills and talents of professionals and technicians in the performing arts are gaining wide support, Executive Director Jack Golodner, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees reported. He was interviewed on Labor News Conference by Philip Blackburn, left, of the Bureau of National Affairs and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The program, produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service, is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Undercutting Of Regulatory Agencies Hit

Federal regulatory agencies serve a "desirable and necessary" function and the AFL-CIO is concerned about congressional attempts to weaken their powers.

The Executive Council report stressed the need for regulatory action to protect the health and safety of workers, to curb business misrepresentation, to protect the environment and to defend consumer rights.

It rebuked the Carter Administration for establishing regulatory review machinery that can be used to subordinate protective regulations to "questionable cost-benefit analysis invoked in the name of fighting inflation."

The council report also criticized proposals to give Congress a veto over federal regulations.

"Such proposals are nothing more than a thinly-veiled attack on the federal regulatory agencies," the council said.

It termed the legislative veto "a potential procedural nightmare" that could result in congressional battles over almost all significant regulatory decisions.

This would stymie Congress as well as federal agencies and further delay action on needed legislation, the council noted.

Furniture Workers Win Nashville Vote

Nashville, Tenn.—The Furniture Workers won representation rights for 70 employees of the Holder & Northern Lumber Co. here by a 3 to 1 margin in an election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board.

The organizing victory is the first in the area since the UFWA moved its headquarters to Nashville in September in its campaign to broaden union representation in the South.

UFWA President Carl Scarbrough commended the workers for standing up to employer threats to shut down the lumber mill and harassment through the firing of union supporters, who have since been rehired at the insistence of the union.



NATIONAL FOUNDATION for Consumer Credit honors Esther Peterson, special assistant to President Carter for consumer affairs, for her efforts in consumer credit education. Presenting the Louis M. Linxwiler award are Robert Gibson, left, foundation president, and John McManus of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services. The foundation is a non-profit organization promoting a rational use of credit for personal and family financial planning.

Job Safety Progress Leaves Goals Unmet

America's workers are a long way from receiving the full protections written into the federal job safety law, the Executive Council said.

While vast progress has been made in the administration of the Occupational Safety & Health Act in the last two years, this has been offset by continuing attacks on the law and its enforcement from hostile legislators, anti-OSHA employers and right-wing extremists, the council noted in its report to the 13th AFL-CIO convention.

"More than 20 bills designed to destroy or weaken OSHA were introduced in Congress by mid-1979," the council noted. "Regulatory reform legislation is being advanced as a vehicle for subjecting OSHA rulemaking to rigid cost-benefit analysis. This could place the dollar costs of compliance with OSHA health standards ahead of human lives."

Similar hurdles have been erected with President Carter's orders requiring regulatory agencies to submit economic impact statements long before issuing standards, the council said.

Meanwhile, employers and industry associations have sought to delay implementation and enforcement of standards through court challenges.

Another serious problem is shortage of inspectors at OSHA, the council pointed out.

"Enforcement is lagging badly because the number of compliance personnel is wholly inadequate. The present level of about 1,400 inspectors and industrial hygienists is no greater than that proposed by the AFL-CIO for fiscal 1973, when the program was in its formative stage."

That number is far too small to properly police the more than 5 million workplaces covered by the act, the council said. It cited a critical shortage of safety officers in hazardous industries, such as construction, longshoring, grain storage and foundries.

"Personnel shortages are not the only problem. Hiring practices, enforcement procedures, handling of complaints and response to unions vary widely among OSHA regional and area offices," resulting in a growing backlog of cases, the council noted.

The National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health remains understaffed and underfunded, the council said. As a result, NIOSH is not meeting its responsibility in developing hazards criteria documents on toxic chemicals and in other functions.

The council report traced the NIOSH performance lag to its low standing in the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. "Thus, it is badly hampered in carrying out the tasks assigned it by law."

The council commended the efforts of Labor Sec. Ray Marshall and Assistant Sec. Eula Bingham to speed development of new health hazard regulations. But it also expressed concern over the low priority of OSHA coverage for 2.8 million federal employees.

Decontrol Assailed:

Surging Oil Prices Threaten Economy

Uncertain oil supplies and skyrocketing oil prices are twin threats to the American economy, grown more dependent than ever on imports, the Executive Council reported to the AFL-CIO convention.

The Carter Administration, while recognizing the urgency of the energy problem, has stumbled in its attempts to cope with the situation, the council asserted.

"It has placed major reliance on escalating prices. As a result of the efforts of the Administration, Congress passed legislation providing for the gradual deregulation of natural gas prices," the council observed. "The President himself initiated steps to begin decontrolling the price of crude oil.

"To believe, as some do, that high prices will lead to greatly increased supplies and substantial conservation is without foundation in fact."

Decontrol represents a submission to the power of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the council declared. Since other energy prices are determined by oil prices, this constitutes an acceptance of OPEC as the determiner of U.S. energy prices and, by virtue of that control as well as control of supply, a major factor in the American economy, it said.

Dependence on foreign oil has the U.S. more vulnerable than ever before in its history, the council observed. Seven years ago, the United States imported 4.7 million barrels of oil daily, which accounted for 29 percent of domestic consumption. Today, imports are more than 8 million barrels a day, a figure that is close to 50 percent of domestic needs.

"In addition, there is a growing dependence on oil imports from the same Arab countries which launched the 1973 embargo against the United States," the council noted. "Today, imports from these countries average around 3 million barrels of oil per day, compared with one-half million barrels in 1972.

"Should there be another embargo, the effects on the nation's economy and way of life would far overshadow the effects of the 1973 embargo."

Turning to a review of the nation's environmental policies, the council pointed out that the AFL-CIO has supported national efforts to protect and restore the environment through programs that meet both the country's employment and energy needs.

"The AFL-CIO believes workers must be protected against environmental blackmail by employers, and provided safeguards in cases where jobs are lost as a result of environmental regulatory programs," the council declared.

Cleaning up the environment need not lead to job losses, it noted. It cited figures by the Environmental Protection Agency showing a total job loss of about 23,000 since 1971 among plants closed for environmental reasons. On the other hand, the cleanup of the nation's air and water has provided large-scale employment.

By 1977, about 35,000 new jobs had been created in the rapidly growing water and air pollution equipment industries, and it is estimated that by 1983 this figure will rise to 43,900.

"Therefore, we reject the false claims by business that environmental controls and regulations will result in wholesale plant shutdowns and layoffs," the council said.

"Cleaning up the environment does not have to be achieved solely through 'no-growth' policies, which can result only in the human pollution of unemployment and economic stagnation."

Need for Changes Cited In Pension Reform Law

The 1974 pension reform law is not working out to expectations because of delays in issuing regulations and administrative problems stemming from the split jurisdiction between the Departments of Labor and Treasury, the Executive Council declared.

In its report to the convention, the council said a number of changes are needed in the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) if it is to prove beneficial to workers and their families.

The council noted that the White House issued a reorganization plan more than a year ago clarifying the roles of the Labor Dept. and Treasury Dept. that helped improve the administration of ERISA, as well as to cut paper work and processing time.

But that plan will not resolve all the problems that have cropped up over the last five years with the administration of the pension law, the council said.

The council expressed particular concern over termination insurance for multiemployer plans. Termination insurance provisions were established under ERISA to protect workers against the loss of benefits and to encourage growth of sound private pension plans. The program is administered by the government's Pension Benefit Guarantee Corp.

But the council noted that the PBGC reported to Congress that about 10 percent of the multiemployer plans were experiencing financial difficulties that could result in plan termination within 10 years.

"If all these plans were to terminate," the council observed, "the cost which would have to be covered under the program would total $8.3 billion and would place a severe strain on the termination insurance program and those sound plans which contribute to it."

Legislation in the Senate sponsored by Senators Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) attempts to deal with some of ERISA's problems, the council noted. However, the measure does include some provisions that are not satisfactory to the AFL-CIO.

Studies Center Expands Training for Leadership

The 10-year-old George Meany Center for Labor Studies has provided high-quality training for union leaders and full-time staff, the AFL-CIO Executive Council reported.

Programs conducted at the 47-acre residential campus in Silver Spring, Md., involve more than 3,200 participants a year. These include the weeklong staff training programs that cover such areas as labor law, pensions, arbitration and collective bargaining. Seventy such programs were conducted in the two years since the last convention.

The council report noted that some of the new offerings at the center— ranging from workshops for union editors and seminars on labor economics to a program on labor lore and labor songs and an institute on "Unions in the Next Decade."

Unions also use the center's facilities to conduct their own staff programs, and the council reported 81 such programs by international unions over the past two years.

It also cited "a decided trend toward international unions using the center for jointly-sponsored staff programs where the instruction is shared by the union and the center." Over the two years, there have been 38 such joint programs.

The council report remarked on the expanded use of the center for programs by related groups, such as the American Institute for Free Labor Development and the comparable institutes for Asian and African unionists.

Through a program in conjunction with Antioch University, 93 full-time union staffers are enrolled in degree programs and 14 have already graduated. The center now has launched a demonstration project to enable apprentices to get community college credits for training related to their apprenticeships and to take additional courses in labor studies and general education subjects toward an Associate of Arts in Labor Studies degree.

The council report also covered the center's weekly performing arts programs, which are open to the public in the Washington area.

OSHA Raises Grant to Chemical Union

Akron, Ohio — The Chemical Workers have been awarded an additional $250,000 by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration for a continuing job safety and health project which was launched last year with a $180,000 OSHA grant.

The new federal funds will enable the union to hire three more occupational health professionals and step up its hazards identification and training project, ICWU President Frank Martino said. The union currently has three industrial hygienists on its staff.

Martino noted that the ICWU has significantly increased its own spending on safety and health programs in the past three years.

True Reform Lacking:

Tax Cut Schemes Stifling Services

Tax inequities and "simplistic" tax-cutting proposals have made it more difficult to finance needed public services and have set back full employment goals, the AFL-CIO Executive Council said.

While public employees are being made scapegoats, cutbacks in programs fall heaviest on those least able to cope, and legislative bodies have turned to tax cuts rather than tax reform.

"The political landscape has become cluttered with an array of simplistic, backward-looking devices and schemes," the council reported to the convention. It cited rigid formulas to cut property taxes modeled after California's Proposition 13, comparable limitations on future tax increases and the attempt to force a constitutional convention to enact a balanced budget amendment.

The council noted that the drive to get 34 states to pass the constitutional convention call has been slowed since January, when AFL-CIO President George Meany sent an emergency alert to affiliates and central bodies. The AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation has followed through with fact sheets and other materials to help state groups defeat constitutional convention resolutions.

Before labor and allied groups mounted a counter-drive, the sponsors of the balanced-budget amendment had confidently predicted that the 34-state goal would be achieved by June 1979. But the count still stands at 26, the Executive Council noted.

While the focus has been on the state legislatures, the AFL-CIO has also fought against attempts to initiate a constitutional amendment through the customary congressional procedure or to impose a rigid balanced budget through legislation.

Partly as a result of simplistic balanced-budget pressure, both the Administration and Congress have underfunded necessary programs over the past two years, the council noted.

In the last fiscal year, the budget adopted by Congress was slashed $11 billion below "even the modest levels proposed by the Administration," the council pointed out.

As for the current fiscal year, it found that "the Administration's budget proposals added up to a clear surrender to conservative, counter-productive policies of fighting inflation through choking off economic growth, sacrificing jobs and cutting back on people-related programs that are helping workers, retirees, minorities and the poor."

Tax justice has been a long-standing goal of the AFL-CIO, and the federation has pressed in every Congress for reforms that would eliminate the inequities that result in workers whose income is almost entirely from wages paying a disproportionate share of the burden, while wealthy individuals and corporations have a multitude of special exclusions and other loopholes.

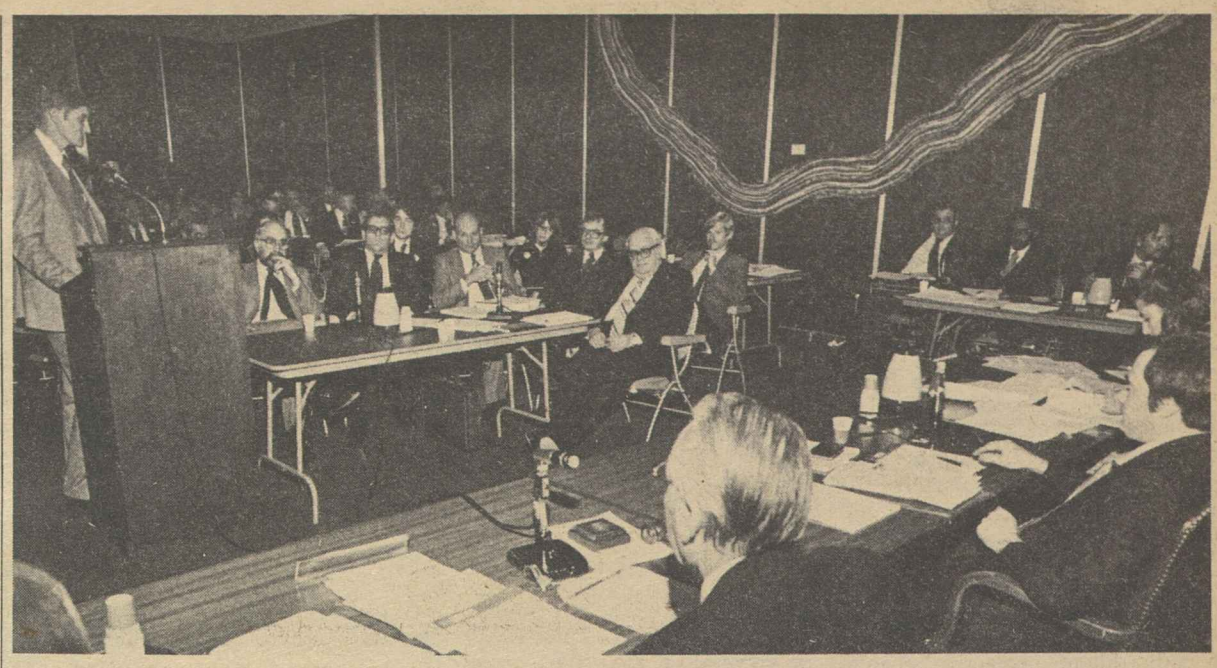
The two years since the last convention have seen inequities grow.

The council noted the AFL-CIO's support for the strongest possible windfall profits tax, but at the same time termed the concept that such a tax justifies the decontrol of oil prices "one of the most glaring examples of misuse of the tax structure."

Success of such schemes as California's Proposition 13 points up the urgency of achieving real tax reform in state and local government, the Executive Council stressed.

"Rapid increases in state and local taxes, and slow progress toward tax reform, have led to genuine hardships, as well as anger and frustration for taxpayers," the council said. It pointed out that these inequities have been further compounded by inflation.

The result, the council found, is that "steps toward equity in state and local taxes in recent years have been overshadowed and obscured by inflation's impact on tax burdens, particularly property tax assessments, the increased costs of public investment, and the general erosion of the purchasing power of low and middle-income citizens."



FULL INVESTIGATION of serious injury caused U.S. leather apparel workers and employers by excessive imports was pressed at hearings conducted by the government's International Trade Commission in New York. Testifying before the panel were officials of the Clothing & Textile Workers, Ladies' Garment Workers, Food & Commercial Workers and two employer groups.

Support for Arms Treaty Affirmed, Steps Pressed to Assure Balance

A strategic balance of power between the United States and the Soviet Union must be maintained to deter nuclear war, the Executive Council reiterated in a report to the convention, but "there is no reason why that balance must be maintained at even higher levels of destructive power."

Harking back to its statement last summer, the council renewed its support of the SALT II treaty and urged steps "both to remedy the emerging strategic imbalance and to move toward genuine strategic arms control."

The council called for the development of U.S. strategic forces, particularly the MX missile systems, so that the nation will not be in an inferior position to the Soviets when the treaty expires in 1985.

Since the AFL-CIO's last convention, the United States has become more vulnerable to a first strike from the Russians, and the balance of power has begun to tilt in favor of the USSR, the council said in a report on "Labor and the World."

"These adverse trends are the result of a massive military buildup by the Soviet Union, combined with the consequences of unilateral American cuts in defense spending," the council declared.

In western Europe, the growth of the Warsaw Pact's conventional and nuclear forces in that theater has not yet been matched by NATO, the council pointed out. In the Soviet-dominated eastern bloc nations, the auhorities have cracked down on dissidents who have been bold enough to speak out against the Communist system.

While the AFL-CIO has sought to help worker dissidents in Poland, Romania and the USSR, the U.S. government has been more eager to grant "most-favored-nation" trade status to countries such as Romania and Hungary than to make human rights issues a serious factor in its relations with eastern Europe, the council charged.

Elsewhere, in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, the council noted indications both of change and continuity.

It voiced continued support for the peace negotiations between Egypt and Israel, but noted that Israel's other Arab neighbors have so far chosen to exclude themselves from the peace process, "and several actively seek to subvert it." The so-called Palestinian Liberation Organization, for one, "continues to deny Israel's right to exist and persists in a campaign of terrorism whose victims are chiefly nonviolent civilians," the council declared.

The nations of Africa continue to face myriad social, political and economic problems—problems of economic stagnation, poverty, and social injustice which cannot be ignored by the United States, the council said.

The AFL-CIO, through its African American Labor Center, has been able to provide valuable assistance to its counterpart organizations in Africa in the area of trade union education and social services, the council observed.

"It is our firm belief that trade unions in Africa have an increasingly vital role to play in the economic development of their respective countries," the council said.

In Asia, the major factor dominating events has been the steady and dramatically increasing flood of refugees from Indochina. The AFL-CIO has pressed for a more compassionate and open-ended policy for the admission of Indochinese refugees into the United States, and for similar action by other nations.

Reporting on the activities of its three regional auxiliary organizations, the council said that only through the power of organization can workers enjoy their human rights and receive an equitable share of the wealth.

The goal of the American Institute for Free Labor Development is to strengthen the trade union movement in Latin America to become an effective force for democracy and social reform in societies long characterized by oligarchy and economic injustices.

The African American Labor Center is assisting African unions in coping with mounting problems of spiraling inflation and economic imbalance. The Asian American Free Labor Institute is providing Asian unions with technical assistance in the fields of labor education, community projects, and cooperatives.

Discussing possible U.S. return to the International Labor Organization, from which the country withdrew two years ago when the United Nations agency allowed itself to become a political forum, the council said that "some progress" has been made in turning the organization back toward its constitutional role of promoting worker rights.

"The United States looks forward to the successful amendment of the ILO Standing Orders that would reject overtly political, nontechnical resolutions before they can consume the time of the annual ILO conference," the council observed.

"This amendment is already under way. The outcome of negotiations to that end will have great bearing on the U.S. decision on whether or not to rejoin the ILO."

Continuing Shortcomings Stressed In State Compensation Programs

In the absence of federal standards, states have taken only modest steps to improve compensation programs for workers disabled on the job and unemployment insurance benefits for those unable to find work.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council expressed concern that so many of the recommendations made in 1972 by the National Commission on State Workmen's Compensation Standards have not yet been adopted.

After an initial burst of improvements, progress "has slowed considerably," the council noted in its report to the convention, and in fact attempts to cut back on existing benefits have been reported in a number of states.

No state has yet met all 19 "essential recommendations" of the national commission, the council observed. The average state has met a bit more than half of them.

These are some of the continuing deficiencies the council cited:

- Only one state adequately covers household and casual workers.
- Thirty-four states do not pay death benefits to a widow or widower until death or remarriage.
- Twenty do not mandate coverage for all public employees.
- Thirty-six do not adequately cover farm workers.
- Half the states do not provide benefits for temporary total disability of two-thirds of lost pay up to a maximum of the statewide average weekly wage.
- While all states provide coverage of occupational disease, the provisions are so inadequate that less than 3 percent of workers with occupational diseases receive workers' compensation benefits.

The council expressed regret that the bill being considered by the Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee is "seriously inadequate" and expresed hope that House hearings will lead to more adequate legislation.

On unemployment insurance, the report welcomed the continued extension of coverage so that 97 percent of all wage and salaried jobs are now included in state programs.

But it expressed concern that financing of the programs remains weak, and 20 states are still in debt to the Unemployment Trust Fund.

"Congress and the states have done little to prepare the unemployment system for the shock of a new recession which would exacerbate the system's financial crisis," the council declared.

The council criticized changes in federal law that would require states to reduce benefits by the amount of any pension or retirement pay a job-seeking worker is receiving, as well as changes that subject unemployment benefits to taxation if the recipient's annual income exceeds a set amount.

It expressed the concern that both the pension offset and the taxation of unemployment benefits inject a need-related means test into the original insurance concept.

OSHA Asks Early Accident Reports

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration has proposed to reduce from 48 hours to 8 hours the time within which an employer must report a serious workplace accident.

The proposal for more prompt reporting of accidents applies to cases where a fatality occurs or where five or more workers require hospitalization. The proposal also would require that any deaths resulting within six months from a job accident be reported to OSHA within 8 hours of the time the employer becomes aware of the death.

The proposal would create a national toll-free telephone number that employers could call to report accidents during night hours, weekends and holidays.

During business hours, reports could be made directly to local OSHA offices.

Central Bodies Show Gain in Membership

State and local central bodies have reversed a declining trend in affiliations, the Executive Council's report to the convention noted.

Total membership affiliation in AFL-CIO central bodies at the end of 1978 was 7,393,319, a gain of 104,807 over the previous year. This was accomplished despite a decrease in the number of affiliated local unions from 24,309 to 24,133 in the same period.

While the affiliation increase was modest, the Executive Council observed, "it does represent a reversal of the downward trend, which will hopefully continue."

The report noted that central bodies are key elements of organized labor's support for legislation at all levels of government and cited particularly their role in building grass-roots support for labor law reform and preservation of the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law.

"At the state legislative level," the council said, "labor registered modest gains in the past two years, but for the most part, central bodies mounted resistance to a massive attack on long-cherished accomplishments. . . .

"The degree of success in achieving labor's goals can be greatly affected by the grass-roots support that can flow from the state and local councils. It is, therefore, in the best interest of organized labor to help build the central body structure by the active support and participation of all affiliates of the federation."

As of last June 30, there were 50 state central bodies, one commonwealth body and 744 local central bodies holding AFL-CIO charters. During the preceding two years, six central bodies were granted charters, eight central bodies merged to form four, 19 amended charters were issued, two central bodies were reinstated and five were discharged.



PERFORMING ARTS UNIONS rally support for locked-out dancers of the American Ballet Theater. Leading the march at New York's Lincoln Center are actors Helen Hayes and Werner Klemperer. The ballet troupe, represented by the Guild of Musical Artists, has been without a contract since Aug. 31.

Union Record Praised In 1978 Voter Turnout

The number of voters who turn out on Election Day has declined at an alarming rate, the Executive Council reported, but the percentages of turnout of union members remain slightly ahead of the norm.

In the 1978 elections, in which labor did better than was projected, less than 35 percent of all eligible citizens went to the polls, the council said, "but between 45 and 50 percent of AFL-CIO members did." The national turnout figure for 1978 was comparable to the nonpresidential 1974 turnout, but previous such elections had turnouts of 45 percent in 1970, 48 percent in 1966 and 46 percent in 1962.

The council also pointed out that COPE-endorsed candidates did much better than expected in the 1978 federal elections, when predictions of a loss of 8 to 10 Senate seats and 25 to 30 House seats were reduced to an actual loss of three pro-labor senators and 12 such representatives.

Overall, COPE had a 65.8 percent winning record for all candidates it endorsed for governor, Senate or House.

And organized labor did far better when its efforts were focused in Missouri by a right-to-work fight, the council pointed out. "The proposition was defeated 3-2 statewide and with margins of 4-1 in heavily unionized urban areas of the state," the report pointed out.

There are now 13.1 million names of trade unionists from 48 states in the COPE computer, the council told the convention, and in 1978 the computer project helped in the registration of 3 million new voters. "The computer produced more than 55 million print lines, made possible quick and accurate mailings by state and local councils and congressional district COPEs and provided neighborhood COPE volunteer with vitally important precinct walking lists," the council said.

It will take that kind of effort again in 1980, the report stressed, because labor's opponents are targeting key races, especially among the 34 Senate races in which 24 seats have to be defended by Democrats, mostly friends of labor.

"The major new element of 1978 was the startling growth of corporate, trade association and right-wing PACs," the council said. "Their growth has continued apace since the 1978 elections and it is anticipated they will collect more than $100 million for political purposes in 1980."

It emphasized the problems for pro-labor candidates in the face of a declining voter turnout by describing how Sen. Dick Clark lost in Iowa to a Republican who got 110,000 votes less than the GOP candidate in the 1972 race. And in Minnesota, Sen. Wendell Anderson failed to win a new term as the Democratic turnout declined by 426,700.

HRDI Record Cited In Job Development

The AFL-CIO and its affiliates have been active partners in government-funded employment and training programs, and the Executive Council's report on the Human Resources Development Institute (HRDI) points up the magnitude of labor's commitment.

HRDI field offices in 59 cities have worked with employers in their communities to develop 34,459 job slots during the 1978 contract year and through April of 1979.

During this period, the council said, 12,025 unemployed and disadvantaged applicants were actually placed in jobs, including 1,738 out-of-work union members.

The council report covers the wide range of job-related training programs in which HRDI is involved along with local unions or councils.

It reports also on the continuing Apprenticeship Outreach program —normally subcontracted to local Building & Construction Trades councils.

The convention report lists placement of more than 9,000 persons in apprenticeship programs and more than 850 experienced workers in journeyman slots.

Among the special programs undertaken by HRDI, the council report notes:

- Placement of 123 women in apprenticeships during 1978, considerably more than double the number placed the previous year.
- Training of 522 Navajo Indians in 17 occupations under the jurisdiction of 13 international unions. Most have completed training and have either begun apprenticeships or have been placed in jobs.
- Pilot programs to provide increased employment services to the handicapped have been undertaken by HRDI in a number of cities under funds provided by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.
- In cooperation with the National Alliance of Business, HRDI has been co-sponsoring summer youth programs to help disadvantaged young people "explore careers and the realities of the world of work."
- Together with the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees and with Labor Dept. funding, HRDI has been administering an experimental program to develop projects to provide jobs and training for unemployed professional performers and related personnel. Thus far, six projects have provided some 500 job or training positions.

Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services, serves as president of HRDI. AFL-CIO Comptroller William Collins is secretary-treasurer, and Michael M. Arnold is executive director.

Last year, the council noted, HRDI was involved in developing 410 programs with funding totaling more than $30 million, mostly under CETA, the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act.

Holding Action:

High Unemployment Hinders Bargaining

Collective bargaining during the past two years has been "constrained" and "restricted" as unemployment remained persistently high, the Executive Council reported.

"Workers are paying the price for an economic catastrophe not of their making," the council asserted. "There have been relatively few new collective bargaining initiatives during the period and workers have simply negotiated to hold on to their jobs."

Nevertheless, the council observed, workers benefiting from collective bargaining since the federation's last convention were substantially better off than their unorganized counterparts.

"We anticipate that, through collective bargaining, new solutions to these continuing problems will begin to emerge during the major negotiations of 1980," it said.

One major obstacle to effective collective bargaining in the past year has been the Carter Administration's wage controls program, the council charged, adding that the controls demanded that workers bear a greater burden in fighting inflation than any other group.

"That burden is unfair, inequitable and unbalanced, resulting in obstruction of collective bargaining and unnecessary strikes and lockouts," the report declared. "Wages have been attacked in the Administration's war on inflation rather than the real causes of inflation."

The council accused the White House Council on Wage & Price Stability of interfering in a number of negotiations, thereby fostering strikes. It cited the Rubber Workers' talks, the Oil Workers' negotiations, the industry-wide bargaining between the railroad industry and railway labor unions, and other negotiations.

"While COWPS browbeat employers to hold workers' wages to 7 percent, they ignored the 16.7 percent increases granted top executives in 1978," the council said. Also overlooked by the Administration, the AFL-CIO charged, has been the steady decline in worker purchasing power.

The high unemployment rates over the past two years have been felt most severely in the construction industry, the council observed. As a result of 11 and 12 percent jobless rates, modest construction settlements have been the rule during the last two years, it said.

Last year, the council charged, the Administration decided to use the federal worker as the vanguard in its "misdirected" war on inflation by holding the wages of federal white-collar workers to 5.5 percent. The President's Advisory Committee on Federal Pay, meanwhile, had recommended an 8.4 percent increase.

"Employees of state and local governments have been severely impacted by wage controls," the council observed. "First, the 5.5 percent federal salary restraint was frequently emulated by those governments, and then the 7 percent voluntary guidelines have been slavishly followed."

Bargaining emphasis in the past two years has been on cost-of-living clauses and income and job security, the council reported. In the private sector, one of the most important new contract provisions negotiated was the check-off of voluntary political contributions.

The report noted that health care fringes have been a particularly difficult area because of the runaway costs, but found some improvements were the result of money saved through health maintenance organizations (HMOs).

The council also noted that prepaid group legal services have continued to grow as a bargained fringe benefit.

A number of unions made improvements in job protection aspects of their agreements. In the telephone industry, for example, involuntary overtime was limited and the number of holidays or excused work days was extended. The Airline Pilots at Northwest Airlines agreed to a new pay guarantee for all scheduled flights.

Pension plan improvements also were negotiated in a number of agreements, making early retirement more attractive.

Mortgage Trust Yields Jobs as Added Benefit

The AFL-CIO Mortgage Trust Fund is generating jobs for union members as well as a fair return to unions and pension funds that invest in it, the Executive Council reported.

The council stressed the increased importance of the fund at a time housing shortages are being aggravated by tight money policies that have forced cancellation of construction plans.

While the fund's prime purpose is "to provide a safe, reasonable return" through mortgage investments, it also works to achieve trade union goals. It does this, the council noted, "by encouraging the construction of socially desirable housing projects and by promoting additional and continuing employment for union members in the construction trades and industries."

As of last spring, the fund's mortgage portfolio included $46.7 million in FHA-insured construction loans, FHA-insured multi-family mortgages amounting to $26.2 million, and FHA and VA single-family mortgages of $2.4 million.

The council said construction loans will continue to represent the bulk of the trust's investments. Current commitments call for financing 26 separate project loans located throughout the United States and representing more than $92 million of union-constructed housing. The fund's investments are only in union-built projects, the Executive Council stressed. Recent returns have been over 9 percent.

The council noted that the decline of stock prices has prompted many managers of pension and welfare funds to look for other investment areas. Money invested in construction financing and permanent mortgage loans has a "more efficient multiplier effect" and creates new jobs throughout the economy, the council pointed out.

It stressed the importance of using financial resources "to help build an expanding, healthy economy with increased production, enhanced living standards and employment opportunities for all."

Progress, Setbacks Cited:

Gains on Legislative Front Leave Major Goals Unmet

There has been some progress on labor's legislative agenda these past two years, but most of the goals set at the last AFL-CIO convention are still unrealized.

The Executive Council report to the convention covered achievements and setbacks in Congress along with measures that don't fall clearly in either category, like the Full Employment & Balanced Growth Act that Congress passed last year. In its final form, the employment bill was only the faintest shadow of the labor-supported legislation that had been introduced by the late Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey and by Rep. Augustus Hawkins.

The Executive Council expressed the AFL-CIO's disappointment that the bill had been so "severely weakened." Nevertheless, its passage was "a symbolic step in the struggle to recognize full employment as the cornerstone of national economic policy."

There was not even a symbolic gain in the bitter battle over labor law reform and the inability to muster the 60 Senate votes needed to pass urgently needed legislation that was designed to make the National Labor Relations Act function as Congress intended.

A special section of the Executive Council report detailed the legislative battle. It ascribed the failure to pass the bill to the business community's support or acquiescence in the tactics of those whose goal is to destroy or at least render ineffective the trade union movement.

The council warned that abandonment of the basic premises of collective bargaining by so much of the business community "could bring far greater harm to the fabric of America than the failing of the legislative measure."

On the plus side, Congress did beat back repeated attempts to weaken the Davis-Bacon Act, which assures that prevailing wages and benefits will be paid on federally-funded construction.

The conservative strategy was to try to hack away at Davis-Bacon coverage through piecemeal exclusions as a prelude to later efforts to repeal the labor standards protections outright.

In the House, all attempts to gut the law were beaten in both committee and floor votes. A key vote was the 244-155 defeat of an amendment to a housing bill that would have eliminated Davis-Bacon coverage on rehabilitation projects.

An attempt by the Senate Armed Services Committee to knock out Davis-Bacon coverage from a military construction bill was soundly beaten on the Senate floor. The Senate did adopt a compromise amendment lifting the threshold level for Davis-Bacon coverage from the $2,000 level set in 1935 to $10,000 on new construction—a change that would affect few workers. But the $2,000 threshold was retained for rehabilitation or maintenance, including painting and repairs.

On economic issues, the AFL-CIO pressed with mixed success for funding of job creating and economic stimulus programs to help continue recovery from the last recession and head off a threatening new economic downturn. The tax bill that was enacted heavily favored corporations and upper-bracket individuals, the council report noted.

While Congress sidetracked efforts to mandate a rigid balanced budget, either through legislation or a constitutional amendment, it did adopt a requirement that its budget committees present balanced budget proposals for the next two fiscal years, although Congress would not be compelled to accept them.

The Executive Council saw this move as a signal of the "more conservative fiscal mood" of Congress. It reiterated the AFL-CIO's consistent opposition to proposals "which would place federal budget decisions in an economic straitjacket and would remove the nation's last line of economic defense in time of economic crisis."

The Senate took a modest step to tighten up its filibuster rule so that obstructionists cannot continue to block a vote after 60 senators have voted for cloture. The AFL-CIO had supported a stronger rules reform, but the original proposal by Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd (W.Va.) had to be trimmed back to gain needed Republican votes.

On trade issues, labor's successes were limited and Congress did little to stem the loss of American jobs that has been so damaging to the nation's economy. A plus was Senate passage this year of a bill tightening the ban on export of Alaskan oil and curbing the transfer of critical technology to nations hostile to the United States.

The Senate ratified the Panama Canal treaties, as the AFL-CIO had urged, and Congress approved necessary implementing legislation.

There were some significant victories, such as legislation that prohibits the type of strikebreaking Mutual Aid Pact that most airlines had participated in, and sets extremely limited conditions for any substitute agreement.

There were also the big areas of inaction—on consumer protection, on national health insurance, on such continuing goals as common site picketing rights and improved federal standards for unemployment insurance and workers' compensation.

Energy legislation obviously is a continuing story, and the council report covered the early developments, including House weakening of the windfall profits tax bill and labor's unsuccessful effort to block decontrol of oil prices.

The report cited enactment of a labor-supported civil service reform bill that strengthened collective bargaining in the federal service. And it noted also setbacks such as President Carter's veto of a bill to reduce the workweek of federal firefighters from 72 to 56 hours a week.



PIONEERING EFFORTS of Howard Coughlin, right, in organizing white-collar workers were cited by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at dinner in New York honoring the retired president of the Office & Professional Employees. Kirkland also praised Coughlin for his role in advancing collective bargaining.

State Federation Efforts Produce Modest Gains

Central labor bodies registered modest gains in a broad area of state legislation in the past two years despite a marked increase in conservative opposition, the Executive Council reported.

"While practically all state bodies reported some progress in the traditional worker-related laws, the unavoidable conclusion of state legislative activities during the past two years is that organized labor was more often in a defensive posture," the council observed.

Gains since the federation's last convention occurred generally in the areas of wage rates, job safety, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, job discrimination, and modifications of laws that affect the basic relations between employers and their workers.

Attacks on worker-related laws at the state level reached an alarming level, the council said. Legislative and initiative attempts to enact so-called right-to-work laws reached their highest level since 1958.

Thirteen states faced what the council termed "a massive attack" on prevailing wage laws for state-financed construction. Only two states, Alabama and Florida, enacted repealers.

Fourteen states were confronted with efforts to enact compulsory open shop laws or constitutional amendments in the past two years, the council noted.

"This massive, well-financed push by proponents of 'right-to-work' was a complete failure," the council said. "All 'right-to-work' proposals failed as a result of alert and educated resistance from organized labor and its natural allies in each of the affected states."

In the public sector, states demonstrated a lack of concern for public employees by seeking limits on taxation and spending, which restrict state and local agencies in responding to legitimate salary needs of public employees. Most notable was California and the enactment of Proposition 13.

Collective bargaining laws for public employees continued to be an area of interest and activity for state labor councils. The general trend in the past two years involved refinement of existing laws or efforts to maintain current benefits.

Twenty-two states either raised minimum wage rates, acted to protect workers' pay from unjust assignments and garnishments or approved measures modifying the frequency and methods of wage payments and extending relief to workers who suffer when their employers fail to pay them.

Thirty-one states gained improvements in workers' compensation laws which involved increased benefits and improved administration and enforcement. In addition, 12 states expanded the categories of covered employees. Many of the benefit increases resulted from earlier state legislation that tied the amount of benefits to a fixed percentage of the state's average wage.

Nine states amended their fair employment practice laws to expand the prohibitions on discriminatory employment practices.

Labor's Role Affirmed In Community Services

"The commitment of the labor movement to community services is alive and well" and operating under the motto of "what is good for our communities is good for organized labor," the Executive Council reported.

The council outlined a wide range of community services activities, including the Price Watch inaugurated with the Carter Administration's wage-price guidelines and, more recently, aid for the refugees escaping famine-stricken southeast Asia.

Labor's community services can be described in three parts of its program, the council said. One is the delivery of human services in organized workplaces and second is establishing needed programs in the community, particularly through United Labor Agencies. The third is improving relationships with the total community.

In the human services sector, the council said, health receives much of the attention. Those programs range from drug and alcohol rehabilitation at the workplace to multiple health screening, like a Rubber Workers' check for cancer during a three-day project.

Since the last AFL-CIO convention, the council reported, a coordinating effort between labor's representatives and the federal government is being prepared for natural disasters—part of the establishment of needed programs in the communities.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services was prepared in advance to assist in a Boston blizzard, a Wichita Falls, Tex., tornado and Ohio Valley floods through plans made with the Dept. of Defense and its Civil Preparedness Agency, the council reported.

Law enforcement grants enabled labor representatives to set up offender programs in Cleveland and Fort Worth, Tex., the council said, through which young people can be deflected from crime, women helped with a halfway house after prison release and the victims of crime assisted.

The council reported extensive cooperation between labor and like-minded community groups in Operation Price Watch, which was highlighted by an Apr. 9, 1979, meeting on consumer prices chaired by AFL-CIO President George Meany.

The council also reported assistance to miners' families hurt during the winter 1978-79 coal strike and community services appraisals conducted in several southern cities with plants of J. P. Stevens, the southern textile firm which is the target of a nationwide boycott because of its anti-union activities.

A precedent was set since the last convention, the council noted, with the signing of a memorandum of agreement between organized labor and the Red Cross to codify more than 20 years of collaboration between the two groups.

Four Mergers Achieved Over Two-Year Period

Four mergers of AFL-CIO unions were accomplished in the two years since the last convention and a new union was chartered, the Executive Council reported.

The largest of the mergers involved the Retail Clerks and the Meat Cutters, which joined forces last June 5 under the title "United Food & Commercial Workers International Union." In the other mergers, the Sleeping Car Porters went into the Railway & Airline Clerks on Aug. 1, 1978; the Tobacco Workers and the Bakery & Confectionery Workers combined on Aug. 16, 1978, into the "Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers International Union," and the United Shoe Workers became part of the Amalgamated Clothing & Textile Workers on Mar. 5, 1979.

The new union is the International Union of Police Associations, which at the time of its chartering last Feb. 19 had 62,000 members in 16 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

In addition, the Pottery & Allied Workers was rechartered, Mar. 18, 1978, upon terminating its affiliation as a unit of the Seafarers.

Three affiliates changed their names with the approval of the Executive Council in the last two years: the International Union of Dolls, Toys, Playthings, Novelties & Allied Products became the "International Union of Allied Novelty Producion Workers;" the Distillery, Rectifying, Wine & Allied Workers International Union of America became the "Distillery, Wine & Allied Workers International Union," and the United Slate, Tile & Composition Rooters, Damp & Waterproof Workers Association became the "United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers & Allied Workers."



NEW PRESIDENT of the Bricklayers, John T. Joyce, is congratulated following his installation by outgoing President Thomas F. Murphy, left. Joining in the ceremony were L. Gerald Carlisle, new treasurer; Edward M. Bellucci, new secretary, and continuing First Vice President James F. Richardson. Murphy, president of the union since 1966, resigned the post to become chairman of the Masonry Industry Committee, a union-industry institute.

Recent Supreme Court Decisions Marked by Splintered Viewpoints

The Supreme Court has been less predictable on issues of concern to labor than would be expected of a body whose membership has been unchanged since the Ford Administration. And some of the controversial issues the court has addressed have produced such a splintering of viewpoints that there can be no certainty how the decision would go in future cases involving similar issues.

Within this framework, the AFL-CIO Executive Council report explored the principal Supreme Court decisions of the past two years and the impact on the trade union movement.

On direct labor issues, the report noted, the splintering of viewpoints has resulted in 14 decisions favorable to the trade union positions and 14 adverse to organized labor, with a nummer of others inconclusive.

Despite the conservative backgrounds of the Nixon-appointed justices, no clearly "anti-labor bloc" has emerged. The council report found that "the most consistent characteristic of the present court is that there is no consistent group of justices willing to establish any far-reaching principles. Thus, even when there is a plain majority for a given result, there is often critical disagreement upon the rationale for that result."

In the Weber case, for example, a court majority upheld the validity of a voluntary affirmative action program for job training negotiated by the Steelworkers—as contrasted to the earlier Bakke decision that rejected a numerical quota used to assure admission of minorities to a state university's law school.

But the Executive Council noted that the different paths taken by the justices leave the criteria uncertain. "While unions and employers establishing voluntary programs to enhance minority employment have much greater assurance than before that they will not be held liable to white employees for doing so, the possibility of such liability has not been entirely precluded," the council observed.

Some of the more important decisions of the past two years have been in the area of pension rights, and one major case in which the court was unanimous averted a massive disruption of the entire private pension system.

In that case, the issue was what the AFL-CIO and the Labor Dept. viewed as an attempted power grab by the Securities & Exchange Commission, which took the view that pension plans were subject to the same regulations as stocks and bonds and that SEC regulations could in effect be retroactively applied.

The court's firm decision made clear that the Employment Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) is the governing body of legislation dealing with pension rights.

Both pensions and equal rights were involved in a case in which the court struck down a Los Angeles County pension plan in which women had more money deducted from their pay for pension plan contributions because mortality studies indicated that most women would live longer than most men and presumably draw pension benefits for a longer period.

The differential was challenged in a suit brought by a local of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers after it won a collective bargaining election.

A Supreme Court decision upholding the right of New York state to pay unemployment benefits to strikers was an important labor victory. But its impact was somewhat diminished by the diverse theoretical wanderings of the various justices, the Executive Council noted.

On direct labor-management issues, the report concluded that the present court is unlikely to reverse a decision of the National Labor Relations Board that is adverse to labor. It noted that "the only NLRA cases in which the Supreme Court took a pro-labor position were three cases in which the court was affirming the NLRB."

The pattern noted by the Executive Council is that "while winning a case at the NLRB did not guarantee success in the court, losing a case at the board was always fatal."

Most Internal Disputes Resolved in Mediation

The AFL-CIO Internal Disputes Plan, which went into effect in January 1962, continues to rely on mediation as an effective means of resolving disputes between affiliates, the Executive Council reported to the convention.

Of the 1,960 cases filed since the plan's beginning, 1,102—or 56.2 percent—have been settled through discussions and mediation between the organizations, the council report noted.

In the two-year period through last June 30, 94 cases were settled through mediation and 27 others were still pending at the end of the period.

In cases not resolved in mediation, which is the first step of the internal disputes machinery, two impartial umpires hear the parties and issue determinations. Since the program began, 826 umpires' determinations have been issued. In the past two years, determinations by umpires resulted in violations being formed in 42 cases and not found in 33. Justification reports were issued in two instances and five cases remained pending.

Appeals from the decisions of umpires are considered by a rotating three-member subcommittee of the Executive Council. In the two-year period, umpires' determinations were sustained in 14 appeals, nine appeals were withdrawn, two were submitted to the full council where the determinations were set aside or modified, and 11 were pending at the end of the period.

Of 152 complaints of noncompliance since the disputes plan went into effect, compliance was subsequently achieved in 81 instances, non-compliance was found in 25 cases, 29 complaints were withdrawn and 17 were pending as of last July 1.

The council reported that in the period from the beginning of the plan through last June 30, 14 affiliates were found to have failed to comply with decisions of impartial umpires, or directions of subcommittees in 25 cases. Compliance was later achieved in most cases.

The report listed the following unions as currently in noncompliance and subject to sanctions required by the AFL-CIO Constitution: the International Typographical Union, the Graphic Arts International Union, and the American Radio Association.

Membership Grows:

Labor Marks Gains Despite Opposition

America's workers continue to organize despite the massive union-busting campaigns by corporations willing to spend large sums to assure a "union-free environment."

A section of the Executive Council report to the AFL-CIO convention describes the new "growth industry" of management consultants—the full-time professionals brought in by companies to smash union organizing efforts.

"It is a total program, instituted to create a climate of fear through every legal and often illegal means," the council stressed. "Production and service become secondary in this battle to keep employees from organizing, and no expense is spared."

Despite the vast increase in employer resistance, AFL-CIO affiliates won 48 percent of NLRB elections in which they participated during fiscal years 1977 and 1978, winning units totaling 201,000 workers. The tallies are almost the same as the previous two-year period, when 209,000 workers were organized. And one of the big wins, the Steelworkers' shipyard victory at Newsport News, Va., came after the statistics were compiled.

Union-busting isn't confined to preventing workers from organizing, the council noted. Increasingly, it reported, labor-management consultants are being brought in to try and oust unions that already hold bargaining rights.

This new phase has resulted in a rising number of decertification elections and a continuing jump in unfair labor practice charges against employers and back pay to workers fired for union activities and ordered reinstated by the National Labor Relations Board.

The council report noted the rise in unfair labor practice charges from 17,800 in 1968 to 39,652 in 1978. Yet during that time, the number of representation elections increased only 5 percent.

The public sector isn't immune from the anti-union virus as government administrators adopt the tactics of the private sector, the report charged. And consultants have even set up shop in Europe, the council report disclosed, "to train foreign firms how to thwart unionization when they invest in the United States." Some of the customers are firms that, despite good relations with unions in their own countries, "nevertheless join with enthusiasm the anti-union environment they find in U.S. business."

A separate section of the report details the campaign waged by a large segment of the business community to block passage by Congress of a labor law reform bill that would have taken some of the profit out of union-busting and put teeth into enforcement of federal labor law.

The council noted countermeasures taken by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services. These include:

- An active information program to expose tactics of consultants, including publication of a newsletter, "Report on Union Busters."
- Establishment of a committee of union attorneys "to concentrate on activities of these so-called consultants."
- An inter-union exchange of information, coordinated by the AFL-CIO Departments of Research and Education.
- Development of testimony for congressional hearings documenting the role of consultants in denying workers the right to union representation.
- Training programs for organizers designed to counter the activities of management consultants.

Corporate Abuses Cited As Damaging to Nation

The nation's major corporations have a stranglehold on the economy that reduces competition and drives up prices, the AFL-CIO Executive Council charged in its report to the convention.

This corporate concentration—and the misconduct it breeds—is costing the American public billions of dollars, the council said. More than that, the corporate excesses are eroding respect for basic morality and for the democratic precept of equal treatment under law, the report declared.

Common corporate misconduct often includes bribery and kickbacks, price fixing and illegal overcharges to consumers, antitrust and anti-monopoly violations, political slush funds, excessive executive salaries and bonuses, and many other abuses of corporate power and wealth, the council said.

The anti-worker, anti-public activities of many corporations include gross violations of workers' rights under federal labor law and their rights to a safe and healthy workplace and gross abuse of the environment by pollution of air and water.

In addition, illegal tax evasion and legal tax dodging by corporations impose billions of dollars of additional tax burden on workers and other ordinary taxpayers and their families, the report charged.

"When corporations avoid paying their fair share of taxes, budget deficits are increased and political and social morality undermined in a society noted for honesty in the payment of personal taxes," the council observed.

A very small number of corporations dominates the entire U.S. economy, the council report noted. The 100 largest firms receive 50 percent of all profits in manufacturing; the top 200, about 70 percent, and the top 500, about 80 percent.

Flush with cash from record profits and reductions in corporate taxes, these industrial giants seek to gobble up smaller companies in a wave of mergers that threatens even greater corporate concentration, the report said.

Despite a broad array of regulatory agencies and regulatory activities aimed at maintaining competition and ethical conduct in the marketplace, corporate abuses continue, the council charged.

"There is very little effective enforcement and very little punishment for wrongdoing by corporations and corporate executives," it said, noting that efforts of the Justice Dept., the Federal Trade Commission, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Securities & Exchange Commission have not been enough to put a rein on the excesses of big business.

Council Documents Labor's Key Role

Strong, Effective Voice Heard On Energy, Inflation, Freedom

(Continued from Page 1)

up in the fight on behalf of American workers.

"The years since the merger in 1955 have been, on the whole, productive ones for the American labor movement . . . years that proved the concept of merger to be sound, the mechanism created by merger to be both effective and capable of being improved, and the goal of merger—to improve the lot of those who work for wages—realistic and achievable."

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland reported that the net worth of the federation had increased $3,882,569 during the two-year period and that $2,250,000 had been repaid on a note under a line of credit from a Washington, D.C. bank. Membership increased by 79,000 over the last two years to 13,621,000 based on average paid per capita for the period ending Aug. 31, 1979, the report showed.

Four mergers of AFL-CIO affiliates were achieved since 1977 and one new union—Police Associations—was chartered, the report shows. Two new vice presidents were elected to fill vacancies caused by death and resignation.

In its analysis of the nation's economic situation, the council declared that inflation and unemployment have "sent shock waves throughout the economy, threatening the future for all Americans." The report stressed that the AFL-CIO had focused its attention on action to deal with inflation and controls, high unemployment and economic growth, tax reform and tax justice, and world trade and investment in the American economy.

The council pointed out that paychecks are being squeezed intolerably and that the buying power of the average family's wage earnings now stands lower than in 1965.

Warning of the growing power, size and influence of big corporations, the council pointed out that a very small number of companies —the top 100—receive 50 percent of all manufacturing profits, the top 200 receive 70 percent and the top 500 receive 80 percent. It noted also the concentrated power of the banking community and its potential for abuse and the need for reform and greater regulation of financial institutions.

Although collective bargaining has been constrained and restricted over the past two years, the council noted that union negotiators have been able to make some important gains during the period, particularly in non-wage areas, and that workers under bargaining contracts "were substantially better off than their unorganized counterparts." The report took special note of the effort to cap wage levels for federal workers and the impact of controls on state and local government workers.

The council warned that organizing drives and campaigns to strengthen existing labor-management relationships face "an increased array of opposition" from significant sections of the business community, corporations and their trade associations that seek an anti-labor "union-free environment." The development of labor-management consultants is a new growth industry, the report said, warning of the increasing danger to all unions, from employer violations of the labor laws.

The state of urban America is of major concern to the trade union movement, the report stressed, tracing the pattern of decline in the older cities and the resultant social problems of unemployment, crime, and drug addiction. The decline is aggravated by serious housing shortages as well as inflation in home prices and rents, and a cyclical decline in housing construction will produce more severe joblessness in the future, the report said.

In a discussion of the energy crisis, the council noted the nation's vulnerability to oil imports and the extensive programs needed to gain short-term and long-term solutions, including conservation, alternate sources of energy and an adequate windfall profits tax. The council reaffirmed its position that "if the oil monopoly fails to adequately serve the public interest, consideration should be given to nationalization of the industry."

It also renewed its long-standing support for national efforts to protect and restore the environment through policies and programs that meet both employment and energy needs and assailed environmental blackmail by employers.

It reviewed the need for a comprehensive program to improve the nation's railroads, airlines, merchant shipping, urban mass transit systems and roads in terms of a national transportation policy.

On workers' protections, it reported on the problems of maintaining fair labor standards including the minimum wage and Davis-Bacon laws, occupational health and safety, and the lag in improving workers' compensation at the state level as well as the inadequacy of the unemployment compensation system. It cited the continuing problems with pension regulation and the need for corrective legislation.

The council called attention to adult education needs as well as the continuing problem of equal access to educational opportunities.

The problems of social security, welfare, health care, and employing the handicapped were reviewed by the council with special attention to the continuing attacks on social security and the overriding needs for a national health insurance program.

In the area of political action, the council report warned of the startling growth of corporate and right-wing political action committees and the need to strengthen COPE through the use of payroll deductions for political action. It reviewed the 1978 elections and projected the problems of the 1980 balloting especially in terms of the potential for loss of liberals in the Senate.

In its report on labor and the world, the council warned that since the last convention the United States has become more vulnerable and that the balance of power "has begun to tilt in favor of the Soviet Union." It urged the United States to undertake the modernization and development of strategic forces to the fullest extent possible under the SALT II treaty.

The report stressed also that "human rights must be the heart of American foreign policy" because the effective exercise of trade union rights requires a climate of respect for human rights.

The report noted that progress toward civil rights at home has begun to falter and urgently requires attention. Right-wing forces are stepping up their attacks on social programs, affirmative action programs and equal rights for women, the council said, urging strengthening ties with groups in these areas that share labor's goals.

The council report also covers the federation's community services programs, legislative activities at the national and state level, court decisions affecting the labor movement and the operations of the AFL-CIO headquarters departments.

The report transmits to the convention without approval or disapproval the reports of the AFL-CIO consitutional departments — Building & Construction Trades, Industrial Union, Union Label & Service Trades, Metal Trades, Maritime Trades, Railway Employees, Public Employees, Food & Beverage Trades and Professional Employees.



A LIGHT MOMENT is shared by AFL-CIO President George Meany and Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland at the meeting of the Executive Council preceding the opening of the 13th convention. Kirkland is the only announced candidate for the AFL-CIO presidency to succeed Meany.

Full Funding Demanded For U.S. Education Aid

The nation has already spent far too much time debating the "how" of aid to public education and should be getting on with the job of full funding for federal programs already on the statute books, the Executive Council said.

The council noted that since the 1965 enactment of federal aid to education, "an extraordinary amount of tax dollars have been spent in studying and re-studying the myriad education problems."

"Rather, the nation should get on with the resolution of the major problems, and that requires adequate financing of schools," the council's report to the convention said.

Among the notable areas of need, the report observed:

- College tuition costs are continuing to price workers' children out of the market, with private four-year institutions crossing $9,000 in average tuition for the 1979-80 school year and the tax-supported state colleges reaching the alarming figure of $3,576 per year when all related costs are taken into account.
- Education for the handicapped, while the topic of admirable federal initiatives, is not living up to its potential because funding is lagging at 12 percent of the national per-pupil expenditure instead of the 20 percent promised in the legislation.
- Vocational education faces new demands daily because of the job skills required in a world of changing technology, yet some $11 billion has been distributed to communities without a "systematic, overall program" and with only 20 percent of those funds allocated to funding.

The council also took note of 1979 as the 25th anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education, the Supreme Court decision that launched desegregation of U.S. schools.

The council recognized the critical role in U.S. education played by the nation's "historically black colleges." These schools have continued to meet the unique requirements of America's black students, the council said, while expanding these efforts "by reaching out to attract students with diverse socio-economic backgrounds." Thus it would be a mistake, the council cautioned, for government to make any decision that would destroy historically black colleges.

It also noted another attempt to revive the voucher concept of providing government money with which students could buy education services from private entrepreneurs. In repeating labor's opposition to this concept, which it has fought since the birth of the scheme in 1970, the council noted the opportunity for discrimination and the harmful undermining of support for public education.

Such support from the federal government, through Title I of the Elementary & Secondary Education Act, can pay off handsomely, the council said. It noted recent tests of 5.6 million children so aided who showed "significant gains in skill improvement."

Also, the council stressed labor's continuing concern for adequate assistance to adult and worker education, lauding the non-traditional higher education experience for workers that can be patterned after the weekend college model at Wayne State University in Detroit.

The general population has continued its march to better education, the council said, with 24 percent of today's 25- to 29-year-olds now college graduates. That's a far cry from the 1947 norm of 5 percent college graduates in the general population, the council said, and the median years of school completed has also risen from 9.0 in 1947 to 12.4 in 1977. Similarly, the number of American adults with less than five years of schooling has been cut from 8.6 million persons in 1947 to 4.5 million in a much larger 1977 population.

79,000 Membership Gain Reverses Earlier Trend

Membership in AFL-CIO unions increased by 79,000 in the two years since the last convention, reversing a decline reported in 1977, the Executive Council noted.

The two-year average of per capita payments to the federation was 13,621,000 as against 13,542,000 two years earlier and the record high of 14,070,000 in 1975, the council report showed. The figures reflect U.S. membership only, since affiliates do not pay per capita tax to the AFL-CIO on Canadian members, and they are not included in the tabulations.

In another section of the report, Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland noted an increase in the AFL-CIO's net worth of $3,882,569 in the two-year period ending last June 30. The increase represents the difference between total income of $52,481,357.76 and expenses of $48,598,788.34. It brought the federation's net worth to $21,074,762.75.

During the two-year period, the AFL-CIO repaid $2,250,000 of a note payable under a bank line of credit and disbursed about $1,300,000 more than was received on behalf of the defense and special purposes funds, Kirkland said. His report detailed income and expenses for both those funds and presented summaries of the activities in connection with special assessments and contributions for funds established for the Task Force on Labor Law Reform, a chair at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota, and the AFL-CIO Legal Services Center.

Agenda for '80s Panel Includes Kirkland, Watts

AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland and Communications Workers President Glenn E. Watts have been appointed by President Carter to a commission charged with proposing a national "agenda for the 1980s." It is chaired by William J. McGill, retiring president of Columbia University.

The panel will explore such problems as inflation, energy, productivity, equal rights and the quality of life. The 21 members named by Carter will select an additional 29 others to serve with them.

Meany Leaves Strong, Vital Federation

Predicts New Growth For Labor Movement

(Continued from Page 1)

is now our responsibility . . . to pass it intact and shining to those who follow us."

"As I leave this office," he said, "I am happy and proud to report that the instrument workers created 98 years ago is alive and well and ready to do battle with any foe who would destroy it."

He described the trade union movement as growing "despite the combined effects of technology, unfair international trade policies and continued high unemployment. . . . More workers are covered by collective bargaining agreements today than ever before in this nation's history."

It is growing despite the fact that the "labor laws of this nation have been sharply tilted away from protecting the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively," he noted.

The unity in the federation itself is "unmatched in our history," Meany stressed, proving once again "that in unity there is strength, that all workers share common interests, needs and expectations—regardless of their craft, the color of the collar they wear or any other artificial distinction."

A strong labor movement is vital to meet today's problems, Meany said. He termed the economy a "mess," noted the unchecked inflation and the outrageous profits of the oil companies and the recession at hand. He repeated his criticism of the Administration's changing, shifting economic policies.

But, he pointed out, in time of economic crisis the AFL-CIO has demonstrated its responsibility again with the national accord reached with the Administration covering a broad range of national concerns. He added:

"It is an accord we would have willingly negotiated with the Administration a year ago but there was no real willingness on the part of the Administration to treat us as a concerned partner at that time. We intend to do our share—and more—to help develop an economic policy that is fair and workable, that divides the burden of sacrifice equally."

Leading the AFL-CIO, he concluded, has been "both a humbling and tremendously rewarding experience," he said. To the delegates—"the representatives of the workers of America—goes my sincere appreciation for this opportunity to serve."



PRESIDENT CARTER leads convention applause for AFL-CIO President George Meany after concluding his address to the delegates with a special tribute to Meany, hailing his leadership of the trade union movement in its battles for economic justice and human freedom.

Social Security Earnings Limit To Rise Jan. 1

Starting Jan. 1, 1980, persons receiving social security benefits will be able to earn more money before their payments are reduced.

The new formula allows those aged 65-71 to earn up to $5,000 a year before benefits are reduced on a formula of $1 for each dollar of excess earnings. The present cutoff for this age group is $4,500.

Persons under 65 who are collecting social security will have their earnings limit raised from $3,480 to $3,720. As at present, persons 72 and over may earn any amount and still receive their full social security checks.

President Given Vigorous Support On Handling of Hostage Situation

(Continued from Page 1)

yes, but without hesitation" — including:

- Discouraging demonstrations that might further inflame feelings both here and in Iran.
- Reviewing the visas of Iranian students in this country with prompt deportation of those who are here unlawfully.
- Halting immediately the importation of oil from Iran.
- Freezing official Iranian property and assets in this country.
- Opposing any discussions of Iran's problems in the United Nations Security Council until after the hostages are released.

The President observed that the United States position in the Iranian confrontation upholds an important principle on behalf of all governments.

"The principle of inviolability of embassies is understood and accepted by nations everywhere, and it is particularly important to smaller nations which have no recourse to economic or military power," Carter said.

"This is why the United Nations Security Council has also unanimously supported our demand for the release of the American hostages. . . .

"The Iranian government and its headquarters are fully responsible for the safety and wellbeing of our representatives in Iran and Tehran, and they will be held accountable for that responsibility. . . .

"The actions of Iranian leaders and the radicals who invaded our embassy were completely unjustified. They, and all others, must know that the United States of America will not yield to international terrorism or to blackmail."

Turning to the nation's energy crisis, Carter said the developments in Iran had made it "starkly clear" that excessive dependence on foreign oil is a direct threat to America's freedom and security.

The President also reviewed briefly the accomplishments of his Administration in areas of special concern to his audience of trade union officials, such as minimum wage and job development. But he stressed that the record can be improved.

"For instance, this country still needs and we are determined to get strong labor law reform," he declared.

Senate Asked to Stiffen Windfall Profits Tax

(Continued from Page 1)

ments and pressed the Senate "to say 'no' to continued giveaways to the oil companies."

The House-passed bill would raise an estimated $276.8 billion in the windfall tax, substantially less than the $295 billion sought by the Administration. But the Senate Finance Committee slashed the amount in half, reducing revenue to an estimated $138.2 billion.

In a letter to senators, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged adoption of amendments that would:

- Restore the partial tax on windfall profits from newly discovered oil, thus raising an additional $71 billion.
- Reinstate the partial tax the House had imposed on oil derived from nearly exhausted wells through such devices as injecting chemical fluid or gas into the well. The amendment, which would bring in $27 billion, would still allow more favorable tax treatment for such operations.
- Restore the tax on the first 1,000 barrels a day of production from low-volume "stripper" wells. The tax would affect only oil from companies that own great numbers of such wells and would bring $16.2 billion.

Young also endorsed other amendments to undo damage done by the Finance Committee and to bring in nearly $30 billion more in tax revenues.

Labor still would like to see crude oil price controls reinstated, Young said. "But faced with the realities of profits that are an embarrassment even to the oil companies and a painful drain on every American's budget, the strongest possible windfall profits tax is an absolute necessity," he stressed.

The combination of decontrol and OPEC price increases will boost oil company revenues by more than $1 trillion by 1990—and all that amount will come out of the pockets of American consumers, Young said.

The windfall profits tax would reach that portion of the added revenues left after payment of regular corporate taxes.

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Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 200, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Chairman Listed for 13th Convention

The following is a list of committee chairmen for the AFL-CIO's 13th convention in Washington:

Credentials: Vice President Frederick O'Neal, Actors & Artistes.

Rules: Vice President Matthew Guinan, Transport Workers.

Resolutions: Vice President Paul Hall, Seafarers.

Constitution: Vice President Al Chesser, Transportation Union.

Education: Vice President Albert Shanker, Teachers.

State & Local Bodies: Vice President William H. McClennan, Fire Fighters.

Labels: Vice President William Sidell, Carpenters.

Executive Council Report: Vice President Frank Raftery, Painters.

Job Development Plan Wins House Approval

The House voted 301-99 approval of economic legislation that includes a labor-urged standby public works program that would be triggered by a rise in unemployment.

The bill, which now goes to a House-Senate conference committee, also moves in directions urged by the AFL-CIO and its affiliates to ease the impact of defense contract cancellations on workers and their communities.

Both the House and Senate-passed bills include a modified version of the Carter Administration's proposal for an economic development bank that would be especially useful to communities during tight-money and recession periods. The legislation authorizes a combination of loans and loan guarantees—the ingredients of the development bank proposal—as well as direct grants for public works projects and economic development programs.

The House bill, but not the Senate version, contains authorization for a $2 billion program of accelerated public works that would be triggered if unemployment exceeds 6.5 percent nationally for three months.

Similar job-creating programs provided effective economic stimulus in previous recessions, and the AFL-CIO has strongly urged a standby program that could be initiated without starting the legislative route from scratch.

While the House bill provides the authorization, the money would still have to be appropriated and budget ceilings modified in order to put it into effect. An amendment that would have deleted the standby program was defeated on a non-rollcall vote.

Since the Senate bill does not have a comparable provision, that will be a major issue to be resolved by House-Senate conferees.

Also before the conferees will be labor-supported amendments adopted on the House floor. Both apply to cancellation of Defense Dept. contracts of $10 million or more. There are currently 375 contracts of that magnitude.

Adopted intact was an amendment requiring the Defense Dept. to give a one-year notice of cancellation under normal conditions and at least a 90-day notice if security considerations are involved.

The company affected or the community would have up to one year after notification to seek planning grants of up to $100,000 to develop job-creating alternatives or new production.

Also adopted was a modified version of an amendment intended to provide wage replacement for up to two years to workers left jobless by the cancellation of a major defense contract.

The House approved a go-ahead for one or more pilot projects to test the practicality of such an approach.

New Leaders Steer Course As Labor Tackles the '80s

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CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP in the AFL-CIO is marked by the passing of the gavel from George Meany to new Federation President Lane Kirkland a few moments after Kirkland was elected by acclamation. Meany nominated Kirkland who had served for 10 years as the AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer.

Convention Elects Kirkland, Donahue

By Saul Miller

The AFL-CIO moves into the 1980s with new leadership, strengthened resources and a renewed determination to deal effectively with the challenges of the decade.

In a convention marked by an outpouring of warmth and emotion for retiring President George Meany, the gavel was passed to Lane Kirkland who set the course as "full ahead, steady as she goes," and immediately issued a call to all unions outside the AFL-CIO to become part of the federation.

The 895 delegates who elected Kirkland as the AFL-CIO's second president and Thomas R. Donahue as secretary-treasurer, spelled out the course also in adopting 122 resolutions, increasing the per capita tax, choosing a 33-member Executive Council including four new members and paying deep and touching tribute to Meany.

They listened attentively to speakers including the President, Cabinet members and the leaders of Congress, leaders of the civil rights movement, a recently released Cuban political prisoner and representatives of women and Hispanic groups in the four-day convention at the Sheraton-Washington hotel in Washington.

The 309 resolutions that came before the convention demonstrated a deep concern with the major problems of energy, inflation, unemployment, human rights and social welfare as well as a host of problems facing workers on the job and in their communities. The convention's actions on these resolutions are detailed throughout this issue of the News.

The man who had led the federation for 24 years in developing policy and action programs on these issues was uppermost, however, in the delegates' minds. Not a speaker failed to mention Meany's contributions, nor did the delegates omit a round of applause.

Meany was named president emeritus of the AFL-CIO in a standing cheering ovation to which he responded from his wheelchair on the convention platform with memories of earlier years, and of those who had helped him. He promised to help out where he can and thanked the delegates "from the bottom of my heart."

Kirkland, who had been nominated by Meany, recalling the retiring president's record, said "the life work of this one valiant man would do honor to a dozen men, if divided among their histories. He is living proof of how much difference one person, armed with his qualities, can really make in the course of human events."

Noting a convention resolution on affiliation of unions not in the AFL-CIO, Kirkland declared "all workers belong in the unions of their trade or industry and all true unions belong in the AFL-CIO. This AFL-CIO is the steward of the common good of the trade union movement. Its delegates distill from the natural conflicting passions and prejudices of workers at large the best and most generous impulses and qualities of American labor."

(Continued on Page 3)

Delegates Give George Meany a Last Hurrah

By John M. Barry

The convention belonged to George Meany.

He held the hearts of the delegates from the first day, when he advised them officially that it was "the last time I will have the honor of opening a convention of the AFL-CIO," the federation of American workers that stands as his finest achievement.

And he remained in their hearts on the final day of the gathering, when the successor he had nominated, Lane Kirkland, rapped the gavel to adjourn the 13th biennial convention.

In between, the delegates let Meany know with repeated standing ovations of the high regard they held for him, for his leadership and courage in standing up front for working people whenever and wherever their rights were threatened or denied.

On his part, Meany had only gratitude—to the AFL-CIO staff for "a job well done," to the leaders of each federation affiliate and central body "who have carried out the programs and have made this federation a testament" to their forebears, to his fellow members of the Executive Council for their counsel and support and friendship, and to the delegates and the members they represent "for the highest honor that could be paid any human being, the honor of leading this great organization of workers who have built this nation."

Meany commissioned all of them to take the American trade union center he had helped to create and to carry it forward to new heights.

"It needs to continue to grow," he told them, "to consolidate its strength. And, I predict with certainty, it will."

Every speaker who took the convention podium had a special recollection of the achievements that marked Meany's career—government officials, Cabinet officers and President Carter himself; congressional leaders of both political parties; civil rights leaders and the victims of oppression; his fellow trade unionists from countries throughout the free world and from here in the United States.

On its second day, the convention paid its own tribute in the time-tested manner of conventions, through a resolution. It was read to the delegates by an old friend and colleague, Martin Ward, president of the Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, the union that had given Meany his start as an apprentice in New York. In the galleries, as Ward read the words, were members of the AFL-CIO headquartrs staff who had been given the afternoon off by "the boss" so they could see what a federation convention is like. In the audience were his grandchildren and their parents, the close-knit family that occupies his private life.

"Whereas, George Meany — our friend, our leader, our brother . . . ," the resolution began. It went on to point out his "vision" in bringing about the merger of the AFL and the CIO in 1955, "his faith in the labor movement" and "his commitment to its highest ideals," his "strong voice" raised on behalf of workers and "in pursuit of freedom, democracy and dignity for all people." And it conveyed the convention's "love and re-

(Continued on Page 4)

Israel's Security at Stake In U.S. Stance on PLO

The AFL-CIO reaffirmed its "unswerving" commitment to Israel and to American support for its survival.

A convention resolution deplored efforts in the United Nations and elsewhere to bring the Palestine Liberation Organization into the Middle East negotiations before that organization has shown any sign that it is ready to recognize Israel's existence, foreswear terrorism, and negotiate in good faith.

"We hail the continuing negotiations and the possibility of normal relations between Egypt and Israel and believe American support of this development offers the best chance for peace in the Middle East," the resolution said.

It noted that 31 years after its establishment as an independent democracy, the state of Israel is still imperiled. Any shift in U.S. policy toward the PLO, including attempts to open talks with it unofficially, can only give legitimacy to that organization without exacting any concession and encouraging it in its intransigence, the resolution said.

"We hope the intimations of policy change are not true," the resolution added. "Such a change would gravely threaten Israel's security."

Full Health Care Sought As Fundamental Right

Health care should be a basic right of all Americans, the AFL-CIO said in a resolution reaffirming labor's strong commitment to comprehensive national health insurance.

The convention expressed concern that fast-escalating health costs are forcing cutbacks in Medicaid benefits and in private insurance. "Many health and welfare funds are using up reserves or have had to reduce benefits to remain solvent," the resolution noted.

Social insurance principles that labor supports are best embodied in the Health Care for All Americans bill that has been introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.).

By contrast, the AFL-CIO said, "so-called catastrophic insurance, if enacted without provision for basic benefits, would only accelerate inflation in health care costs."

The convention also took sharp issue with proposals to place a ceiling on employer tax-deductible contributions for health care services, which have been advanced with the argument that it would bring pressure to hold down hospital and other health costs. "The AFL-CIO deplores this attempt to interfere in the free collective bargaining process," the delegates declared.

The federation urged the need for effective hospital cost control legislation, with assurances that such a law wouldn't be used as an excuse to hold down wages of low-paid hospital workers.

It deplored the recent action of the House in gutting the Administration bill and substituting a powerless study commission, and urged the Senate to revive the original measure.

The convention also commended development of more prepaid group practice plans and enactment of a proposed child health care program as steps that could help hold down medical care inflation by emphasizing preventive care.

In another area, the convention followed the recommendation of its resolutions committee by rejecting a proposal to qualify chiropractic services for health insurance benefits in all programs administered by the federal government. It noted that the issue has been previously considered and acted on by the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

IRS Assailed On Proposal to Tax Fringes

The Internal Revenue Service should be stopped from taxing fringe benefits in such a way as to add "to the already unfair share of the tax burden borne by workers," the convention said.

A resolution traced the history of IRS attempts to tax employee fringe benefits—like discounts for retail store employees or uniforms provided for the employers' convenience.

The prohibition against such taxes runs out in 1980, and legislation is pending in Congress that would prevent IRS from issuing any new regulations. The AFL-CIO supports that legislation.

The resolution also called for no unreasonable "record-keeping, administrative or tax burdens" as one of the guiding principles that should be followed until Congress establishes the necessary statutory guidelines.

"Present statutes, which expressly grant exemptions under limited circumstances for benefits such as qualified pension plans, group life insurance, employee death benefits, educational assistance, moving expenses, and meals or lodging, which are provided for the convenience of the employer should continue," the resolution said.

4 Vice Presidents Join Council:

New Officers Take Helm, Meany President Emeritus

The AFL-CIO elected a new president and secretary-treasurer, four new members of the Executive Council and named its first president emeritus as George Meany stepped down after 24 years of leading the federation.

There was wide consensus as Lane Kirkland moved up from secretary-treasurer to president and Thomas R. Donahue from executive assistant to the president to secretary-treasurer. Both were elected by acclamation; there were no other nominations.

Twenty-nine of the 33 vice presidents were re-elected and four new ones chosen to fill vacancies caused by retirements and mergers. The new vice presidents are John DeConcini, president of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers; Wayne E. Glenn, president of the Paperworkers; Robert F. Goss, president of the Oil Workers; Daniel V. Maroney, president of the Amalgamated Transit Union.

Meany, the first and only president of the AFL-CIO, nominated Kirkland, 57, who served nine years as Meany's executive assistant and 10 years as secretary-treasurer. Meany said Kirkland has had "a tremendous wealth of experience in the trade union movement" and is a man of "great integrity" who has the experience, the knowhow, the motivation and dedication for the job of leading the AFL-CIO.

He reviewed Kirkland's background as a pension expert, a speech writer, a secretary-treasurer and his role in negotiating the National Accord with the Carter Administration. Kirkland's nomination was seconded by Thomas W. Gleason, president of the Longshoremen, and Robert Lowen of the Masters, Mates & Pilots division of the ILA. Kirkland, a merchant marine deck officer before joining the AFL staff in 1948, is a member of the Masters, Mates.

In his acceptance speech, Kirkland said no honor can approach that of being nominated by George Meany and that "I cannot promise to match or even approximate the record of achievement of George Meany—but I am reassured by the certain knowledge that neither could anyone else in our time."

Donahue, 51, was nominated by President George Hardy of the Service Employees of which Donahue is a member and served as a vice president before joining the AFL-CIO as executive assistant to Meany in 1973. Hardy reviewed Donahue's long record of service to the SEIU at all levels and in all types of positions and his years as assistant Secretary of Labor in the Johnson Administration. Donahue's nomination was seconded by Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., president of the New York City Central Labor Council.

Donahue recalled the years working with the late David Sullivan, president of the SEIU, and the rewarding time with Meany and pledged a close working association with Kirkland. In 30 years in the trade union movement Donahue said everything he has seen, heard and experienced has served to reinforce the belief and knowledge "that we who have the honor and good fortune to represent other workers are very fortunate people."

Meany was named president emeritus of the federation in a special resolution that touched off an emotional tribute on the convention floor prior to the regular elections.

DeConcini, 61, has been president of the Bakery & Confectionery Workers since March 1978. A native of Philadelphia, he helped organize a bread plant there and rose to local union leadership. In 1952 he became a vice president of the international union and led the fight to clean up the then corruption-clouded B&C. When the American Bakery & Confectionery union was chartered he was elected executive vice president and led the movement to reunify all bakery workers.

Glenn, 55, rose through the ranks from local union posts in Camden, Ark., to become an international representative for the Pulp & Sulphite Workers. He was elected a vice president in 1965 and president of the Papermakers in July 1978. He served as executive secretary and later president of the Arkansas State AFL-CIO and held a number of state posts in Arkansas.

Goss, 58, joined the Oil Workers in Los Angeles and rose to staff and international representative positions, becoming a vice president of the international union in 1975. He spent a number of years as administrative assistant to the recently retired OCAW president, A. F. Grospiron. He served for two years as assistant general secretary of ORIT, an inter-American labor group. He was elected OCAW president in August 1979.

Maroney, 58, a native of West Virginia, started as a bus driver in Charleston and moved to the Greyhound lines holding a number of local and division positions. He was elected a vice president in 1965 and president of the international union in 1973.

Two of the other vice presidents were elected for the first time—Fred J. Kroll and John J. O'Donnell; they had been appointed to the council since the last convention. The others, re-elected, are:

Paul Hall, John H. Lyons, Peter Bommarito, Thomas W. Gleason, Frederick O'Neal, Jerry Wurf, S. Frank Raftery, George Hardy, Al H. Chesser, Martin J. Ward, William Sidell, Murray H. Finley, Albert Shanker, Glenn E. Watts, Sol C. Chaikin, Edward T. Hanley, Angelo Fosco, Charles H. Pillard, William McClennan, J. C. Turner, Lloyd McBride, David J. Fitzmaurice, Kenneth T. Blaylock, Emmet Andrews, Alvin E. Heaps, William W. Winpisinger, William H. Wynn.

At a session immediately after the end of the convention, the new council adopted resolutions hailing the record of service of the four members who left the council—Matthew Guinan, Transport Workers, and A. F. Grospiron, Oil Workers, who retired, and C. L. Dellums, Sleeping Car Porters, and Harry R. Poole, Meat Cutters, whose unions were merged into unions represented on the council.

Kirkland, born in Camden, S.C. on March 12, 1922, graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in 1942 and received a B.S. degree from Georgetown University in 1948. He is a licensed master mariner and sailed as a deck officer aboard various merchant marine ships during World War II.

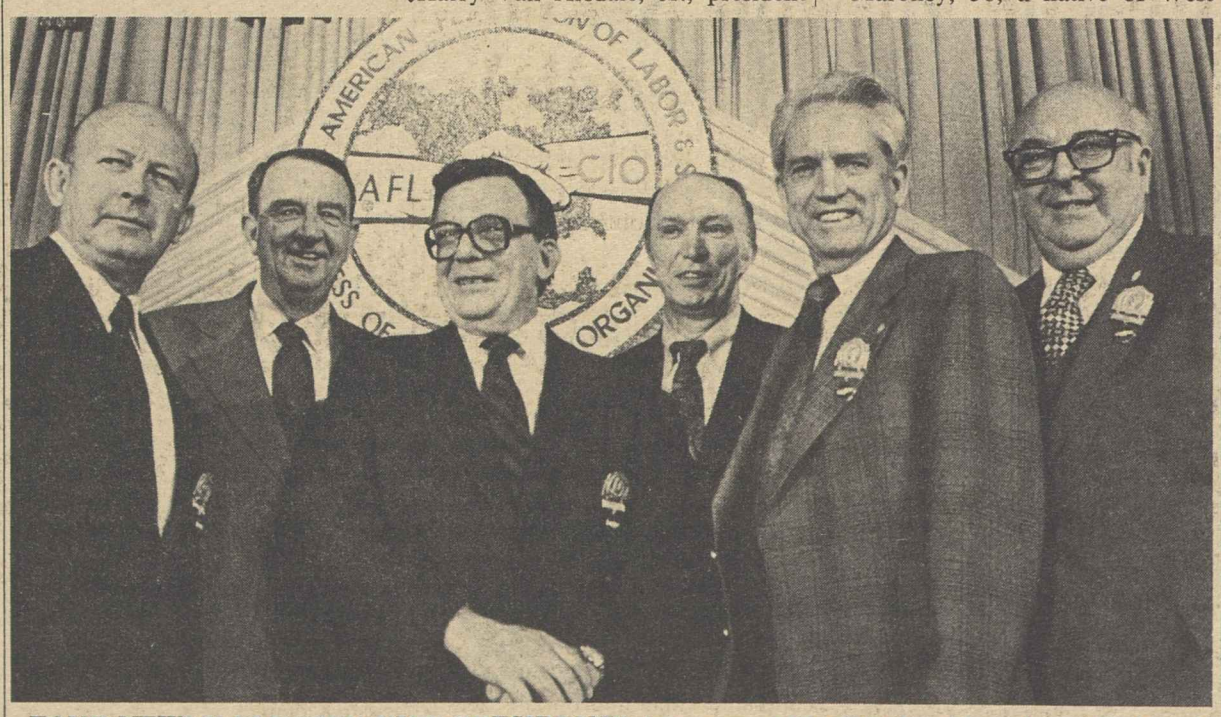
He held various posts in the AFL and AFL-CIO between 1948 and 1958 before a two-year stint as director of research and education for the Operating Engineers. In 1960 he became executive assistant to Meany and on July 1, 1969, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO.

He has served as a U.S. delegate to the International Labor Organization and on a score of presidential and governmental commissions dealing with defense, intelligence, foundations, financial structure, maritime, judicial officers, etc. He is on the board of directors of a number of prominent organizations.

Donahue, born Sept. 4, 1928, in New York, received a B.A. degree in labor relations from Manhattan College in 1949 and an LLB from Fordham University Law School in 1956. He became a part-time organizer for the Retail Clerks in 1948 and then served as a business agent, contract director, publications editor and assistant to the president of Local 32B of the Service Employees in New York.

From 1957 to 1960 he was European labor program coordinator for the Free Europe Committee in Paris. He returned to serve as executive assistant to the president of the Service Employees and in 1967 was appointed an assistant Secretary of Labor in the Johnson Administration with responsibility for the department's labor relations activities.

Donahue was elected first vice president of the SEIU and served until May 1973 when he became executive assistant to Meany.



FOUR NEWLY ELECTED VICE PRESIDENTS join new AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland and Sec.-Treas. Thomas R. Donahue on the platform. They are from left Robert F. Goss, president of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers; Daniel V. Maroney, president of the Transit Union; Wayne E. Glenn, president of the Paperworkers; John DeConcini, president of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers.

Convention Charts Program for 1980s

Delegates Set Course for Nation, Kirkland Urges All Unions to Join

(Continued from Page 1)

Kirkland, who had served as secretary-treasurer of the federation for 10 years, was succeeded by Donahue who was elected by acclamation. For the past six years Donahue had been Meany's executive assistant.

The four new members named to the Executive Council are John DeConcini, president of the Bakery, Confectionery & Tobacco Workers; Wayne E. Glenn, president of the Paperworkers; Robert F. Goss, president of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers; Daniel V. Maroney, president of the Transit Union.

In his last keynote address to an AFL-CIO convention, Meany stepped down with a gift for America's workers—a strong and unified trade union movement, a well-built house of labor. He urged the delegates to take this labor movement and move it forward to new growth and expansion.

To help achieve this growth, the delegates supported unanimously a recommendation from the council to increase the per capita payment from 16 to 19 cents per member per month to meet increasing costs and expenses and prevent future deficits. The new per capita is effective Jan. 1, 1980.

Following the lead of the Committee on Resolutions and other convention committees, the delegates approved 122 resolutions, a reaffirmation of AFL-CIO policies across the broad spectrum of labor's interests.

Dealing with issues close to the daily headlines, the convention called for a strong windfall profits tax on oil companies and urged the President to veto anything less. It voiced its support of the President's action on Iran in light of the seizure of American hostages and called for worldwide efforts to stop the Holocaust-like tragedy in Cambodia and speed shipment and distribution of relief supplies to millions facing hunger and death.

The convention pledged new efforts to expose and counter the professional union-busters and the companies that employ them in adopting a series of resolutions on organizing and related areas.

It called for trade and economic policies that would halt the destruction of American jobs and erosion of the nation's industrial base and proposed a detailed program for fighting inflation and recession.

The dangers of corporate concentration, the need for financial institution reform, implementation of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act, measures to deal with plant closings and relocations and the continuing and insistent need for tax justice and tax reform were all dealt with.

In a wide-ranging resolution on labor and the world, the convention reaffirmed AFL-CIO policy that human rights must be the heart of American foreign policy and stressed the need for a strong and secure defense.

The delegates heard first-hand of the struggle for human freedom and human rights from Huber Matos, a political prisoner of Fidel Castro for 20 years who spoke of the need to help free the political prisoners who still remain in Cuba.

The convention set out programs for national health insurance, civil rights, education, pensions, social security, occupational safety and health, the environment, welfare reform, consumer protection and labor law reform along with many other policy positions.

It referred 35 resolutions to the new Executive Council for further study and decision, rejected four others and covered 147 other proposals with adopted resolutions.

The congressional leaders and the President devoted major portions of their convention speeches to energy needs, presenting viewpoints reflecting the differences between the White House and the Hill and the Democrats and Republicans. Senators Robert C. Byrd (D-W. Va.) and Howard H. Baker (R-Tenn.) represented the Senate and Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (D-Mass.) and Rep. John J. Rhodes (R-Ariz.) the House.

895 Delegates Set Convention Policies

The actions of the 13th AFL-CIO convention were voted by 895 delegates representing 95 national and international unions, 9 departments, 51 state bodies and 206 central bodies, the Credentials Committee reported.

Witnessing the historic change in leadership and the action on 309 resolutions were 650 representatives of newspapers, magazines, radio and television, with a heavy representation from the labor press.

In the audience also were 323 foreign trade unionists and visitors.



AT CONVENTION'S END, AFL-CIO Vice President John H. Lyons is thanked by President Lane Kirkland for his work as chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Working through five subcommittees, it considered and reported on 309 resolutions.

Labor Law Reform High On Legislative Agenda

The battle for labor law reform is not over, and the AFL-CIO served notice that it will strive for "as long as it takes" to strengthen the National Labor Relations Act and take the profit out of illegal union-busting.

Labor law reform is "a top priority item" on the AFL-CIO's agenda, the convention affirmed.

It cited the difficulties of getting effective legislation through Congress, especially with the constant threat of a Senate filibuster.

"Reform that threatens the business community's vested interests does not come easy," the convention pointed out.

It voted to give the AFL-CIO Executive Council broad flexibility to shape new proposals in line with "current legislative realities." The federation is prepared to work with the Administration and congressional committees to put before Congress "legislation that is narrow enough to come to a vote and yet broad enough to be worthy of our support and passage," the resolution said.

The federation will not abandon any of its specific goals, the convention declared. But it will move "step by step, if necessary, to assure that all workers enjoy in fact as well as in theory their rights stated in the law."

Unions and union members put a mighty effort into the campaign for labor law reform in the last Congress, the convention noted, and it pledged "even greater energies" to a renewed campaign.

Repeal of 14(b) Affirmed as Goal

A convention resolution affirmed the AFL-CIO's "determination to seek repeal of Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act," which allows states to outlaw union shop agreements.

State "right-to-work" laws that prohibit the union shop are intended to obstruct unionism and limit the scope of collective bargaining, the AFL-CIO asserted.

While recent attempts to impose "right-to-work" laws have been beaten in Missouri and New Mexico, the resolution noted that large numbers of workers in states with such laws are still denied full union rights.

It said the right to negotiate union security is essential to national labor policy.

Rescue Mission Asked To Save 'Boat People'

The United States, in cooperation with other like-minded governments, should organize immediate rescue efforts to save the thousands of "boat people" in the waters of Southeast Asia, the AFL-CIO urged.

Tens of thousands of refugees from Indochina are afloat in unseaworthy crafts and thousands are drowning every month, the federation observed in a convention resolution.

"The vast majority of these refugees seeking freedom in non-Communist nations have been identified as having supported our own American efforts in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia," the resolution noted.

"Our own U.S. government has recognized the plight of these refugees, and has undertaken a number of diplomatic initiatives to persuade other nations to do more for the 'boat people,' and has ordered U.S. Navy vessels to assist refugee boats in distress."

A number of foreign steamship companies have instructed the masters and crews of their vessels to ignore these refugee craft in distress, however. The refusal of some ships' captains to follow such unlawful instructions has resulted in their discharge when they acted in compliance with the ancient law of the sea to save these refugees from drowning.

The AFL-CIO asked all governments to advise their shipping companies that appropriate action will be taken against the vessels of any of those steamship companies whose ships have abandoned refugees to die.

Worker Voice Sought In Pension Investments

Pension funds are a form of deferred compensation to workers, and a resolution adopted by the AFL-CIO convention urged that the set-aside money be invested in fiscally sound ways that will provide jobs for union members and serve national needs.

As an essential step, the convention stressed the importance of giving unions a voice in the decision-making process on pension fund investments. If necessary, it said, the AFL-CIO should seek legislation to achieve this.

Pension funds represent the largest pool of capital in the United States, and the convention resolution stressed that "a handful of financial institutions" control most of the investments.

A subcommittee of the AFL-CIO Executive Council has initiated a research project to explore how workers can gain more control over pension fund investments.

The convention urged also:

- Efforts to greatly increase investment of union-negotiated pension funds in both union construction projects and in non-construction industries that provide work for union members. The resolution commended such investment vehicles as the "J for Jobs" program of the Union Labor Life Insurance Co. and the AFL-CIO's own Mortgage Investment Program.
- Attempts to assure that the deferred wages of union members aren't used to help anti-union companies.
- A program of research, training and other assistance to union trustees with responsibilities in pension areas.
- Promotion of investment opportunities and government guarantee programs that provide jobs for the unemployed and disadvantaged.

Sol Stetin, an officer of the Clothing & Textile Workers and a director of the union-owned Amalgamated Bank, spoke in strong support of the resolution and urged the delegates to follow through on its recommendations.

Bank Curbs Preferred to High Interest

The Carter Administration and the Federal Reserve Board should rely on selective credit regulation rather than on tight money policies and high interest rates to dampen inflation, the AFL-CIO proposed.

A convention resolution cited the need for more effective regulation of financial institutions in the public interest.

In addition to urging the President and the Fed to make use of existing credit regulation authority, the convention called on Congress to:

- Require all types of banks to maintain comparable non-interest bearing reserves and to assure labor, farm and consumer representation on the Federal Reserve Board.
- Specify that only members of the Federal Reserve Board should serve on the powerful Federal Open Market Committee, which now includes reserve bank presidents who were neither appointed by the President nor confirmed by the Senate.
- Retain authority for higher ceilings on savings institution interest rates until selective credit regulation assures funds for housing and other socially needed investments.
- Bar variable interest rate home mortgages and continue to restrict thrift institutions from diverting investment funds into non-housing loans.
- Authorize all forms of banks to offer checking services and to pay interest on such accounts subject to ceilings.

Bill Backed to Assure Basic Rights of Police

Police officers should have the rights during departmental investigations that they guarantee to all citizens being arrested, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

A convention resolution called for congressional enactment of a bill that would "provide law enforcement officers with the same rights of every other citizen." That includes the right to have a lawyer present during interrogation, it was noted.

Such legislation is needed, the resolution said, because of current requirements that officers charged during departmental investigations must either submit to polygraph tests or face immediate dismissal.



SALUTING GEORGE MEANY during the 13th convention were speakers who included, top row left to right, Sol C. Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers, Frederick O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes and Ray Corbett of the New York AFL-CIO. Bottom row are Jacob S. Sheinkman of the Clothing & Textile Workers, William H. McClennan of the Fire Fighters and Jean F. Ingrao of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept.

Meany Held Hearts of Delegates As He Presided for the Last Time

(Continued from Page 1)

spect, and its sincerest best wishes for a long and happy life."

Finally, the resolution declared Meany to be president emeritus of the AFL-CIO, with annual compensation equal to that of the organization's president.

To keep from adding days to the proceedings, the convention permitted a half-dozen speakers to convey the sentiments of all 895 delegates.

There was Fred O'Neal of the Actors & Artistes, who said Meany "has taken the stage and held it against the critics of our profession" and of the entire labor movement; who hailed Meany's efforts on behalf of black workers, and who exhorted the convention, in the words of Shakespeare, to "embrace and love this man with a true heart and brotherly love."

Ray Corbett, head of the New York State AFL-CIO, recalled Meany's own leadership of his home-state central body that became a springboard for his rise to national leadership. "We thought we were losing something," Corbett said. "But all of us in New York suddenly recognized . . . that all we did was to share the benefits of your progress with the entire nation and, yes, I guess, the world."

Jack Sheinkman of the Clothing & Textile Workers pointed to Meany's lifelong fight against totalitarianism in all forms and presented him with a copy of a new booklet prepared by the Jewish Labor Committee, which Sheinkman heads, for distribution in America's schools. Its title: "George Meany—the Making of a Freedom Fighter."

Jean Ingrao, secretary-treasurer of the Maritime Trades, remembered starting out 27 years ago in Meany's office with plans to work for only two years and thanked him warmly for instilling in her "a desire to learn, to achieve, to strive."

Sol Chaikin of the Ladies' Garment Workers spoke especially for members of his own union in thanking Meany for his support of their efforts to lift their low wages and poor conditions to acceptable levels and remarked with wonderment at how "this plumber from the Bronx was easily at home with the unemployed, with the desperate, with the deprived, with the exploited . . . and then with the captains and kings."

Howard McClennan, the chief Fire Fighter and head of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept., conveyed the gratitude of the workers in the public sector for helping the department get started.

Lane Kirkland, who had stood beside Meany for a quarter-century as aide and fellow officer, earlier had asserted the privilege of reviewing Meany's accomplishments so that they will be "inscribed in one place in the living history of this federation."

Kirkland began with the legislative gains Meany had helped win for New York workers as head of the State Federation of Labor, including the state's pioneering unemployment insurance system, and he cited Meany's leadership of a successful strike against the government to preserve wage standards for WPA workers.

He recalled Meany's service on the War Labor Board during World War II and his post-war involvement with the Free Trade Union Committee.

The 1955 merger unifying a divided American labor movement was Meany's most important accomplishment, Kirkland observed, yet it was "not a climax, but just a beginning."

The list went on to cite adoption of the AFL-CIO Internal Disputes Plan, the evolution of COPE into a major political force on behalf of workers, Meany's strong stand in support of the civil rights struggle and his insistence over the doubts of President Kennedy on inclusion of a fair employment practices section in the Civil Rights Act.

In 1969, Kirkland, noted, Meany founded the Labor Studies Center that now bears his name so that the federation would have a center for training its future leaders. In the '70s, Meany rallied labor to win bargaining rights for postal workers and enactment of a strong occupational safety and health law. He led American labor in its continuing support for the State of Israel against its enemies, and he provided the first platform in this country for the Soviet exile, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, to tell the story of Soviet tyranny and the Gulag Archipelago.

This year, Kirkland noted, Meany initiated and guided the discussion leading to the National Accord with the Carter Administration giving labor a strong voice in the nation's economic programs.

When the list was done, Kirkland told the delegates that even in retirement Meany would be on call for advice and counsel.

"This great mine of wisdom, character, experience and memory is far from exhausted of its product," he said. "The trade union movement that he has done so much to build and advance is still not yet so rich in genius and inspiration as to be able to afford the neglect of the vital resource embodied in the person of George Meany."

But after all the words were said in that special tribute, Meany had the last word. He reminisced a bit for the delegates and thanked them.

"I hope to be able to render some service in whatever way I can. I'm sure that my successor will not have to call on me," he said as he turned to Kirkland with a smile. "I'll be breathing down his neck."



AFL-CIO VICE PRESIDENT Martin F. Ward, at microphone, shares a laugh with one of his better-known members, George Meany, during the convention tribute to Meany. At right is Vice President Al H. Chesser.

Pricing, Imports, Conservation:

Energy Goals Keyed To Federal Actions

The nation's energy problems will not yield to a single, simple solution, the AFL-CIO warned as it recommended a series of actions to conserve energy, develop new supplies, deal with foreign oil producers, and regulate the domestic energy industry.

High on its list of proposals is creation of a government agency to determine the amount of oil to be imported, negotiate its prices, and administer its allocation throughout the country to best meet the needs of all segments of society.

"The giant oil companies, whose profits balloon with every OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) price hike, have neither the incentive nor the desire to protect the American people," the federation declared in a convention resolution. "Only government can and must do that."

To help resolve the problem, the resolution called for conservation measures, including rationing, efficiency standards, revamped rate structures, insulation, and mass transit.

The convention urged development of all potential energy sources, along with research into methods of reducing adverse environmental effects, maintenance of stringent health and safety regulation, and solutions to the problem of nuclear waste.

It also advocated establishment of an Energy Independence Authority, patterned after the Tennessee Valley Authority concept, and reversal of President Carter's order decontrolling crude oil. Given the reality of decontrol, however, it backed a strong tax on the windfall profits that higher prices will bring the major oil producers.

Other measures in the program include establishment of an Energy Mobilization Board, immediate construction of the Northern Tier Pipeline, sanctions on foreign-flag vessels, and opposition to oil "swapping" arrangements.

The convention also called attention to the monopoly powers and abuses of the giant oil companies. It urged Congress to prohibit them from engaging in production as well as refining and marketing and to enact legislation to limit oil companies' investment in other industries.

"If the oil monopoly fails to adequately serve the public interest, consideration should be given to nationalization of the industry," the convention affirmed.

It also called for continued and intensive government investigations of contrived energy shortages and price gouging, and urged a national energy information system that would require the energy companies to provide government with the facts needed for analysis and decision-making.

In a related resolution, the convention declared its support of National Energy Education Day. Developed by classroom teachers, the observance offers an innovative approach to educating students and the general public on the energy issue.

U.S. Medal Proposed To Honor Randolph

Congress will be urged to authorize a medal in honor of A. Philip Randolph, the founder of the Sleeping Car Porters who was hailed by the convention for his lifetime struggle for "dignity and justice for blacks and labor."

Randolph, an AFL-CIO vice president until his retirement in 1974, died in May 1979 at the age of 90. His career spanned seven decades and included a highlight in 1963 when 250,000 Americans joined him in the March on Washington he directed.

The convention action pledged the labor movement to carry on Randolph's work, both through the institute that carries his name and through other organizations, "to continue to build a labor movement where workers of all races, struggling side by side, can achieve dignity and respect."

The resolution traced what was often a lonely struggle for Randolph, who gained his first public voice as editor of The Messenger in Harlem in 1917. His porters struck for seven years before winning union recognition in 1935.

"Against the racism of hostile employers, Randolph led and gave vitality to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, organized the industry in a racist environment and built an effective union," the resolution said.

"He worked hard and long to free the labor movement from racial discrimination, and he played a key role in achieving equality throughout the nation."

The union he formed became part of the Railway & Airline Clerks in 1978. Randolph's successor as president, C. L. Dellums, also served two terms on the AFL-CIO Executive Council until the 1979 convention, the first since the union became part of BRAC.

Continued Support For CARE Endorsed

CARE continues to be an important and needed means of relieving suffering and meeting human needs in many parts of the world, the AFL-CIO declared.

The convention adopted a resolution urging continued labor financial support for CARE.

Path to Full Employment:

Humphrey-Hawkins Targets Linked to National Accord

The new National Accord between organized labor and the Carter Administration recognizes that the fight against inflation can only be won if the austerity required is shared equally by all, the AFL-CIO declared.

In addition, the accord—wholeheartedly endorsed by the AFL-CIO—recognizes that the future health of the economy depends upon full employment, price stability, and balanced growth.

To achieve the goals of the accord, the federation urged the Administration and Congress to take a series of actions, including steps to realize the promise of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment & Balanced Growth Act.

"Humphrey-Hawkins must be used as the guidepost to the achievement of full employment in the early 1980s," the federation declared in a convention resolution.

The Humphrey-Hawkins law affirms the basic human right of every American to full opportunities for useful paid employment at fair rates of compensation. It sets specific goals and timetables for reducing joblessness—3 percent for adults and 4 percent overall by 1983.

"Unfortunately, this blueprint for economic progress is being disregarded by our government," the resolution asserted, "Since enactment of this profound and important legislation, our concerns have mounted as little has been done in the Administration and Congress to breathe life and meaning into its implementation."

To meet the problems of the approaching recession, the federation called on the government to provide targeted job stimulation, programs for the jobless, low-interest loans to assist the housing industry, counter-cyclical aid, and expanded unemployment insurance benefits.

In addition, the convention called upon the Federal Reserve to reduce interest rates and provide greater credit for balanced economic growth.

In a floor discussion on the resolution, President J. C. Turner of the Operating Engineers charged that the current high interest rates "are a cause, not a cure, of inflation." In addition, the high rates are slowing down the construction industry, he warned.

The Fed has now got the prime rate up to 15.75 percent, he said, "and if you want to buy a house you have to pay 14 percent. If you want to make a construction loan, you have to pay 18 percent. Obviously, we can see what is happening.

"We can see what is slowing down in terms of construction, but also slowing down in terms of the entire economy."

To meet the problems of inflation, the convention urged:

- A comprehensive, fair, and effective program that would require sacrifice "according to the ability of groups in society to shoulder the sacrifice."
- A direct attack on the most serious problem areas—energy, food, health care, shelter, and high interest rates.
- Expanded energy supplies to relieve the stranglehold of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries on domestic prices.
- A curb on speculation in commodity markets that drives up the prices of agricultural products. cultural products.
- National health insurance.
- Government housing programs for low- and moderate-income families.
- Selective credit regulation to channel available credit toward productive public and industrial needs, housing, family farms, and to restrict credit-financed non-productive investment.

The resolution also called for a review of the structure of the American economy to determine the inflationary effect of such developments as business mergers, interlocking directorates, and the impact of corporate domination on American communities and democratic institutions.

Also, tax justice and a fair trade policy were cited as essentials for the economy.



FIRST LICENSE issued to AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland by the Coast Guard when he first went to sea during World War II is preserved in a plaque presented to him by Robert Lowen, right, president of the Masters, Mates & Pilots. At left is Thomas W. Gleason, president of the Longshoremen, of which MM&P is now a division.

Marshall Hails Accord On Economic Agenda

The historic National Accord between organized labor and the Carter Administration gives the United States "an unprecedented opportunity to show the rest of the world that Americans can work together—that we can set aside our differences—that we can reassert our world economic leadership," Labor Sec. Ray Marshall told delegates to the AFL-CIO convention.

The agreement, worked out in September, establishes a framework for labor's participation in the development of national economic and social policy.

Marshall observed that "for the first time, the government is not handing down a unilateral pronouncement for everyone else to follow."

Instead, "we will be setting economic policy together," Marshall said.

The agreement emphasizes the need for equality of sacrifice in the fight against the nation's torrid, double-digit inflation rate.

"Throughout this decade, we have suffered through inflation that resists every conventional solution," Marshall observed. "We have gone through two recessions. Neither has brought down inflation susbtantially—even when the Republicans deliberately deepened the recession to fight inflation."

Nor did wage and price controls under the Nixon Administration work, he added. They only postponed inflationary increases and distorted the economy. Since early 1978, voluntary wage and price restraint has been urged by the Carter Administration but, Marshall acknowledged, "the key missing ingredient has been involvement by people with a vital stake—especially labor, but business as well"—in the formulation and monitoring of stabilization policies.

"That's where the National Accord comes in. It's a fancy name for bringing in the people most affected by our policies—sitting down and hammering out overall government economic policies," he said.

"It gives everyone a hand in crafting our stabilization program. And it gives everyone a big stake in it."

Other challenges facing the nation will require the continued unity and cooperation of organized labor and the Administration, Marshall declared, not the least of which is the pressing need for a comprehensive overhaul of the nation's basic labor laws.

"If we are going to have respect for law in this country," he said, "we cannot permit the callous calculation that it is cheaper to disobey the law than to obey it."

Marshall noted that the labor-law reform bill cleared the House with almost a 100-vote majority last year but failed in the Senate when a well-financed conservative filibuster thwarted the will of the majority.

"We haven't given up, and we are going to keep working with the labor movement to achieve labor law reform," he said. "When the time is right, we will try again and I am convinced we will win."



RAY MARSHALL

Latins No Longer a 'Silent Minority' In Nation or in Labor Movement

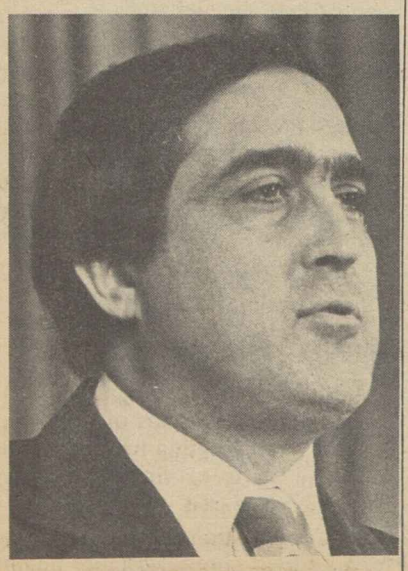
A call for all AFL-CIO unions to cooperate in the work of the Labor Council for Latin-American Advancement was combined with the caution that time is running short because of inroads made by independent Hispanic unions.

Jack Otero, a vice president of both LCLAA and the Railway & Airline Clerks, told the convention that Hispanics are no longer "the silent minority."

With a much lower median age than other American groups, Hispanics will have 25 million people coming of "political and economic age," Otero said, with the result that in 15 years "Hispanics in America will be the largest ethnic minority group in the United States."

He also cited recent Labor Dept. surveys showing that Hispanics are more likely to join unions—a fact that is also true of blacks.

He warned that "independent Hispanic unions would like to seize the initiative away from us. The political opportunists and demagogues behind these efforts are reaping the benefits of rampant frustration prevalent among Hispanic workers."



JACK OTERO

Otero said the most damage so far had been done by a group operating since 1976 under the name of IBGW, International Brotherhood of General Workers.

In all, there are 105 congressional districts in the country where the Hispanic population ranges from 5 to 70 percent, he said. Hispanics are on the verge of making an impression in those districts and elsewhere, Otero predicted, because "their most immediate goal is to reach political maturity and achieve full participation" in the political process.

"But as badly as we need the ballot, we need the union card even more," Otero said.

Both are the work of LCLAA, Otero said, tracing the organization's beginnings in 1973 to a nation-wide organization that now has 74 chapters in 25 states "and is supported primarily by the AFL-CIO, 12 of its international unions and the Auto Workers. We need help."

Otero described the LCLAA goals of higher voter registration, community improvement "and a more representative voice for Hispanics within labor, and for labor within the larger Hispanic community."

The increased tendency of Hispanics to organize, Otero said, can be traced directly to their plight in the country. That status includes:

- Twenty-three percent of Hispanic families are below the poverty level, compared with 9 percent for other American families.
- Hispanic males average incomes of about $4,000 less than the $15,000 average for other workers.
- Ten percent of Hispanics are unemployed as against the overall national figure of 6 percent.

"So it is obvious we have a long way to go," he said, stressing that way must be as "full-fledged trade unionists," not as members of separatist splinter groups.

Work Visas Opposed If Jobs Are Imperiled

The Dept. of Justice should not grant work visas to non-resident aliens unless there are no U.S. citizens available to do the jobs, the convention said.

The convention also said the AFL-CIO will press for an amendment to current immigration laws to prevent such use of foreign citizens.

It charged American employers have denied job opportunities to U.S. citizens while engaging non-resident aliens to perform their work.

It said the problem is particularly acute in the motion picture, TV and theatrical stage industries, and "there is strong evidence that the same problems exist throughout the service, construction and manufacturing sectors."

The protection of U.S. citizens' jobs when such workers are brought in on visas requires that the Justice Dept. give adequate consideration "to the employment situations in all sectors and in all geographic localities of the country," the resolution said.

On the related topic of undocumented workers—or illegal resident aliens as opposed to those issued visas for a particular job—the convention voted to refer to the Executive Council a resolution which a convention committee said contained many suggestions that would reverse long-standing federation policy.



CONGRATULATIONS are extended to Lenore Miller, new secretary-treasurer of the Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union by retiring Sec.-Treas. Frank Parker, left, and President Alvin E. Heaps. Miller was serving as an RWDSU vice president when the union's executive board elevated her to the new post.

Unions Asked to Spur New Attack on Poverty

America's trade union movement was summoned to rekindle the nation's fighting spirit for a continuing battle against poverty and its handmaidens of ill health and welfare dependency.

The call to action came from Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Patricia Roberts Harris. She told delegates to the AFL-CIO convention that the challenge to a relatively affluent nation to care for its poor, sick and aged may be more difficult than an earlier generation faced under the New Deal.

Harris suggested that today's challenge is greater because poverty is concentrated in places most Americans seldom see—"the crowded and deteriorated neighborhoods of urban America" and "the isolated areas of rural poverty."

Despite progress, she reminded the delegates, "more than 25 million of our fellow countrymen still live in poverty. There are more poor Americans than there are Californians or New Yorkers. And for the poor, today, the hopelessness of the Depression lingers."

Harris spoke bitterly of what she termed "the real welfare mess," which she termed as "the confused and irrational way in which government at all levels tries to meet the needs of the poor. . . . The real mess is the system that creates dependency and robs the recipients of government assistance of dignity."

She strongly urged the need for the Administration's welfare reform legislation which would set a national floor under family assistance benefits and reduce some of the disparities among states.



PATRICIA HARRIS

"Today, a mother with three dependent children in her care could receive anywhere from $1,400 a year to more than $6,000, depending on the state in which she happens to live," Harris noted.

"Today, the oil-rich state of Texas provides a destitute family of four combined cash assistance and food stamps of only $3,700 per year—barely half the poverty level."

Harris contrasted also the vast medical advances made in the United States with an infant mortality rate higher than 11 other countries, "and the burden of that statistic falls most heavily on the poor."

She defended President Carter's national health insurance bill, which the AFL-CIO has criticized as inadequate.

It would protect all Americans against "catastrophic medical expenses," she said, and provide "subsidized and comprehensive coverage to an additional 15.7 million low-income people not now eligible for Medicaid" as well as lift the ceiling on hospital days covered under Medicare.

Harris asked labor's endorsement "because I see no better, more realistic approach."

The AFL-CIO and other groups in a broad national health insurance coalition have strongly supported the Health Care for All Americans bill introduced by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.).

When Harris concluded her speech, AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland noted that there remain differences between the AFL-CIO's position and that of the Administration.

"We would hope that it might be possible in due course to work out some of those differences, and we stand ready to discuss those issues with you," he told Harris.

Special Committee Named:

Wider Union Role for Women, Minorities Set for Council Study

A special 15-member committee of the AFL-CIO Executive Council will explore in depth ways and means by which the contribution and role of women and minorities can be better reflected in the highest levels of the trade union movement.

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland named the 15 most senior members of the newly-elected council to the committee under the co-chairmanship of Vice Presidents Paul Hall and John H. Lyons. The action was taken at the first meeting of the new council immediately after adjournment of the convention.

Kirkland told the convention earlier that during a council session called on filling vacancies "there was a discussion of the question of how and whether and in what way to more fully recognize the role of women in the trade union movement, and other minorities as well, to accelerate the achievement of more dramatic, more significant, more visible public recognition of the role and the contribution of women in the trade union movement."

The AFL-CIO Executive Council, he pointed out, is a body with "great prestige" and "high visibility." He continued, "I don't believe that members of this council think that the earth would split and things would fall apart if, on occasion, when faced with an issue of this significance, we departed, as we have on occasion in the past, from time-honored custom, tradition and principles that have been followed."

He said the council decided to explore the matter further "seriously and sincerely" to find ways and means to reflect the role of women and minorities in this "highly conspicuous and visible and important role."

The federation, Kirkland said, is "sensitive to and conscious of the increasing role of women in the work force and in the trade union movement." He noted that "we have established and supported leadership training programs," and worked closely with the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

CLUW, headed by Joyce Miller, a Clothing Workers vice president, "has been a strong ally and has rendered great support in behalf of the aims of the trade union movement. We appreciate that very much and intend to continue to work very closely with that organization."

Louis B. Knecht, secretary-treasurer of the Communications Workers, told the convention that the council's position had the "total support" of the CWA delegation.

Addie Wyatt of the Food & Commercial Workers also commended the council. She said that while "some of us who represent women and non-white trade unionists" had hoped for a "more positive change at this convention, we see this as an important step in that direction."

Since the founding of the AFL-CIO, members of the Executive Council have been presidents of affiliated international unions with two exceptions. In recent years only those actively functioning as top executive officers have been elected. There have been no women members; four blacks have been elected, one is presently serving.

The council committee in addition to Hall and Lyons is made up of Vice Presidents Peter Bommarito, Thomas W. Gleason, Frederick O'Neal, Jerry Wurf, S. Frank Raftery, George Hardy, Al H. Chesser, Martin J. Ward, William Sidell, Murray H. Finley Albert Shanker, Glenn E. Watts, Sol C. Chaikin. The committee will meet with officials of CLUW and invite other unions to appear and make recommendations. Kirkland and Sec.-Treas. Thomas R. Donahue will serve as ex officio members.

Kirkland announced appointment of the committee during consideration of a resolution that was then approved by the convention dealing with the concept of equal pay for work of comparable value.

The resolution noted with concern a growing gap between wages of men and women, and urged efforts to correct inequities resulting from undervaluation of work that women have historically performed.

It pointed to so-called "female" occupations that differ from higher-paid "men's jobs" in content but not in "the skill, effort and responsibility required."

The federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has initiated a study to determine whether techniques exist or can be developed to compare jobs that are not identical in order to eliminate sex bias from pay determinations.

The AFL-CIO encourages such efforts to correct inequities based on sex or race, the convention said. It urged affiliates to adopt the concept of equal pay for work of comparable value in organizing activities and in contract negotiations.

A separate resolution approved by the convention expressed concern that employers are ignoring their obligations under the Pregnancy Discrimination Act to end discrimination in fringe benefits and insurance coverage.

It committed the AFL-CIO to develop educational information and materials that affiliates can use in negotiations and in their own education programs.

The AFL-CIO will also redouble its efforts to get the needed three more states to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment before the new deadline of June 30, 1982, the convention declared.

In the meantime, the federation will not hold its biennial convention in any state that has not ratified ERA, the delegates voted.

To challenge the deadline extension, conservative forces are trying to initiate state referenda "to get state legislatures to declare their ratification 'null and void' after Mar. 22, 1979, on the ground that extension was illegal," the resolution pointed out.

And that attempt comes in addition to efforts—which also take their toll as a distraction from the fight to complete ratification—to get states to vote rescission of previous ratification, an action of questionable legal validity, the convention observed.

To counteract those efforts, the resolution said, will require that state COPEs carefully scrutinize state legislators for their votes or positions on ERA.

Other actions necessary, the convention said, will be for state federations and affiliated unions to:

- Publicize labor's position on ERA through print and broadcast media, news releases, leaflets and all means available.
- Increase educational efforts to inform members of the need for ERA.
- Continue to provide financial support for ERAmerica and other state coalitions fighting for ratification.
- Establish coalitions that bring liberal, labor and educational groups together to work for ERA.

Thirty-eight, or three-fourths of the states, are necessary to ratify ERA since it is an amendment to the Constitution and 35 have done so.

Federation to Encourage All Unions to Affiliate

The AFL-CIO will "support and encourage" the affiliation of unions not in the federation, and the Executive Council will give "prompt consideration to any such application."

In extending the invitation, the convention reiterated "established AFL-CIO policy, which fully protects the rights of all affiliates under the AFL-CIO Constitution and which assures the complete observance by such unions of all the provisions of the constitution" and federation standards.

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland told the delegates that he intends "to explore anew the affiliation of those organizations now outside our ranks . . . within the terms of that resolution."

Plant Closing Curbs Termed Urgent Need

There is a crucial need for legislation to counteract the devastating effects of plant shutdowns and relocations on workers and their communities, the AFL-CIO said.

Bills that have been introduced in the House and Senate would require advance notice of plant closing and relocations, provide assistance to help firms continue operations or to transfer ownership to employees, require an economic impact study of a planned shutdown and require employers to provide at least minimum assistance to workers whose jobs cannot be saved, including transfer rights to other locations.

While the House and Senate versions differ, the convention resolution noted that the goals are the same and deserve active labor support.

Employers must be required to recognize their responsibilities to their employees and to their communities before shutting down a plant, the AFL-CIO insisted.

Legislation is also needed to deal with relocation or closing of government facilities, the convention said. It urged congressional committees to remedy the failing.

Rising Costs Cited:

Delegates Approve 3¢ Per Capita Rise

To more adeequately meet projected expenses in coming years, the 13th AFL-CIO convention voted unanimously to increase the per capita tax paid by affiliates to the federation to 19 cents per member per month.

The 3-cent increase was recommended to the convention in a supplemental report from the Executive Council and received unanimous support from the convention's Committee on Constitution. The new per capita will go into effect Jan. 1, 1980.

The committee report said the action was dictated by anticipated increases in operating costs and repayment of a bank line of credit used for construction purposes that will result in increasingly "larger deficits in 1980 and 1981."

The Constitution Committee recommended, and the convention approved, non-concurrence on two other resolutions dealing with per capita, one to set a special per capita applicable to certain unions and the other to allocate a certain amount of per capita to state and local central bodies.

The proposal introduced by the Musicians provided that unions that receive from their locals a per capita of $15 or less per year per member and who have no provisions for withdrawal cards would pay an AFL-CIO per capita of 10 cents per member per month.

AFM President Victor W. Fuentealba, speaking against the committee's recommendation, said the union has unique problems because of unemployed and part-time members, is running a large deficit and cannot afford the full AFL-CIO per capita. He said there are some AFM local officers who are urging disaffiliation.

Vice President Charles H. Pillard, serving as committee secretary, responded that the committee is sympathetic to the Musicians' plight but that "to start now and separate affiliates where there are different amounts of per capita is the wrong thing to do." Pillard noted that he served on a special council committee on the AFM case and had recommended a six-month exoneration from per capita which the council has approved.

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland reviewed the two-year series of meetings to help the union and said "I think we have gone pretty far in accommodating the financial distress of the Musicians union and I do not think that the permanent solution to their problem lies in a lower rate of the per capita tax to the AFL-CIO."

Kirkland cited historic precedent going back to AFL President Samuel Gompers in 1912 on the federation's position on threats to disaffiliate. Fuentealba said "no one is threatening to leave," that he had fought off such proposals at the last AFM convention and wanted the delegates here to know the record.

The other resolution introduced by the Passaic (N.J.) Labor Council was rejected on the grounds that the local unions that belong to each central body should determine for themselves the per capita tax they are willing to pay to support that central body.



THE CONVENTION HALL was jammed and delegates paid close attention as AFL-CIO President George Meany addressed the opening session. The convention drew 895 delegates and thousands of guests, observers, foreign visitors and press, radio and television representatives.

Use of General Revenues Backed To Lighten Social Security Tax

It would be "irresponsible" for Congress to allow the political lure of an election year tax cut to jeopardize the social security system, the AFL-CIO warned.

Both the payroll tax rate and the amount of wages subject to the tax are scheduled to rise at the start of 1981.

As an alternative, the convention urged tapping general revenue funds to supplement the present payroll tax. But it made clear labor's opposition to any reduction in benefits or to underfinancing of the program so as to avoid a tax increase.

The convention warned also against substituting still more inequitable forms of taxation, such as a value added tax.

"The best way to avoid the 1981 and future payroll tax increases would be to use general revenues, which are raised by more progressive taxation," the resolution declared. It pledged the AFL-CIO to "fight for this objective."

Sound financing is essential, the convention said, to make possible such needed improvements as:

- Semi-annual instead of the present annual cost-of-living adjustments when the consumer price index rises 3 percent or more.
- A more flexible occupational definition of disability for workers 55 and over in recognition of the practical difficulties an older worker faces in changing occupations and finding employment in a new field.
- Optional early retirement at age 60 with less than the present full actuarial reduction in benefits. Most such early retirements are involuntary, the resolution noted.
- Modification of the social security program "to more equitably deal with the benefit problems associated with women." The resolution noted that the social security system was started with the then-prevailing concept of men as breadwinners and women as stay-home wives or widows. But with the greatly increased participation of women in the workforce, social security rolls have "a disproportionate number of retired women with very low or poverty level benefits."

The convention said the AFL-CIO opposes universal social security coverage for all levels of public sector employment unless there are clear safeguards to protect existing pension benefits, to offset any increased financial obligation, and to maintain and have opportunities in the future to improve existing government retirement systems. It authorized the Executive Council to consider future recommendations of various study groups in relation to these principles.

It reaffirmed the AFL-CIO's position that jurisdictions where public workers are already covered by social security should not be allowed to withdraw such coverage —as has been done at times for budget-cutting purposes—and that federal law should be changed to require continuation of existing social security coverage.

Pending enactment of a comprehensive national health program, the convention said, Medicare benefits should be improved. It called for coverage of prescription drugs, elimination of the monthly premium for physician services coverage, and reduction of the 29-month waiting period before disabled workers can qualify for Medicare.

The convention also urged higher benefit levels under the supplemental security income (SSI) program, which is a federally-financed assistance program for the aged, blind and disabled. The program is administered by the Social Security Administration even though the funding comes from general revenues.

Women Are Finding Union Contract Offers Direct Route to Job Equality

As the struggle of women workers for equality drags on despite anti-discrimination laws, women are aware that the most direct road to that goal is a union contract, the AFL-CIO convention was told.

But a great number of the 40 million women in the workforce don't have union representation, President Joyce Miller of the Coalition of Union Women pointed out. And although unions gained some 500,000 female members between 1976 and 1978, she noted that women constitute only 27 percent of all organized workers.

Miller said women earn only 59 percent of what men earn because they are locked isolated in female job ghettos.

"Eighty percent of the women in the workforce are found in the lowest paying, lowest skilled, least safe, least unionized occupations," she asserted. "They are found in the clerical, service, retail, pink-collar and blue-collar jobs."

In addition, she noted, America's women workers suffer higher unemployment and have fewer benefits, less advancement and fewer educational opportunities than their male counterparts.

Miller, who is a vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, said that some employers try to discourage women and minorities from seeking better and higher-paying jobs while keeping unions out through the use of anti-labor consulting firms.

"Women and minorities know that they will not achieve equality in the workplace without the collective strength of unions behind them," she stressed.

Miller noted that women's groups and the labor movement are seeking mutual goals in the fight for social and economic change, adding that the AFL-CIO has been especially supportive of CLUW since its founding more than five years ago.

"One issue we agreed on jointly right at the beginning was the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment," she said in thanking the AFL-CIO for shifting its 13th convention from Florida because of that state's failure to ratify the constitutional amendment.

Miller stressed that ERA is a labor issue and pointed out that almost all the states that have rejected ratification are "right-to-work" states.

"The same people opposed to the Equal Rights Amendment are opposed to unions," she observed. "It is the right wing and the union-busters, common enemies of the women's movement and of the labor movement. They are against unions. They are in favor of 'right-to-work' laws. They are against social legislation. They are against labor law reform."



JOYCE MILLER

Miller noted that women have played a vital role in the development and growth of the labor movement since the early 1800s. She said women are also in the midst of labor's struggles today, citing particularly their participation in the J. P. Stevens and Winn-Dixie boycott campaigns.

Through CLUW training programs and encouragement, Miller said, women trade unionists are increasing their contribution to the labor movement in an effort to make it stronger and better.

"Today we see more women on the executive boards of their unions. We see more women in top staff jobs. We see more local union presidents and regional leaders who are women, and we find women on the standing committees of the AFL-CIO."

She stressed the need for increased participation in key trade union positions. Paraphrasing a television commercial on women's gains, she said: "You've come a long way, baby; but, boy, you've got a very long way to go."

Mass Transit Growth Pushed

"As the energy crisis worsens, millions more Americans will turn to mass transit," the AFL-CIO convention said, and they'll find a pitiful system that falls far short of national needs.

Consequently, the convention outlined an extensive program designed to enable urban mass transit systems to serve 14 percent of the nation's transportation needs instead of the current 4 percent.

Such a program starts with adequate funding, "a minimum of $10 billion annually," and includes such features as more extensive experimenting with no-fare transit, through which "an estimated 1 million barrels of oil, or 10 percent of our foreign oil imports, can be saved daily" if applied nationwide.

Other features of the program urge the federal government to better distribute its assistance funds under the Urban Mass Tranportation Act, create a permanent advisory committee on bus and rail design and triple the capability of manufacturing them.

Essential labor standards, the convention said, include promoting collective bargaining in the industry, paying prevailing wages for construction of needed facilities, and putting the Labor Dept. solely in charge of labor protection provisions in all federal mass transit programs.



MURRAY-GREEN AWARD is shared by Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, left, and the late Marvella Bayh, accepted at right by her husband, Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.). The awards are presented by AFL-CIO Vice President Peter Bommarito, chairman of the federation's Community Services Committee.

Murray-Green Award Honors Marvella Bayh and Dr. Selikoff

By Rex Hardesty

A woman who lost her life after a valiant bout with cancer and a man who has spent his life combatting cancer and job-related diseases were honored with the Murray-Green Award, the AFL-CIO's highest honor.

The late Marvella Bayh, wife of Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), and Dr. Irving J. Selikoff were honored at the convention with the award, named after pre-merger presidents Philip Murray of the CIO and William Green of the AFL.

In presenting the award, AFL-CIO Vice President Peter Bommarito recalled the last eight years of Marvella Bayh's life—the time she knew she had cancer.

It became her mission, Bommarito said, not just to promote the fight against cancer, for many have done that, but to bring to the victims themselves her example of the courage and the hope to stay alive until a cure is found.

She put particular emphasis on the workplace, Bommarito said, because that's one of the best places to reach people and because a full and meaningful job—in contrast to being shunted aside as "different"—is an essential part of the dignity the cancer victim needs to cling successfully to life and hope.

Consequently, she worked very closely with the labor movement, Bommarito recalled. One of her last appearances was at a Dept. of Community Services function where her message was that the best place to approach a cancer victim is face-to-face, which union brothers and sisters are uniquely equipped to do at the workplace, Bommarito observed.

In accepting his award, Selikoff noted that only in the past 25 years have the causes of cancer been found. In previous medical history, such an event would be hailed, he said, but today it is ignored—and even resisted—by those who view occupational safety as a drain on profits.

Numerous carcinogens have been identified through the work of Selikoff, who is director of the Evironmental Sciences Laboratory at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. In listing some for the convention, he took note of the effort required by the unions involved to publicize the discovery.

Selikoff summed up his acceptance of the award as a signal of the growing cooperation between science and labor, "which gives it broader meaning."

Sen. Birch Bayh accepted the award to his late wife, describing her work as covering both ends of the age cycle: with pre-schoolers in their need for day care centers and with elderly women to win coverage of Pap smears under Medicare.

He said Marvella Bayh's work also included opposing the five-month wait for disability for cancer patients, one-half of whom don't have five months, and work rules that forbid cancer patients to return to the job.

"She and you in the labor movement have been early supporters of a health system that spends some money early to prevent illnesses, on which we then spend unlimited resources," he said.

He said he and his son Evan had agreed to contribute the $2,500 award to the Marvella Bayh Memorial Scholarship at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

He recalled that his wife often noted that 300,000 Americans will not be alive next year because of cancer. "Then she would remind us that if there were a foreign adversary off our shores with poison gas or missiles prepared to take 300,000 lives year after year, we as a nation would rise up. We would declare war. We would demand unconditional surrender and we would wipe that scourge from the face of the earth.

"Indeed, that was her mission in life," he said.

Hall Hospitalized, Misses Convention

AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall missed his first AFL-CIO convention — and the convention missed him.

Hall was hospitalized with a back injury, and President Lane Kirkland suggested in his acceptance speech that missing his first convention pained Hall more than his injury.

Hall, the AFL-CIO's senior vice president, was scheduled to head the convention's Resolutions Committee. Vice President John H. Lyons, who took over as committee chairman, spoke in his final report to the convention of Hall's many services to the AFL-CIO and expressed the wishes of the delegates for a speedy recovery.

Accountability Demanded:

Steps Sought to End Corporation Abuses

The AFL-CIO set forth a program to assure that American corporations are confined to their proper economic role and forced to meet their social responsibiltiies.

"Failure to act to control unlimited corporate power will leave the American people at the mercy of a corporate state, whose allegiance is to wealth rather than democratic liberty," the federation said in a convention resolution.

"Corporate misconduct must be brought under control. The corporation must be made accountable to its own stockholders and to the general public."

Corporate boards of directors should be required to include a majority of outside directors, the AFL-CIO said. These outside directors should be prohibited from interlocking with the company's competitors, suppliers and credit sources.

The federaton also declared its support for full disclosure and reporting on executives' and directors' compensation, bonuses, country club dues, outside interests, and potential conflicts of interest. Requirements for such annual reporting, prohibitions against conflicts of interest and interlocking directorships should be enacted by Congress, the resolution declared.

In addition, it called for the federal chartering of corporations with more than $1 billion in assets or sales to "diminish the current competition in laxity of regulation among state chartering offices."

Also, the resolution urged that:

- Existing line-of-business reporting requirements of the Federal Trade Commission be expanded and strictly enforced.
- The Supreme Court's Illinois Brick decision be reversed through strict antitrust legislation, thus enabling consumers, business and government victims of corporate price-fixing to recover triple damages, even if they were not direct customers of the price-fixing violators.
- Major oil companies be required to divest their holdings in other sources of energy and be limited to only a single aspect of the oil industry itself.
- A proposal by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) to prohibit large conglomerate mergers be enacted.
- **Legislation be passed by Congress barring the nation's 18 largest oil companies from acquiring, by mergers or otherwise, other companies with assets of over $100 million each.**
- Polygraph control and privacy protection be legislated to end the most blatant forms of corporate thought control.
- A proposal by Rep. Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz.) for a study of media concentration be enacted.
- Plants relocating or closing be required to give early advance notice and provide aid to affected workers and communities.
- All organizations that lobby the federal government be required to register, report the issues they address and the money they spend.

Bargaining Asked On Retiree Issues

The AFL-CIO will press for enactment of an amendment to the National Labor Relations Act that would make retirees' benefits an issue of mandatory collective bargaining when one party seeks to negotiate on the subject.

A convention resolution backed legislation introduced in the House by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.) to resolve the retirees' benefit problem.

The Supreme Court ruled in 1971 that retired workers are no longer employees. Therefore, the court said, union-management bargaining on the issue of retirees' benefits is not mandatory when one party seeks such negotiations.

In a related action, the convention urged all affiliated unions to establish retired members' clubs and affiliate them with the National Council of Senior Citizens.

Environmental Issues Linked to Jobs Balance

The AFL-CIO said it will continue to support a balance between the need for pollution abatement and the maintenance of employment in environmental control programs.

Specifically, the federation called for:

- Congressional authorization of a five-year, accelerated federal grants-in-aid program to reduce the backlog of water and sewer projects in the nation.
- Strengthened enforcement powers for the Environmental Protection Agency to require compliance by those major industrial sectors that have failed to comply with the Clean Water and Clean Air Acts.
- Expanded resource recovery efforts to solve the nation's solid waste disposal problem.
- Greater production of coal and development of synthetic fuels and alternatives to the internal combustion engine. Such programs, however, must be accompanied by expanded efforts to reduce harmful environmental effects.
- Legislation to deal with the massive problem of hazardous and toxic waste disposal by placing the responsibility for immediate clean-up and its costs on those companies responsible.
- Strong enforcement and adequate personnel in the implementation of the Surface Mining & Reclamation Act.
- Effective worker protections and anti-discrimination provisions in all environmental statutes.
- Establishment of a national land-use policy that takes into full consideration its effects on employment and economic growth.
- Continued support for the principle of family ownership of farmland, the breakup of huge land monopolies, and the anti-speculation provisions in federal reclamation laws.

Inadequate Safeguards Cited for Mental Patients

Mental health legislation should prevent irresponsible de-institutionalization of the mentally ill, provide decent institutional and community-based services and protect all affected institutional employees, the AFL-CIO said.

De-institutionalization of the mentally ill and the mentally retarded has been so extensive over the past decade that the number of patients in mental institutions alone has dropped from 428,000 to 146,000 today, the federation noted in a convention resolution.

It pointed out that President Carter proposed a Mental Health Systems Act that begins to tackle some of the problems of discharged mental patients by requiring federally-funded community mental health centers to provide assurances that they will serve chronic patients, senior citizens, children and racial minorities. But the bill would not provide for adequate enforcement of those requirements, the convention noted, nor would it make needed changes in the Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income programs to protect mental patients.

The more than 400,000 AFL-CIO members who work in mental health and mental retardation institutions throughout the country provide effective and humane services to the mentally ill and the mentally retarded under extremely difficult circumstances of understaffing and inadequate funding, the convention observed.

A Senate Labor & Human Resources subcommittee has adopted amendments to the proposed Mental Health Systems Act to protect patients by increasing services from state governments and community mental health centers.

The measure would also protect employees by requiring the Secretary of Labor to administer protections comparable to those in the Urban Mass Transportation Act, the Redwood National Park Amendments of 1978, and similar legislation.

'My Cause Also':

Matos Hails Labor As Rights Defender

By James M. Shevis

Until his release from Fidel Castro's jails last month, Huber Matos was the longest held political prisoner in the world—imprisoned by the Cuban dictator for suggesting that the nation's 1959 revolution was Communist-run.

Matos, who once served side-by-side with Castro in the uprisings that overthrew Batista's dictatorship, spent 20 years in confinement, often incommunicado, taking the worse kind of treatment imaginable. For much of the time, he was kept in what he described as "concrete boxes, where the windows were covered with metal," and even his guards were forbidden to look at him. He frequently endured beatings.

Now, as he addressed the 13th biennial convention of the AFL-CIO, an organization that helped him regain his liberty, he wished to convey his thanks to President George Meany for exercising his good offices in his behalf and to discuss freedom and individual human rights.

"The best way to defend democracy is to practice democracy," the 61-year-old former school teacher told delegates through an interpreter.

"Wherever a tyrant rises on the horizon, he will rise only by stepping and trampling on the principles of human rights. . . .

"Only by following the tenets of Washington and Jefferson, which are embodied in your Constitution and your daily existence, and by perservering in the defense of those tenets, will mankind know true liberty.

"To stand idly by and watch our freedoms trampled by the Red Boot is practically renouncing our condition as human beings, desirous of achieving liberty and justice."

Huber Matos did not stand idly by as Castro's revolutionary fervor succumbed to Marxist-Leninist ideas. He had been a guerrilla squadron leader in Castro's rebel army, and later governor of Camaguey province following Castro's victory. Ten months later, however, concerned over the country's drift to communism, Matos wrote Castro that he had decided to resign. The revolution was going down the wrong path, he felt.

"I do not wish to become an obstacle to the revolution," his letter to Castro said, "and I believe that, having to choose between accommodating myself or getting out of the way in order not to cause any damage, it is honorable and revolutionary that I go."

Furious with Matos, Castro ordered his arrest two days later on charges of treason. Castro himself testified at the trial, delivering a six-hour harangue in which he called Matos "worse than a traitor —an ingrate."

During his years in prison, Matos stood out to many anti-Castro Cuban exiles as a symbol of what they charge is the revolution's betrayal. Some thought he would never survive, a thought which Matos reflected on in his remarks to the convention.

"I wonder whether I'm dreaming," he said. "I have come through a long night of darkness to the light of day as a result of the efforts of many men and women in this federation.

"It is almost a miracle to come out alive from those torture chambers where so many of my colleagues linger, where the flesh and the spirit are tortured day after day, year after year."

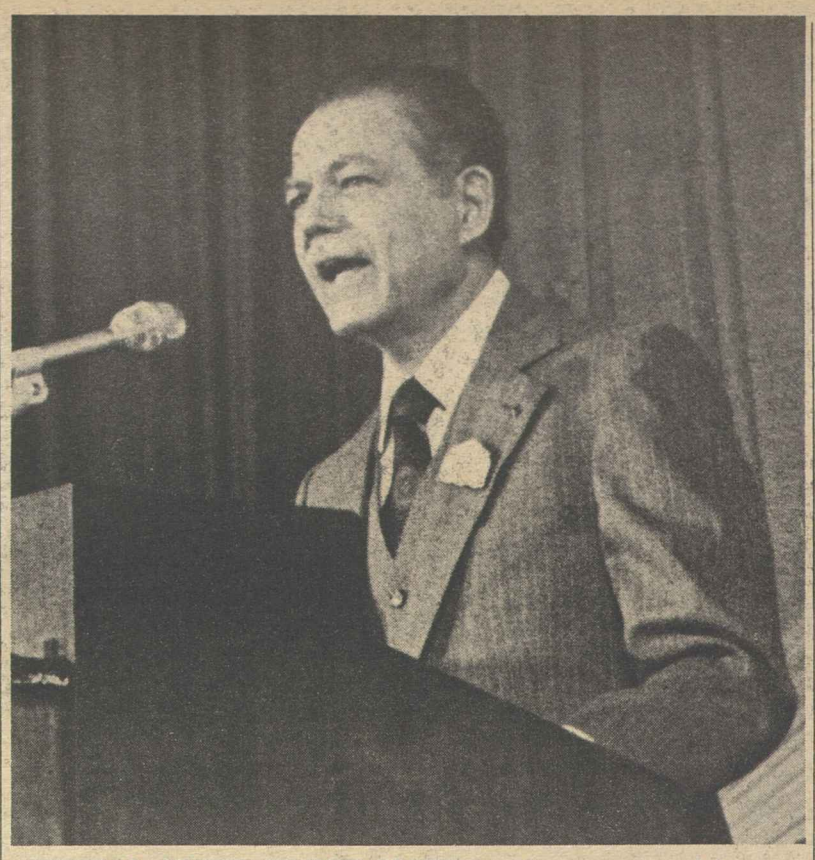
History will vindicate those who refused to knuckle under to Castro and the socialist state that he modeled on the Soviet pattern, Matos said.

"Our totalitarian enemies, our Marxist-Leninist enemies, identify the struggle as the international proletarian struggle," he said. "For me, it is clear that there is a concept much more important—international humanitarianism."

A free and independent trade union movement, best characterized by the AFL-CIO, represents the chief defense against human rights volations, he said.

In a plea for those political prisoners who still remain in Cuba, Matos urged the AFL-CIO to persevere in its efforts to obtain their freedom.

"As a man who has regained his liberty after 20 years of imprisonment, I feel that the cause that you represent—the defense of human rights—is my cause also," he said.



SPECIAL GUEST HUBER MATOS told convention delegates "your defense of human rights is my cause also," and that Cubans still are struggling to regain liberty for their island nation. A prisoner for 20 years in Castro's jails, Matos appealed to the AFL-CIO to persevere in its stand against global totalitarianism.

Public Interest Termed Vital in Radio, TV Bill

U.S. communications systems have changed dramatically in the past 45 years, but the law hasn't and it's time to bring it up to date, the convention declared.

A convention resolution said efforts to revise the communications law should be supported, and it spelled out principles for such action. It noted that both the House and Senate have such measures under consideration.

"The critical element is the effect of the legislation on the public interest," the resolution said.

"With regard to the electronic mass media, consideration must be given to whether the legislation promotes expression of diverse viewpoints, or perpetuates the system in which the views endorsed by commercial interests are communicated."

Specifically, in commercial radio and television, that includes retension of both the equal time and fairness doctrines, periodic review of licenses, enforcement of equal opportunity statutes and "fair compensation to artists, performers and copyright owners for their performance and creations transmitted by cable television."

The convention endorsed continuation of the requirement that commercial radio and television carry public service announcements and political messages, but opposed deregulation of the broadcast industry because "the ethics of the marketplace would not benefit the public interest."

Instead, it said regulation "should be extended to new systems of distributing information via the public airwaves."

Applying the same doctrine of public service to public broadcasting, the resolution said, starts with enough funding to liberate it from corporate sponsors. "A fee for commercial users of the electromagnetic spectrum would be a desirable source of such financing," the resolution said.

It listed three other necessary steps to restore public broadcasting to its original mission of providing an alternative to commercial radio and TV. They are:

- Enforce the prohibition against use of federally funded public broadcasting facilities by commercial interests.
- Require public representation, including representatives of organized labor, on the boards of any public broadcasting stations receiving federal assistance.
- Insure that sufficient time and resources are devoted to developing American talent and creativity.

Central Body Role Lauded By Convention

All federation affiliates were urged by the AFL-CIO convention to provide full support for state and local central bodies, including special efforts to encourage the affiliation of their local unions.

"The success of the labor movement in protecting workers' rights in state legislatures depends upon the strength of state and local central bodies," a convention resolution said.

It also directed the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services to continue its program of assistance to state federations.

The resolution noted that conservative, anti-labor forces are making a concerted attack on laws protecting working people in state legislatures around the country. Attempts were made to repeal prevailing wage laws, gut unemployment insurance and workers' compensation, and enact compulsory open shop laws in the past year.

"In virtually every instance, trade unionists in each of these states rallied around the efforts of state and local central bodies to protect and advance workers' interests," the resolution said.

"Nowhere was there better evidence of this trade union solidarity than in Missouri, where a compulsory open shop constitutional amendment was rejected by a resounding 300,000 votes. In the 13 other states where so-called right-to-work was an issue, the labor movement was victorious."

Cut in Hours Supported as Spur to Jobs

The AFL-CIO urged Congress to resist attempts to weaken the Fair Labor Standards Act and renewed the trade union movement's support for a reduction in the basic workweek "in order to expand job opportunities."

A convention resolution called for wage-hour law amendments that would move towards a 35-hour standard workweek, with double pay for overtime and a ban on involuntary overtime.

The federation pressed for more vigorous enforcement of the law and expressed concern at inadequate protections for children working in fields where pesticides are used.

It noted that salary tests used to identify executive, administrative and professional employees exempt from wage-hour coverage are "so low and outdated" as to be useless.

The convention urged also strengthened enforcement of other labor protective laws, Davis-Bacon, Service Contracts and Walsh-Healey Acts.

"We will resist, with every resource at our command, any and all legislative efforts to gut prevailing wage laws," the AFL-CIO pledged.

Strong Federal Standards Pressed For Unemployment, Injury Payments

Strong federal standards for both unemployment insurance and workers' compensation were urged in resolutions adopted by the AFL-CIO convention.

Congressional action is needed, the AFL-CIO said, because most state laws are inadequate and there is no realistic expectation that the deficiencies will be remedied.

While the AFL-CIO continues to favor federalization of the unemployment insurance system, immediate improvements can be achieved through federal standards that would assure universal coverage and a benefit level at least two-thirds of lost wages up to a ceiling of three-fourths of the statewide average wage.

The resolution asked uniform eligibility standards, including a "dollars earned" test as an optional alternative to a "weeks of employment" test of eligibility.

It also proposed a maximum 65 weeks of benefits, with federal payments from general revenue covering benefits after 39 weeks.

The AFL-CIO expressed its vigorous opposition to proposed changes in the "trigger" for extended benefits that would result in denial of benefits to long-term jobless workers "at the very time when a serious economic recession has begun."

It protested also taxation of unemployment benefits for some workers as injecting a means test into the system and the "regressive" offsetting of pension benefits against unemployment compensation. The resolution also objected to exempting farm employers from paying the unemployment compensation payroll tax on alien workers.

On workers' compensation, the convention gave special emphasis to the need for effective compensation to victims of occupational disease.

"Legislation must be enacted that will not only assure compensation of occupational disease victims, but will also encourage expanded efforts toward the realization of safe work environments," the AFL-CIO said.

It urged Congress to enact federal standards to cover this goal, as well as assure universal coverage, adequate payments and annual cost-of-living adjustments for totally disabled workers and surviving spouses.

Another resolution urged legislation to increase the maximum benefits for sickness or unemployment under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act from $25 to $28, with automatic adjustments beyond 1979 based on wage rate changes.

Fight Pledged to Keep Freight Car Tariff

Any attempt to eliminate or reduce the 18 percent tariff on imports of railroad freight cars will be fought by the AFL-CIO as a threat to the jobs of some 65,000 American workers.

Labor's opposition was instrumental in the decision of a House Ways & Means subcommittee earlier this year to sidetrack action on a bill to drop the tariff.

The AFL-CIO convention mandated continued opposition to legislation or to any effort to reduce the tariff through negotiations. The resolution termed the U.S. freight car industry "stable" and "efficient," with a capacity for expansion if needed.

Reinstatement Asked for Fired Postal Workers

The AFL-CIO convention asked President Carter to reinstate more than 150 postal employees who were fired last year following work stoppages at a postal facility in New Jersey and one in California.

The penalty exceeds the alleged infraction, the federation said. It urged their reinstatement because "the right to withhold labor is of vital importance to a free trade union movement and a free democratic society."

Full Ahead

WHAT HONOR CAN APPROACH that of being nominated by George Meany to the office that he has filled so completely and enhanced so nobly, for so many fruitful years?

Only one—that which you have just given me; the vote of confidence of the finest body of men and women that can be assembled in this or any other land, the delegates to a convention of the AFL-CIO.

I am deeply conscious of, but comfortable with, the responsibility that flows from this occasion. I cannot promise to match, or even approximate, the record of achievement of George Meany—but I am reassured by the certain knowledge that neither could anyone else in our time. I can promise that I will give you and the cause we share all that I've got.

Whatever capacities I can claim here have been enriched by close association not only with George Meany but many other great figures of the labor movement; some long gone—others happily still on the scene.

Those associations and that long experience have taught me that no matter how complex or controversial others may find an issue, the proper course of action becomes simple, easy and clear once you have answered that first necessary question: which side are you on? As president of the AFL-CIO, I tell you now that I am on our side—first, last and always.

I TAKE SPECIAL NOTE of your injunction to explore anew the affiliation of those organizations now outside our ranks, and I propose to do so, within the terms of that resolution. I say now to those who stand outside that I have too high a regard for the caliber of their leadership to believe that they can really be governed by petty personal or pecuniary considerations, or ancient and tedious grudges.

I remind them that they can indulge in the luxury of solitary self-regard and the occasional fawning attention of opportunists—political and otherwise—only because of the continued strength and vigor of this central federation, which thrives despite the absence of their contribution to the common weal.

Their pride and pelf do not equal what they are missing, because—to borrow from the New Yorker's alleged view of the world—everything outside the AFL-CIO really is Hoboken.

All sinners belong in the church; all citizens owe fealty to their country; all workers belong in the unions of their trade or industry; and all true unions belong in the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations.

This AFL-CIO is the steward of the common good of the trade union movement. Its delegates distill from the natural conflicting passions and prejudices of workers at large the best and most generous impulses and qualities of American labor. You have proven that time and again.

It is a high privilege to be one of this band of brothers and sisters, and, to take over the watch, in your service.

And now I declare the speed and course: Full ahead. Steady as she goes!

—From AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland's address to the federation's 13th convention, Nov. 19, 1979.

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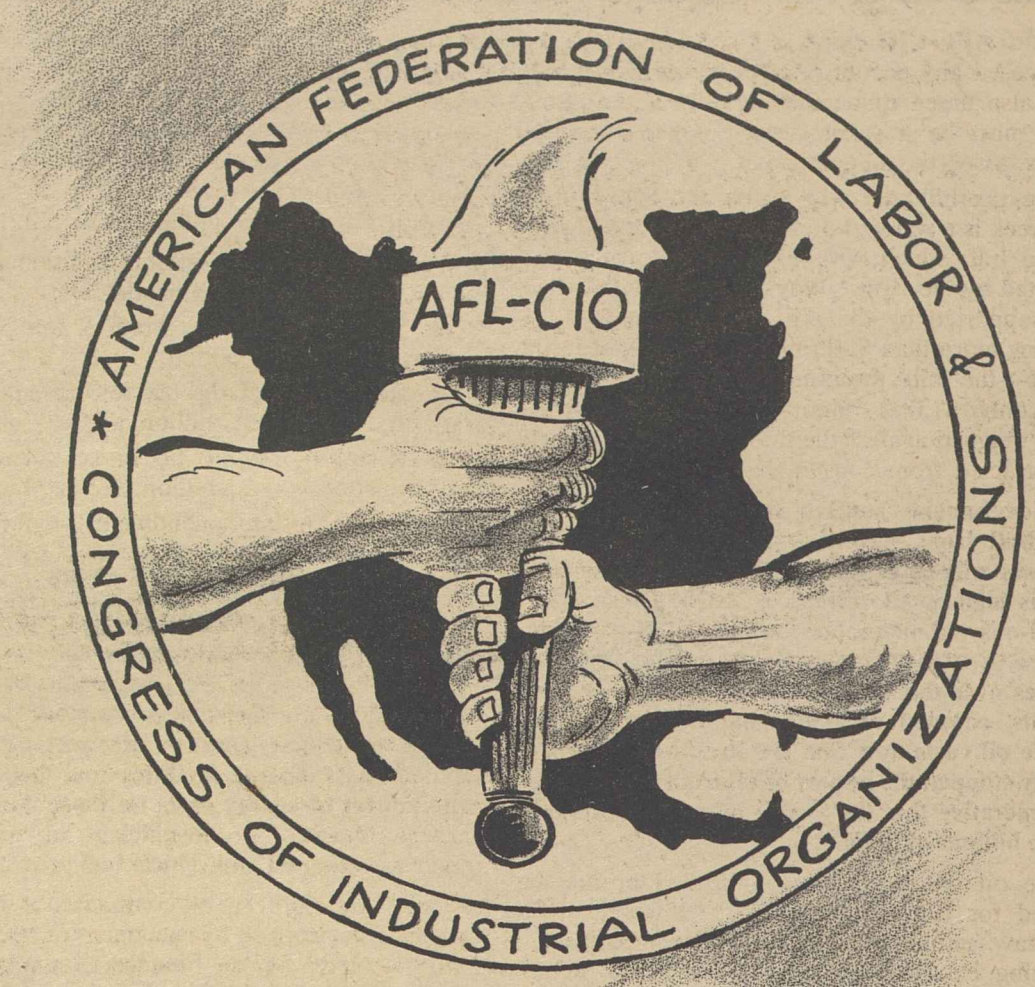
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Passing It On



STAM-FOR AFL-CIO NEWS F-354

The Convention's Voice:

A Grateful Labor Movement Thanks Retiring George Meany

The following resolution on George Meany was adopted by the 13th AFL-CIO convention, Nov. 16, 1979, Washington, D.C.

WHEREAS, GEORGE MEANY, our friend, our leader, our brother, has chosen not to seek re-election as the president of the AFL-CIO after serving 12 consecutive terms as the head of the largest national trade union center in the free world; and

Whereas, it was George Meany's vision that brought about the merger that created this organization of free working men and women in 1955 and his determination that united us in spirit as well as in name; and

Whereas, George Meany, through his faith in the labor movement, his commitment to its highest ideals, his dedication to achieving its goals, his willingness to give all his energy and wisdom to promoting the interests of working people, has set a standard of conduct by which trade unionists shall measure themselves and their future leaders; and

Whereas, George Meany's strong voice has always been raised on behalf of workers; in support of his country; in pursuit of freedom, democracy and dignity for all people; in defense of the oppressed yearning for freedom and in condemnation of the oppressors for their inhumanity; and

Whereas, George Meany has always displayed the courage so often lacking in political leaders, the plain-spoken honesty unusual in this time, the compassion for others that typifies the trade union movement, the leadership to insist upon the right (but sometimes unpopular) positions lesser men avoid in pursuit of popularity; and

Whereas, by word deed and personal example George Meany has reinforced those values so important to a free and democratic society—honesty, love of family, God and country, and single-minded devotion to duty; and

Whereas, those who are privileged to have personally known and worked with him—as well as countless millions of workers at home and abroad who never met him but who also considered George Meany their leader—have been enriched by his leadership, encouraged by his optimism, buoyed in times of trouble by his strength and warmed by his humor and compassion, therefore be it

Resolved that the 13th Constitutional Convention of the AFL-CIO extends to George Meany its heartfelt appreciation for his leadership, its love and respect and its sincerest best wishes for a long and happy life; and be it further

Resolved that, for the reasons aforesaid, this convention holds inadequate for, and inapplicable to, George Meany that portion of Article V, Section 9 of the Constitution establishing the amount of the annual compensation to be paid to a president emeritus; that it declares George Meany to be president emeritus of the federation for the period of his natural life, and it determines that George Meany be compensated as president emeritus by the federation for life, in an annual amount, payable weekly, equal to either the highest annual salary received by him as president of the federation or thereafter paid to a succeeding president, whichever is greater, together with such other perquisites and benefits appropriate to his status as president emeritus, and be it finally

Resolved that this resolution be made part of the permanent records of the AFL-CIO and that a suitably engrossed copy be presented to George Meany, with the warmest thanks of the grateful labor movement he served so long, with honor and distinction.

Convention Declares:

Stronger Windfall Tax Needed

THE AFL-CIO HAS STEADFASTLY opposed any decontrol of crude oil prices. We have also urged that, with or without decontrol, there must be a strong—not a token—windfall profits tax on the oil companies.

The tax bill that will be on the Senate floor this week is a watered-down version of the House-passed bill, which was, itself, weaker than that reported by the House Ways & Means Committee and supported by the AFL-CIO. Instead of recouping more than $300 billion—as sought in the House—the bill awaiting Senate action would raise only $138.2 billion—an anemic pretense when weighed against the massive tribute that will be extracted from consumers.

Government sources have estimated the windfall from decontrol and OPEC price increases will be at least $640 billion and could be as high as $1 trillion by 1990. Outrageous third-quarter oil profits showed an average increase of 91 percent for the 12 major oil companies over the same period a year ago. These profits, coupled with the guarantee of higher crude oil costs now that the President has correctly stopped the import of oil from Iran, make it imperative that the Senate move to recapture these billions of dollars.

The oil industry claims unbridled profits are needed for further exploration. However, drillings have actually declined and oil companies are investing extraordinary amounts of cash to acquire companies outside the energy area.

We believe that much of the pain of windfall profits could have been avoided by the retention of crude oil price controls, and much could still be spared by reimposition of those controls. But faced with the realities of profits that are an embarrassment even to the oil companies and a painful drain on every American's budget, a major effort is necessary by every segment of the United States to force a revamping of this bill.

For example, $114 billion additional can be recaptured by just three amendments:

- Restoration of the windfall tax for newly discovered oil—$71 billion;
- Restoration of the tax for incremental tertiary production—$27 billion; and
- Restoration of the tax on so-called stripper oil production—$16.2 billion.

Other appropriate amendments would raise an additional $60 billion, and we urge they, too, be adopted.

The billions of dollars that will be transferred each year from consumers' pockets to the oil companies must be recaptured and be put to constructive use through government programs to develop new sources of energy, provide added mass transit facilities and help lessen the impact of energy costs on those Americans whose incomes are insufficient to withstand higher heating oil and vehicle fuel prices.

Unless the ripoff by oil companies of American consumers is stopped by enactment of strong legislation—not the Senate Finance Committee's version—we will urge the President to veto the bill.

—Text of convention resolution on windfall profit tax legislation.

To Neutralize Terrorism:

Nations Urged to Bar Iran's Oil

THE AFL-CIO FULLY SUPPORTS President Carter's decision to suspend oil imports from Iran.

While this action, in itself, will not free the American citizens being held hostage by the terrorist, Ayatollah Khomeini, it removes oil blackmail as a potential weapon from the arsenal of this fanatical despot.

We have no doubt that the American people overwhelmingly and vigorously support the President's action and his assertion that we must "eliminate any suggestion that economic pressures can weaken our stand on basic issues of principle." It is a welcome statement; we applaud it; and we hope its implications will not be lost on others who would apply similar pressures.

Khomeini's demand for extradition of the Shah is the familiar tactic of a despot seeking to divert attention from the ruinous failure of his regime to meet the real needs of the Iranian people.

Terrorism has become the policy of his government; the tools of criminals are the instruments of his diplomacy. Today, the United States is the object of the Ayatollah's hatred. No nation knows if it will be next.

Not only American interests are threatened; international law and order are under attack in Tehran. The AFL-CIO therefore calls upon the other nations of the world to follow President Carter's lead and to neutralize Khomeini's oil weapon.

Even so, another weapon remains in his hands; kidnaping, torture and murder of innocent people to achieve political objectives—the hallmark of a terrorist. We cannot strip this weapon from his hands as quickly as we can ban his oil.

We extend our sympathy and support to the families of the hostages. This nation's humane democratic values will not allow us to further risk the lives Khomeini has so brutally imperiled with the military response he so richly deserves.

The President has already moved to make sure that Iranian students in this country obey the laws under which they were admitted into the United States. The proper authorities must insure that student visas are not violated, that guests in this country obey the law and conduct themselves in a peaceful manner. Vigilante groups, no matter how patriotic their motives, must not be allowed to take the law into their own hands.

We therefore endorse the President's call for restraint. The frustration and anger Americans feel today should not become new manipulable weapons in the hands of the terrorists but should be channeled into a deep and lasting determination to achieve energy independence, and to stand steadfast in support of human rights at all times for all people everywhere.

—Text of AFL-CIO convention resolution on Iran.

OSHA's Powers Upheld:

Cotton Dust Decision Hailed

THE RECENT COURT of appeals decision upholding OSHA's cotton dust standard "cut to the heart of all standard-making" to provide greater protection for workers both in and out of the textile industry, the AFL-CIO's job health and safety director said.

Validation of the principle of engineering controls and easing the strict requirement that OSHA make cost-benefit analyses of all regulations were cited by George H. R. Taylor as major pluses of the landmark decision. Taylor, who heads the federation's Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health, said that the cost-benefit requirement was a severe obstacle in a standard-setting process, often crippling good regulation.

"It's very difficult to equate costs and benefits," he stressed, pointing out that improved worker protections are "often nebulous and difficult to quantify in dollars." He said that while the appeals court decision doesn't rule out the analyses, it does let OSHA determine whether or not they are needed in each case.

Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, Taylor said that if the decision is either upheld by the Supreme Court or there is no appeal, the actual benefits for workers in the form of greater protection from cotton dust levels shown to cause the "brown lung disease" will come fairly slowly. Taylor pointed out that the states most heavily affected—North and South Carolina—operate under state plans rather than the federal OSHA system, and the textile companies are especially strong influences in those states.

Taylor was questioned on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program by Jean Culler White of Press Associates, Inc. and Ben Rathbun of the Bureau of National Affairs' Daily Labor Report.

Prompt Relief Critical:

Cambodia Tragedy Rivals the Holocaust

TODAY THE WORLD IS WITNESS to a human tragedy in Cambodia of such horrifying proportions that, if not entirely unparalleled in the history of mankind, is on a scale that rivals the Holocaust of Nazi Germany.

Millions of people in Kampuchea (Cambodia) have died, and millions more are facing certain death from hunger and pestilence.

Ravaged by war and Communist rule, the land has been laid waste, the cities have been destroyed, and tens of thousands of Cambodians have been driven, in desperation, to the teeming refugee camps of Thailand.

Representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), based on their own observations, have reported that "80-90 percent of children are severely malnourished; malaria, dysentery, intestinal parasites and respiratory diseases are epidemic; the number of children under the age of five is abnormally low; only about fifty doctors remain to care for some four million persons; hospitals have been stripped of equipment and drugs, and orphanages are overflowing."

The conscience of the world must be aroused by such vast human suffering, but only immediate and immense shipments of food, medical supplies and other equipment, properly delivered and used, can prevent total genocide.

It is imperative, therefore, that the United States government do everything possible, through such international agencies as ICRC and UNICEF, and on its own, if necessary, to assist the suffering people of Kampuchea.

It is equally essential that relief supplies and medical personnel reach all victims without political discrimination and under neutral international control and supervision.

Human devastation on such a large scale must be brought to the attention of the peoples of the world so that no one can or will say —as many once did—that they did not know what was happening.

The convention, therefore, calls upon all voluntary foreign service agencies, including CARE, to initiate a united national fund-raising campaign for the victims of Kampuchea.

In this time of crisis, the American labor movement must and will do its part, as we have always done.

The convention, therefore, instructs the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services to coordinate a fund-raising campaign among the affiliates of the AFL-CIO, the state federations and local central bodies, and to work with the voluntary foreign service agencies, including CARE, to insure that aid reaches the victims as soon as possible.

Time is short—and the need is great. It is essential, therefore, that the Administration press forward, politically and logistically, to persuade the Communist authorities of Vietnam and the Soviet Union who bear an enormous responsibility for this human devastation to permit the immediate distribution of relief supplies without discrimination and to allow the shipment of such supplies immediately by air, sea, land and river.

—Text of convention resolution on The Tragedy of Kampuchea (Cambodia).



LANDMARK COURT of appeals decision upholding OSHA's cotton dust standard is a plus for workers both in and outside of the textile industry, Director George H. R. Taylor, center, of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health, declared. Questioning him on Labor News Conference were Ben Rathbun of Daily Labor Report and Jean Culler White of Press Associates, Inc. Taylor said the key elements of the ruling were its validation of the principle of engineering controls to assure workers' health and safety on the job and the easing of strict requirements for cost-benefit analyses of all OSHA regulations. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.



THE KEY RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE examined and took action on 309 resolutions submitted to the convention. A recommendation was made on each resolution after a subcommittee went over the material carefully and reported to the full committee, headed by Vice President John H. Lyons in the absence of Paul Hall who was ill.

Strike Rights Endorsed for Postal Unions

Postal workers should have the right to strike, the AFL-CIO declared in one of a series of resolutions supporting legislative goals of the federation's postal union affiliates.

It termed the right to withhold services "the basic right of all citizens" and its denial an undermining of collective bargaining.

In related areas, the convention also:

- Endorsed legislation that would allow unions of postal and federal workers to negotiate an agency shop or some similar form of union security.

Unions representing these workers now are obligated to represent non-members in "expensive arbitration proceedings" as well as in negotiations over wages, benefits and conditions of employment, the resolution noted.

- Welcomed House passage of a bill that would subject the U.S. Postal Service to all provisions of the Occupational Safety & Health Act, urged the Senate to do likewise and asked President Carter to then sign it into law.

- Opposed Administration efforts to reduce the present twice-a-year cost-of-living adjustments for retired federal and postal workers to an annual adjustment.

- Asked defeat of legislation seeking to amend the Private Express statute so that private firms could attempt to take over lucrative mail operations while leaving the public system to serve rural areas and money-losing routes.

Unit mail costs increase when volume goes down, the resolution noted. If private firms were allowed to "skim the cream," postal rates would go up.

Speculators, Profiteers Called Threat to Farmer

The AFL-CIO convention analyzed American agriculture and found it the most productive in the history of the world—but also threatened by foreign purchase of U.S. land, ineffective control of commodity speculators and the conduct of five big profiteering grain companies.

A resolution on rural America called for remedies to each of these problems to support family farmers and make sure the help they need is not drained off to giant agribusiness corporations.

The foreign investment in U.S. farm land is led by the oil-exporting countries, the convention noted, and such purchases deserve close federal observation.

Commodity speculators "add to the inflation in food prices through paper profits," the resolution found, and said they "must be regulated to increase the farmers' share of the food dollar without driving up consumer prices."

The third problem, that of profiteering grain companies, prompted a renewal of the AFL-CIO call for a national grain board, "similar to the Canadian Wheat Board. It should be set up to handle foreign sales of U.S. grain and should negotiate, barter or approve all export sales of American grain."

A national grain board was also the objective of a 1975 labor action in which Longshoremen refused to load grain to Russia and the AFL-CIO negotiated with President Ford on coordinated national handling of such grain sales. Congressional action to create such a board is a longstanding labor goal.

The convention resolution also said the nation's federal farm programs "should encourage maximum production to help hold down food prices for U.S. consumers, more fairly distribute farm income support payments to benefit family farmers and bring about a reasonable balance between domestic supplies and the demand for American farm products at home and abroad."

The impact of exorbitant interest rates on family farmers was also noted, as was the damage when income maintenance programs are not limited to the family farmer, but become the tool "of corporate farms and absentee owners who use their farms as tax dodges." Family farmers should be the target of special credit allocation, it was urged.

The resolution called for special attention to the needs of rural residents and migratory farm workers and their families—including "adequate housing, health, education, library, welfare and child day-care opportunities."

Importance of Census To Workers Stressed

Noting that the accuracy of the 1980 census has great implications for the civil rights of all U.S. people, the AFL-CIO convention called on the Census Bureau to make its procedures simple and workers to give their cooperation.

The convention resolution estimated that 8 percent of the black population of America was not counted in the 1970 census. Consequently, many federal, state and local programs that depend on census data for their structure will deliver services disproportionately.

What the government can do includes having all its agencies publicize the importance of the count, and the Census Bureau can use "effective and reliable communications by avoiding complex procedures in filling out census questionnaires." Recommended steps:

- Requesting a census form if one has not been received by Apr. 1, 1980.

- Informing persons without a fixed residence that they should get their name recorded some way, on a friend's form if they can't obtain their own.

- Assistance by AFL-CIO unions in publicizing the need for all workers to take responsibility for getting their names on a census form.

Job Safeguards Asked Under CETA Program

The convention called on the Dept. of Labor to "vigorously safeguard the job rights of workers" in its administration of CETA, the federal public service employment program.

Major problems with CETA, a convention resolution said, have included averaging wages that may be paid under the program and limiting CETA jobs to 18 months.

The national averaging of wages forces artificially low pay in some areas, and the 18-month limitation "serves only to recycle unemployment rather than create jobs," the convention noted.

"Over one-third of the areas in the nation must pay CETA wages averaging as low as $6,635—only 10 percent above the federal Fair Labor Standards Act minimum wage," the resolution pointed out. It said the solution is to "delete the provisions requiring a nationwide average CETA wage of $7,200 per year."

The resolution also decried any use of CETA jobs to reduce regular employment and committed the federation to guard against new job titles, like assistant laborer, that would undercut prevailing wage standards.

Deep Erosion Seen:

Trade Policy Tied To Jobs, Industry

By John R. Oravec

Congress and the Administration must pursue an international trade and economic policy in the 1980s that will halt the destruction of American jobs and erosion of the nation's industrial base, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

"This can be achieved by regulating the export of American technology and capital, eliminating tax and other incentives that encourage U.S. companies to establish and expand their operations in foreign countries," a convention resolution said.

It also stressed the need to regulate the flood of imported goods that displaced U.S. production and accounted for huge trade deficits during the 1970s.

The AFL-CIO continues to support fair international trade practices, as well as effective enforcement of U.S. trade laws and international agreements to ensure a healthy American economy, the convention stressed.

"We believe that the United States should continue to share its markets," the resolution said. "We do not believe that the United States can isolate itself from the rest of the world in trade matters, nor do we think it desirable to do so. But international trade must be fair—fair to all nations."

The convention warned that unfair trade competition must not further jeopardize U.S. standing as a major manufacturing nation, agricultural producer and a maritime force.

It also cited the need to protect industries from dumping and other unfair trade practices, especially those of Communist countries. Trade with the Communist nations should be regulated more effectively through improved administration of Title IV of the 1974 Trade Act and additional legislation recognizing that private commercial interests cannot negotiate effectively with government-controlled enterprises.

"New proposals are necessary to stem the disruptive effects of increased state trading and state-owned multinationals on both U.S. producers and workers and in world trade and investment," the convention said.

Calling for immediate and effective antidumping measures to bring a quick end to unfair trade practices, the resolution also urged that countervailing duty actions under international agreements be strictly enforced.

Special entry rights to U.S. markets should be guaranteed only on products that are needed in this country or cannot be produced efficiently to meet demand, the resolution said.

While calling for repeal of provisions in the Trade Act allowing for preferences to developing nations, it urged continuation of special assistance with emphasis on market development within those countries, rather than export-oriented development.

The resolution also urged:

- Improved trade adjustment assistance to help ease the hardship on workers whose jobs are wiped out by imports.

- Speedy termination of the Overseas Private Investment Corp., which has been encouraging the export of U.S. jobs through its practice of insuring foreign operations of multinational banks and firms.

- Plugging tax loopholes and incentives for multinational companies to move abroad, ending tax deferral and repealing foreign tax credits, as well as Domestic International Sales Corp. tax gimmicks.

- Repeal of Items 807 and 806.30 of the Tariff Code to curb the export of more U.S. jobs.

- Strengthening certain provisions of the Trade Act to spur development of U.S. industries and promote job expansion.

- Stricter enforcement of Sections 608 and 609 of the Trade Act to better determine the impact of imports, exports, technology transfers, money flows and investments on the American economy and jobs.

Export expansion should be encouraged through vigorous negotiations in open foreign markets, the resolution stressed. These efforts should be linked to wise domestic policies to promote economic health at home, it said.

As a step toward insuring fair competition, the convention said the criteria of fair labor standards should be applied to a country before its products are allowed to enter U.S. markets. If foreign producers cannot meet minimum labor standards, quotas and other trade restrictions should be imposed on their products, the resolution declared.

35 Resolutions Referred To Executive Council

The 13th AFL-CIO convention referred 35 of the 309 resolutions introduced for its consideration to the new Executive Council for further study, research and disposition.

The 35 ranged across a broad spectrum of problems confronting Americans as workers and citizens including child care, undocumented aliens, public relations programs, boycotts and scientific research.

The child care resolution was referred with a comment from the resolutions committee that while it is fully in sympathy with the intent of the resolution there are questions involving "detailed features of such a program which the committee has not had time to fully resolve."

Other resolutions dealt with proposals for legislation that need further study, problems unions are encountering on Guam, herbicide bans that need further investigation, highly specialized export and import problems, and proposals dealing with the operation of government agencies.

There is the question also of whether the steelhead trout should be a national game fish, guidelines for DNA research, prevention of filibusters and anti-smoking campaigns.

The new council will hear reports from a committee to be set up on referred resolutions during its quarterly meetings over the coming year.

Protection of Democracy:

Human Rights Held Key to U.S. Policy

Protecting the democratic system and resisting the expansion of totalitarianism must remain the top priorities of American foreign policy, the AFL-CIO declared.

"No other foreign policy holds any interest for the trade union movement, which understands that the effective exercise of trade union rights requires a climate of respect for human rights generally," the federation said in a convention resolution.

Specific recommendations of the convention include:

- The modernization and development of U.S. strategic forces to the fullest extent permissible under the pending SALT II arms control agreement. This is needed to prevent the USSR from achieving—or appearing to achieve—strategic superiority.

- Reassertion of the U.S. commitment to the military, economic and political security of Western Europe, and appropriate steps to overcome the current disarray of the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance.

- Continued speaking out by the Administration against human rights violations in eastern Europe which make a mockery of the Helsinki agreement.

The resolution also took note of the rise in eastern Europe and the USSR of workers' groups demanding trade union rights and human rights generally. "We salute them and express our solidarity with them in the struggle," it declared.

- Increased assistance to the countries of Africa "based on the goal of fostering balanced economic and social development with primary emphasis on more equitable income distribution."

The federation said it is heartened by the progress made in the London Conference on Zimbabwe-Rhodesia and said the U.S. must remain steadfast in its support for the efforts of Britain and the independent states of Africa to insure a true transition to majority rule.

- Continued assistance in the development of representative labor institutions throughout the Caribbean and Latin America as a part of AFL-CIO policy.

"The AFL-CIO will continue to support the initiatives of the growth of democratic trade unionism throughout the region," the resolution declared.

- Continued efforts by the federation toward the growth of strong, free and democratic trade unions throughout Asia. The AFL-CIO already has undertaken a dialogue with Japanese labor movements to redress the dramatic imbalance in trade between the U.S. and Japan, the federation resolution noted.

A section of the resolution opposing the "most-favored-nation" status to mainland China was referred to the Executive Council, which voted to support the language submitted to the convention as being consistent with AFL-CIO policy established at the three previous conventions.

Education Objectives Stalled by Surging Costs

The AFL-CIO remains firmly committed to free universal public education through four years of college, and is just as committed to keeping that goal in reach of worker families.

The runaway in college tuition costs—and current tampering with the student loan program—are major obstacles in higher education, the federation declared.

Nor is higher education the only problem area, as three major steps were urged in federal funding:

- Raising Elementary & Secondary Education Act funds up to the level of authorization.

- Correcting the imbalance in vocational education, a program which lacks systematic, overall national planning and has only 20 percent of its funds allocated to training.

- Fulfillment of the congressional promise to handicapped children by adequately funding the new laws governing federal aid.

The student loan tampering which the convention condemned is a proposal that students pay interest on loans while still in school. While opposing that provision, the federation also said it will work for expansion of the program through legislation to require lending institutions to make more student loans available.

The convention action also moved to put labor behind the effort to preserve the nation's traditionally black colleges, which it said should be preserved because they are meeting the unique requirements of black students while still reaching out to attract students with diverse backgrounds.

The problem with adult education, the resolution emphasized, is access. It urged new methods—both traditional and non-traditional—by which colleges and universities can accommodate adult worker needs, including giving them credits toward a degree for their work experience.

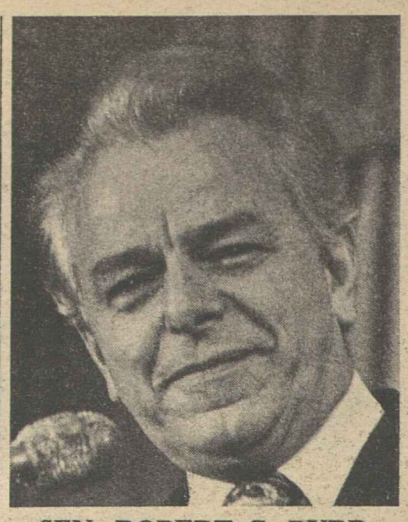
And labor reiterated its opposition to revival of the voucher scheme, in which students are allowed to shop for private or commercial instruction. This kind of undercutting of public education cannot be tolerated, the resolution said.

Union Label Week Observances Set

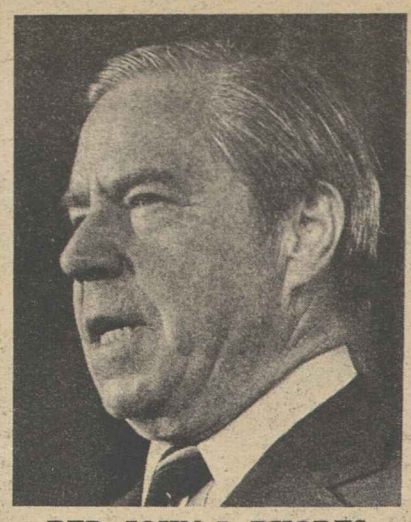
The observance of "Union Label Week" will take place between Sept. 1-6, 1980, and Sept. 6-12, 1981, the AFL-CIO directed at its biennial convention.

The periods are set aside to promote the union label, shop card, store card and service button, thus making the consuming public more aware of the importance of buying union products and services.

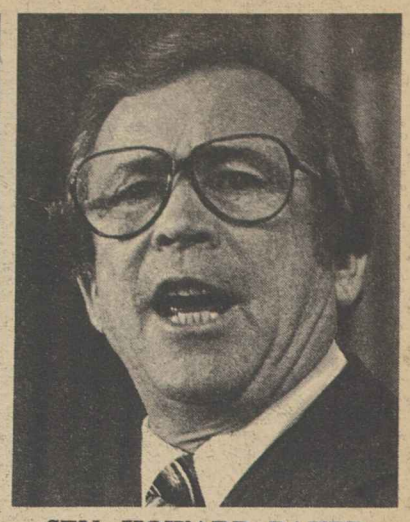
The convention also urged all affiliated unions to participate fully in the AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show in 1980 and in 1981. Produced by the Union Label & Service Trades Dept., the show demonstrates the skills and crafts performed by members of the labor movement.



SEN. ROBERT C. BYRD



REP. JOHN J. RHODES



SEN. HOWARD BAKER

Congressional Leaders Address Need to Solve U.S. Energy Crisis

By David L. Perlman

Democratic and Republican leaders in Congress voiced the nation's unity in the Iran hostages crisis, agreed on the importance of achieving energy independence though not necessarily on how best to do so, and urged widely divergent political paths to America's trade union movement.

From the Senate side, the AFL-CIO convention heard from Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd (W. Va.) and Minority Leader Howard H. Baker, Jr. (Tenn.). Speaker of the House Thomas P. O'Neill (Mass.) and Republican Leader John J. Rhodes (Ariz.) represented the House of Representatives.

O'Neill came to the convention as an old and warm friend of the AFL-CIO. But he spoke also as a national leader, second in line of succession to the presidency and as a chief strategist for his party's legislative program.

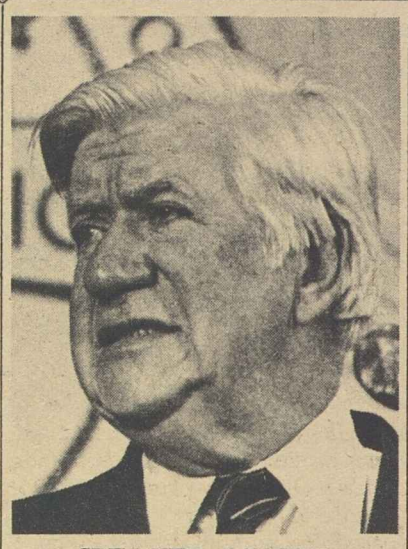
The United States must move quickly towards energy self-sufficiency, O'Neill insisted, and Congress must overcome both regional conflicts and intense lobbying from the various interest groups to achieve it.

"This year, our oil import bill will be $80 billion more than it was in 1973," O'Neill told the delegates. "Just imagine how many jobs, how much capital investment that represents if the money had stayed here at home."

Both the House and Senate have passed bills launching development of synthetic fuels and other alternatives to imported oil, and both bodies have approved creation of an Energy Mobilization Board to cut red tape on construction of energy projects. O'Neill was optimistic that differences between the bills will be speedily resolved and final congressional approval achieved.

On the windfall profits tax, which O'Neill termed "vitally necessary to ensure the success of the energy program," he urged the importance of labor's efforts to get the strongest possible bill through Congress.

Rhodes, speaking as the leader of House Republicans, was frank in differing with labor's position on the windfall profits tax. Corporations need profits to attract investments that make possible expansion, he insisted. And he has "never been able to quite understand" the position of labor publications and trade union leaders who want to "tax the hell" out of the oil companies."



SPEAKER O'NEILL

But Rhodes did find himself in agreement with the AFL-CIO in opposition to any "value-added tax," a sales tax form of levy added to the price of goods at each stage it moves to the marketplace and eventually paid by the consumer.

"It would be terribly inflationary," he agreed, and "labor will pay the biggest share" because VAT "is a direct tax on consumption."

Senate Majority Leader Byrd spoke to the convention gravely of his conclusion that SALT II, the strategic arms limitation treaty with the Soviet Union, should be ratified and that the United States must bolster its national defense in key areas. This must be done whether or not the treaty is approved, Byrd said, "but without SALT II the costs would be greater."

And speaking as the shepherd of a Democratic majority in the Senate that includes "senators with strong records of labor support" who will be facing difficult campaigns next November, Byrd urged delegates to "support your friends."

With an opposition prepared to use the fillibuster weapon to block legislation, as was the case with labor law reform, Byrd stressed, the "new math" is that it takes 60 votes to pass a bill by invoking cloture. A simple majority of 51 is no longer adequate.

Byrd termed "single-issue" politics "one of the things that is going to destroy our political system in this country." A number of senators "with strong records of labor support" have been marked for defeat by various single issue groups, Byrd said, and labor's efforts in the elections are essential.

Baker, the Senate Republican leader who is also an announced candidate for the GOP presidential nomination, chose to stress areas of agreement with the AFL-CIO.

"I will not agree with those who call for a union-free environment," he told the convention. "I do not agree with those who say unions are the cause of inflation." And considering the current inflation rate, "your wage demands by and large have been very reasonabe indeed."

He focused on the need for economic growth, development of all energy sources—from solar to nuclear. And Baker won a round of applause by declaring his support for President Carter in banning the importation of Iranian oil, in freezing Iranian bank accounts and in standing firm on the embassy hostages.

Steps Urged to Correct Airline Safety Practices

President Carter and Congress were urged by the AFL-CIO convention to carefully re-examine current aviation activities in the country and move to restructure and strengthen federal administration to correct safety shortcomings resulting from deregulation of the industry.

"We are concerned," the convention said, "that the imposition of deregulation in the airline industry may be leading to cutbacks in such safety-related areas as aircraft maintenance and training of airline personnel, particularly on commuter airlines, whose growth has been stimulated by deregulation."

The tragic crash of a DC-10 in Chicago last May and other recent aviation accidents have raised unsettling questions about the current level of safety in the United States, the resolution observed.

It charged that some aircraft manufacturers and the Federal Aviation Administration are trying to reduce the number of cockpit crew members in new aircraft solely for economic reasons.

"We are also concerned that the FAA has abused its exemption power in permitting scheduled carriers to operate without the safeguard of flight dispatching," the resolution said.

"While the FAA has a responsibility to promote aviation, it must at the same time ensure the highest level of safety," the convention declared.

Negotiated Plans Asked On Alcoholism, Drugs

Workers' problems with alcoholism, drug abuse and health and personal problems can often be assisted on the job, and every collective bargaining agreement should provide such help, the AFL-CIO said.

"Negotiated union-management programs have proven to be the most effective method of bringing the many community services to our people," the resolution noted.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services has developed models of contract clauses, emphasizing union-management cooperation in detection and arranging treatment for workers.



FOREIGN GUESTS representing free trade unions around the world were among more than 300 such observers at the 13th biennial AFL-CIO convention. They shared the platform with members of the Executive Council, and were introduced at intervals during the four-day convention.

Loopholes Attacked:

Tax Reform Drive Set at All Levels

A strong call for tax justice at all levels of government was sounded by the AFL-CIO convention in a resolution spelling out a program of loophole-closing reforms.

The convention urged the need for efficient operation of government programs to get full value for tax dollars. But it firmly rejected any form of arbitrary budget ceilings or simplistic tax cut formulas that would stray even further from the concept of ability to pay.

"Government budgets must be based on the needs of the people and government's responsibility to meet such needs," the convention said.

At the federal level, the resolution called for reforms that would end special preference to wealthy investors and speculators.

It asked an end to lower taxation of capital gains, which now costs the government billions of dollars in revenue and benefits primarily "the wealthiest one percent of the nation's taxpayers."

It also asked for curbs on the use of tax-exempt state and local bonds, elimination of the "maximum tax provision," and a curtailment of investment "tax shelters" that shield income from taxation through an "artificial loss."

The convention expressed concern at the shrinking share of the nation's tax burden borne by corporations, which now account for only 23 percent of total federal income tax revenues and 14 percent of budget receipts. A decade ago, corporations paid over 30 percent of income taxes and accounted for almost one-fourth of all budget receipts.

Billions of dollars of federal funds have been wasted by giving corporations tax credits "for doing what they would do anyway," the convention said.

It called for ending or cutting back the investment tax credit, wage subsidies to private employers that are given without adequate performance standards, over-generous depreciation writeoffs and other corporate giveways. The resolution also asked rejection of a proposed Capital Cost Recovery Act that it said "would cut corporate taxes in half and destroy the concept of business income for tax purposes."

Another section of the resolution attacked the assortment of tax preferences for multinational corporations that have contributed to the destruction of U.S. jobs and the outflow of capital and technology.

At the state and local level, few government jurisdictions rely substantially on progressive income taxes linked to ability to pay, the convention noted. Six states still have no income tax and four states do not tax corporate profits.

Instead, the resolution protested, a large share of state and local revenues come from inequitable sales taxes and from property taxes that have been pushed up by inflated assessments.

The convention said localities need a property tax to fund services and arbitrary cutbacks reduce revenue and "bestow huge benefits" on wealthy real estate owners without solving any of the basic inequities.

It urged such reforms as "circuit breakers" which provide tax relief for lower-income homeowners, renters and senior citizens.

Further, the AFL-CIO urged, state and federal governments should assume a greater share of local expenditures, especially for education, welfare, health and hospitals.

A separate resolution adopted by the convention gave the AFL-CIO's support to Citizens for Tax Justice.

The resolution praised the group as a "national progressive tax coalition," of which labor is a part, which is working to achieve "real tax reform . . . without cuts in essential government services."

Fight Pledged To Preserve Pay Standards

The AFL-CIO remains firmly committed to preserving the Davis-Bacon Act and other labor standard laws that wage-cutting employer groups seek to weaken or repeal.

A convention resolution also reiterated the continuing need for an effective Service Contract Act, for Walsh-Healey Act standards on government procurement contracts, and for the "little Davis-Bacon Acts" that most states have to assure prevailing wages and benefits on government-funded construction.

Building trades unions haven't given up the decades-long battle for common site picketing rights, and neither has the AFL-CIO, the convention stressed.

A resolution noted that a union having a dispute with one of the contractors working on a construction job still can't picket the common job site—even though under comparable circumstances a union can picket a plant even if some of its workers are represented by other unions.

The convention urged a continued effort to get a bill through Congress.

It supported a bill that has been introduced by Rep. Phillip Burton (D-Calif.) to strengthen the Davis-Bacon Act and expand the right of workers to enforce the law against contractors who fail to pay prevailing wages and benefits. Its title is the Federally Funded Construction Contract Act.

Chilean Unions Get Pledge of Full Support

The AFL-CIO resolved to take such action as may be necessary to defend free trade unions in Chile when and where it is determined by the federation and the democratic Chilean trade union movement to be in the best interests of the Chilean people.

A resolution approved at the federation's biennial convention pointed to the brutal dictatorship of Chilean President Pinochet and his regime's "callous and deliberate attempts to destroy free trade unionism" in Chile.

The AFL-CIO has sought, through the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers, to aid the Chilean labor movement, and has sent personal delegations to visit Gen. Pinochet, the resolution pointed out.

Fraternal Delegates Cite Free Union Ties

Similar economic challenges face the nations of the free world, posing special responsibilities for trade unions, fraternal delegates to the AFL-CIO convention declared.

"More than ever, free trade unions must unite to present their case to the governments of the western world," Lord Allan of the British Trades Union Congress told the convention.

"We all have a duty to remind governments of the great perils that recession and unemployment can bring to our democracies and the values we cherish," he said.

Allan, who is secretary of Britain's Shop, Distributive & Allied Workers, said the recent National Accord between the AFL-CIO and the Carter Administration will extend their dialogue over a wide range of economic policy issues.

W.C.Y. McGregor, representing the Canadian Labor Congress, noted that "our concerns are not substantially different from your own here in the United States."

The challenges include inflation, a soft economy, a right-wing element "that wants to blame labor for all the ills of the economy," imported goods, and the export of jobs, he said.

The 60 percent rise in oil prices in 1979—and the prospect of further rises in 1980—plus the related dislocation of oil supplies have severely disrupted the world economy, Allan pointed out.

The American economy has been particularly hard hit by these events, he said, because of the United States's continuing dependence on oil. The situation has been greatly exacerbated by the "irresponsible" behavior of the oil multinational companies, which "have clearly done very well out of the energy crisis," he pointed out.

"The recent behavior of oil companies is but one further example of the way multinational companies in general can act beyond the control of national governments and can operate against interests of society at large," he said.

For these reasons, he added, the TUC looks forward to working with the AFL-CIO to exert social control over multinational firms through "codes of conduct" drawn up by the United Nations and the Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development.

Allan lashed out at the "deflationary" policies instituted by the world's leading industrial nations to dampen and control inflation.

"Governments must return to a more sensible policy of coordinating expansion rather than orchestrating deflation," he said. "It must be spelled out to the leading industrial nations that growth and inflation-control are not incompatible objectives."

McGregor, who is a vice president of the Railway & Airline Clerks, termed the relationship between the labor movements of the United States and Canada "unique in the world."

The Canadian Labor Congress includes both international unions that operate on both sides of the border and unions limited to Canada. Through the international unions, McGregor noted, "we are able to maintain a degree of awareness and cooperation that exemplifies international solidarity. At the same time, we set and manage our national policies independently."

He told the delegates that while the two labor federations may not always agree, they "manage to accommodate each other's differences to the greatest extent possible."

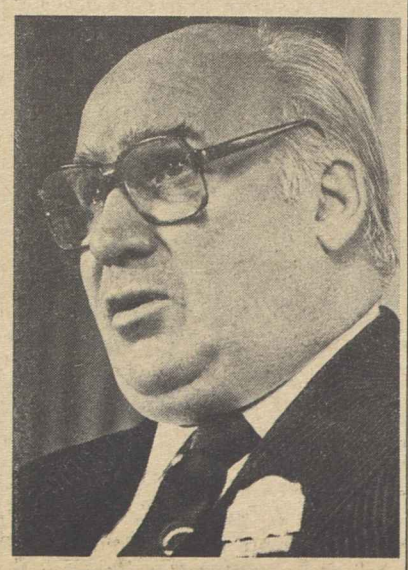
McGregor expressed the hope that the AFL-CIO would be able to resume membership in the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and that the United States will rejoin the International Labor Organization.

Problems on both sides of the U.S.-Canadian border are so similar, McGregor said, that labor's response necessarily is similar.

To workers in Canada as well as in the United States, he told the delegates, George Meany has been admired as "one of the strongest leaders that working people ever had."



LORD ALLAN



W. C. Y. McGREGOR

Olympics Draw Protest On Soviet Suppression

The suppression of Soviet dissidents while the world's news media are gathered in Moscow for the 1980 Olympics was decried by the AFL-CIO convention.

A convention resolution noted the brutal prison sentences given Aleksandr Ginsburg and Anatoly Scharansky were part "of a Soviet pattern to remove from view and earshot" all criticism and dissenting views during the Olympics.

The convention also protested the use of foreign-made and non-union goods and uniforms at the 1980 Winter Olympics, scheduled for Lake Placid, N.Y., in February.

The convention congratulated trade unionists for the letters of protest sent to the U.S. Olympic Committee soon after it was revealed that a Japanese car would be the "official car" of the Winter Olympics and that even the flag U.S. athletes would march behind would be foreign-made.

The resolution noted that labor's protest was instrumental in getting the U.S. Olympic Committee to outfit all American athletes—although not timekeepers and officials—in U.S.-made clothing and accessories.

Jewish Daily Forward Hailed by Delegates

A convention resolution paid tribute to the Jewish Daily Forward, which for more than 30 years has fought alongside the labor movement for social justice and better conditions for workers.

It urged continued support for this unique newspaper from union members and from Americans in all walks of life.

Joint Effort Pressed:

Strict Enforcement Of Job Safety Asked

A joint effort by workers and the federal government is essential to reduce the toll of work-related deaths, injuries and illnesses, the AFL-CIO stressed.

While calling for expanded training and education programs for union members to help them identify occupational hazards, a convention resolution outlined needed steps the White House and federal agencies should take to improve on-the-job safeguards.

It urged President Carter to exempt the Occupational Safety & Health Administration and other agencies from making cost-benefit analyses on proposed rulemaking when their operating statutes contain no such provisions.

OSHA is now under a presidential order to submit these studies to the White House months before new safety and health regulations can be issued.

The resolution pointed out that economic impact studies in the rulemaking processes tend to ignore human values.

Rather than focusing on dollar savings for employers in complying with OSHA standards, the emphasis should be on workers' lives, the resolution stressed.

The convention commended Assistant Labor Sec. Eula Bingham for establishing a task force leading to an enforcement section in OSHA covering the construction industry. But it also cited the need to increase the number of compliance officers in all industries, with particular emphasis on high-risk occupations.

The resolution traced a mounting backlog of worker complaints on safety and health violations to a serious shortage of OSHA inspectors.

The convention renewed the AFL-CIO's call to bring all public employees under full OSHA coverage and, as an interim step, urged President Carter to issue an Executive Order extending immediate coverage to workers in the federal government.

The status of the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health also must be upgraded and the collaboration between NIOSH and OSHA broadened, the resolution urged.

It called on both agencies to lessen their dependence on private groups for standards development while sharply accelerating their own standards development processes.

In other areas of major concern, the convention called for:

- Improved standards to protect workers from the hazards of ionizing radiation in workplaces.
- Federal legislation to shift health and safety programs for railway workers from the Dept. of Transportation to OSHA.
- A comprehensive study by NIOSH into grain dust hazards leading to new occupational health standards and work practices in the industry.

Federal Law to Curb Rail Vandalism Asked

The AFL-CIO gave its full support to legislation before Congress that would make certain acts of vandalism against railroads a federal crime.

Scores of railroad workers in recent years have been killed and injured as the result of such "senseless" acts of vandalism but state and local prosecution of these acts is neither non-existent or does not impose the kind of penalties that serve as a deterrent, the federation said in a resolution.



A SPECIAL FILM originally made by the International Communication Agency for overseas use is presented to outgoing President George Meany at his last Executive Council meeting by John E. Reinhardt, ICA director. The film, "Reflections—George Meany," was shown during the AFL-CIO convention. New AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland noted that a special act of Congress was needed to have the film shown in the United States.

HRDI Efforts Termed Critical in Recession

There is a critical need for the continued activities of the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute as the prospects of economic recession and rising joblessness increase, the convention declared.

HRDI carries the responsibility of providing a wide range of employment and training services on behalf of the labor movement, a convention resolution noted. Working closely with federation affiliates at all levels of organized labor, the institute focuses on the needs of jobless union members, minorities, youths, handicapped persons, women, veterans and others who face the serious problems of chronic unemployment.

The resolution also noted that labor's role in planning and providing employment and training services has been expanded with a congressional restructuring of CETA, the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act.

In outlining a series of AFL-CIO recommendations, the resolution called on HRDI to continue its cooperative efforts with AFL-CIO affiliates, state and local central bodies and local unions in providing technical assistance and educational services, to meet CETA goals.

It said HRDI should provide technical assistance and educational services to unions and to union locals so that they are able to participate fully in the nation's employment and training programs and at the same time assure compliance with applicable collective bargaining agreements.

The resolution also asked HRDI to help state and local central bodies fulfill "responsibilities and opportunities" under the CETA program, and to operate national programs "to meet the special needs of disadvantaged groups."

Hope for Major Cities Tied to Job Policies

The key to rebuilding America's major urban centers is jobs, the AFL-CIO declared, and consequently the plight of the cities is tied to national economic policies.

"The manner in which fiscal and monetary policy is administered by the federal government will determine whether Americans are to be provided the most basic of needs—jobs at decent wages for all those able and willing to work," the convention said.

That dependence on national economic policy stems from cities being caught in a vicious cycle—as businesses and accompanying jobs have been moved to the suburbs, the cities' tax base erodes and neighborhood services decline. That opens a new cycle of flight from the cities, the resolution observed.

But while the cities are dependent on full employment, there are other federal actions that can be taken to revitalize the cities, the convention said.

It urged:

- Each of the federal economic development programs should require "a definite commitment by an employer for a specific number of jobs requiring specific skills" before assistance is extended. "Where such skills are not available, unemployed people should be trained while the facility is being constructed."
- Up-front money grants and below-market interest rates to assist capital investment in urban centers of high unemployment.
- Increased funding for the upgrading and expansion of urban mass transit systems and for subsidizing low public transportation fares.

Israel's Goal Affirmed As Negotiated Peace

Two years after he stood with the Egyptian labor minister in a dramatic AFL-CIO convention moment, Yerucham Meshel of Histadrut returned to say Israel's goal remains the same: "to negotiate peace by talking. You cannot negotiate by shooting."

Meshel, the secretary-treasurer of Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, said the problem of peace in the Middle East remains "to find a solution to the Palestinian problem while at the same time making sure Israel is guaranteed secure and defensible borders."

Meshel expressed sympathy for the plight of the Americans being held hostage in the U.S. embassy in Iran, calling such acts of terrorism "a spreading cancer which can only be stopped by united effort by all who share free and democratic values, principles and ideals."

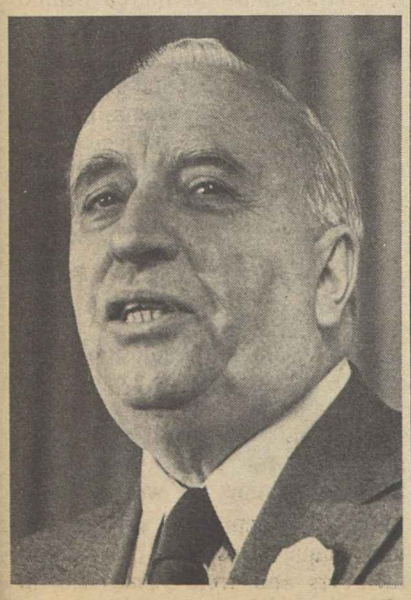
He described himself as uniquely able to sympathize with those being held hostage because he comes from Israel—which has been held hostage by the terrorism of its neighbors since its founding.

"That's why we will never deal with the PLO," Meshel said, "because it is sworn to Israel's destruction."

Meshel said that Israel and Histadrut have a "tried and true friend" in new AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, who "is the inheritor of the George Meany tradition, firmly and unshakeably committed to all the beliefs and values we all cherish and hold in common."

Those values are rooted in trade unionism, Meshel said, and "the never-ending struggle for a new and better world based upon democracy, freedom, human rights and real peace."

And in Israel, Meshel said, those principles are personified by George Meany, "who will forever be enshrined and revered by the people of Israel."



YERUCHAM MESHEL

Prohibition on 'Lie-Detector' Use Pressed

The AFL-CIO urged Congress to outlaw the use of so-called truth-sensing devices on workers as a condition of employment or promotion.

Although medical scientists have rejected these devices as being incapable of measuring a person's truthfulness or honesty, a convention resolution noted that employers are making increasing use of polygraphs, stress analyzers and other pseudo-scientific gadgets on workers.

These "truth tests" violate constitutional rights and invade workers' privacy with questions that often are totally unrelated to their jobs, the convention noted.

"No topic is too private or embarrassing for the 'testers'," the resolution observed. "The workers' relationships and feelings about their parents, spouses and children, the facts and feelings about their sex lives, identification of their innermost fears all are favorite sources of questions" by the operators of the tests.

The resolution also cited congressional testimony and court cases describing how the lives of many workers have been damaged by the use of the "truth" tests.

"They have been denied jobs or dismissed from employment because their blood pressure or respiration rate increased when they were questioned by operators of these 'truth-sensing devices'."

Expressing strong support for enactment of a federal ban on the gadgets in employment, the convention stressed that "free citizens should not have to prove themselves innocent of charges made against them."

Carter Urged To Work for Ulster Peace

A genuine effort by President Carter is needed to resolve the long unrest in Northern Ireland and to end the violence and terrorism, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

Delegates said the United States can no longer neglect the cause of peace in Ulster because the struggle of a small number of people is embarrassing to England, an old ally.

Social and economic discriminations against the Catholic minority continue with no progress toward a political solution, the convention noted. It also pointed out that incidents of violence continue to occur, afflicting Protestants and Catholics alike.

In addition to urging Carter to take an active role in the peace effort, delegates called on the U.S. government to "encourage the British to plan conscientiously and act decisively now for what is inevitable to most outside observers—a future in which the island of Ireland will be governed only by the Irish."

Foreign Language Study Backed by Convention

The AFL-CIO will help promote the study of foreign languages as a method of improving international understanding.

A convention resolution supported the findings of a presidential commission which had labor membership and was named in response to a call for such a study in the Helsinki Agreements.

The resolution also said the AFL-CIO will encourage the passage of legislation that the commission has found necessary.





SUNDAY BRUNCH and a tour of the George Meany Center for Labor Studies in the Washington suburb of Silver Spring, Md., was provided for convention delegates during the weekend recess in the sessions. Visitors were bused to and from the convention hotel and guided about the 47-acre campus. The AFL-CIO purchased the property from the Xaverian Brothers and after extensive remodeling and expansion of the facilities, Meany dedicated the site on Nov. 6, 1974. The center began opertions in a Washington office building and is now celebrating its 10th anniversary.

Counter-Attack Pledged:

Labor Takes Aim At Union-Busters

The AFL-CIO pledged to expose and counter professional union-busters and the companies that hire them.

A series of convention resolutions termed organizing the "major unfinished business of the labor movement" and committed the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services to work with affiliates and central bodies on a broad array of campaigns.

First emphasis was put on exposing the role of the management-hired consultants "whose mission is to destroy existing unions and forestall the organization of new ones."

The convention urged close cooperation between affiliates and the AFL-CIO to exchange information about activities of anti-union consultants. It said training of organizers in "effective counter-tactics" should be a major effort. The labor press is one of the labor movement's resources that should help expose the union-busters, the convention noted.

Facilities of tax-exempt public or private colleges should not be made available to anti-union consultants or employer groups for programs that teach employers how to violate the nation's labor relations law, the convention said.

Other programs mandated by the convention include:

- Support for coordinated organizing programs now in progress and continued exploration of the opportunities for other such multi-union programs.
- Assistance to affiliates in support of authorized boycotts, such as those against J. P. Stevens and non-union iceberg lettuce. This includes coordination with central bodies, various support groups and the AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept.
- Strengthening central bodies and encouraging affiliation and participation of local unions.
- Continuing to seek the transfer of directly affiliated local unions to national and international unions able to help them in collective bargaining and contract enforcement.
- Continued help to the Farm Workers in their efforts to bring collective bargaining to agriculture.
- Support of organizing efforts by employees of non-profit agencies, soliciting community support for these efforts and committing the AFL-CIO to use its influence nationally against organizations that seek to keep their workers from organizing and bargaining.

The convention praised the work of the National Organizing Coordinating Committee, which is made up of organizing directors of AFL-CIO affiliates. It urged participation by all unions in the program.

"In order to protect the right of workers to form unions," the convention said, "the labor movement must find new ways to neutralize unfair tactics, intensify organizing programs and strengthen mutual support through inter-union coordinated organizing techniques."

Forum Focuses On Anti-Union 'Consultants'

An organizing conference during the AFL-CIO convention focused on a trade-union counter-offensive against the union-busting activities of labor consultants.

The program, sponsored by the Dept. of Organization & Field Services, also covered coordinated organizing campaigns. The 170 participants gave up a Sunday "off-day" at the convention to take part in the conference.

Organizing & Field Services Director Alan Kistler opened the program with a review of efforts that have been undertaken, and experts in a number of related fields, including a panel of union attorneys, discussed aspects of the program.

Participants included Thomas R. Donahue, who was elected AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer the following day and who underscored the importance the AFL-CIO attaches to a vigorous organizing effort in the next few years.

Renewed Support Pledged Struggle Of J. P. Stevens Workers for Justice

The AFL-CIO pledged its full support of the long-standing battle for economic justice at J. P. Stevens & Co. and called on all affiliates and their members to continue to refrain from buying products of the anti-union textile firm.

At the same time, it urged the National Labor Relations Board to set appropriate fines and again seek an injunction against Stevens to keep it from committing further violations of federal labor law.

"We urge the NLRB to reinstate its petition for a nationwide injunction" against Stevens, the federation said in a convention resolution. The NLRB had instituted such a suit and withdrew it when the company pleabargained with the board to escape the injunction, it noted.

The resolution pointed to an existing contempt finding of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals providing for a $100,000 fine for each new violation plus $5,000 for each day the violation continues.

For 17 years, the resolution said, Stevens has pursued a campaign of deliberate violation of the nation's labor laws "and each year has been more flagrant and more brazen in its calculated contempt for decency and for the humane treatment of its workers."

Within the past few months, the Stevens plant manager in Milledgeville, Ga., was unmasked as a prime participant in a conspiracy to violate the constitutional rights of organizers from the Clothing & Textile Workers and to spy on workers who were meeting with them.

Five years ago, 3,500 workers in seven Stevens plants in Roanoke Rapids, N.C., voted in an NLRB election to be represented by what is now ACTWU. The company was forced to come to the bargaining table, but it has consistently refused to bargain in good faith, the resolution noted.

The NLRB has found the company guilty of not bargaining in good faith in Roanoke Rapids and using the delays in the collective bargaining process to "chill the ardor of employees" supporting the union at other Stevens plants. Further "bad faith bargaining" charges are currently being processed.

Also, the NLRB recently ordered Stevens to bargain with ACTWU for workers at its Wallace, N.C., plants because the company conducted a campaign of sustained intimidation there that prevented the workers from exercising a free choice in a 1975 election. In an unprecedented action, the agency ordered Stevens to reimburse the union for the costs of organizing the Wallace workers and for the costs of litigating the case.

The NLRB pointed out that this "latest illegal conduct came while Stevens was under a U.S. Court of Appeals contempt citation for earlier violations."

At another Stevens plant in Statesboro, Ga., where the union had earlier achieved bargaining rights, the company closed the plant rather than permit a union to get a foothold anywhere in the chain.

"The courageous struggle of the Stevens workers is of special concern to all members of the trade union movement here and throughout the world," the convention declared.

"By flaunting its contempt of the law and continuing its notorious record of anti-unionism, J. P. Stevens has thrown down the gauntlet and is challenging not only the Clothing & Textile Workers Union, but the labor movement in general and the entire concept of law and order in our society."

Steps Urged to Achieve Jobs Goal for Disabled

Labor's long-standing objectives of achieving full employment opportunities for handicapped individuals and eliminating discrimination against disabled workers were reaffirmed at the AFL-CIO convention.

Delegates stressed the continuing need for clauses in collective bargaining agreements to assure that disabled union members are allowed to retain jobs they are able to handle.

The convention called on affiliates to support efforts to carry out the intent of legislation requiring federal contractors to use affirmative action in the hiring and promotion of qualified handicapped workers.

It also urged affiliates to back efforts for the elimination of architectural barriers that prevent many handicapped persons from entering workplaces or participating in normal activities. In addition, it called on AFL-CIO unions to participate in programs to rehabilitate disabled workers and place them in jobs.

An accompanying resolution called on Congress to amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to outlaw discrimination against the handicapped.

The measure, initiated by Sen. Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.), was described as providing the hope of equal employment opportunity for millions of Americans that does not now exist.

It noted that the unemployment rate for disabled workers, particularly male adults, is more than double that of the non-disabled.

"Our failure to provide work for these individuals burdens the economy for all taxpayers and wastes the skills and talents of millions," the resolution stressed.

Housing Drop Prompts Credit Allocation Call

High interest rates have already started the homebuilding industry into a decline, the AFL-CIO declared as it called for a series of measures to allocate credit to alleviate the housing crisis.

Even as homebuilding declines, a convention resolution noted, "large amounts of credit are extended for corporate takeovers of companies, for foreign industries or international money market speculation and other non-essential purposes."

Consequently, the convention called for actions—most of them dealing directly with credit allocation—"to increase housing production to a level required to meet national needs, place adequate housing within the economic reach of all families, combat inflation in housing and decrease unemployment."

Among those measures was a call to President Carter to use a 1969 law to authorize the Federal Reserve Board to exercise selective measures for credit regulation that would prevent housing "from bearing the brunt of tight-money policies."

Other proposals included:

- Release of $1 billion in emergency funds for single-family home buyers.
- Reduction of mortgage interest rates in government subsidized programs and increased funds for public and rental housing assistance programs.

The convention resolution argued that besides enabling low-income families to buy houses, such action would stimulate the production of tens of thousands of additional assisted homeownership units.

The building crisis in housing must end, it was noted, because between 1970 and 1979, the median prices increased 157 percent for new homes and 126 percent for existing homes. With workers' payrolls increasing only 75 percent over the same period, the nation is daily leaving fewer and fewer wage earners capable of affording adequate housing, the convention warned.

Multi-Faceted Program:

Sound Transportation System Backed as Essential to Nation

A sound transportation system that safely, efficiently, economically and conveniently moves people and goods is essential to the nation's well-being, the AFL-CIO declared.

Such a system would expand employment opportunities, generate new investment, protect the environment, support national security requirements, and help forward the nation's energy goals, it pointed out in a convention resolution.

"This requires a joint effort on the part of government, the industry, and labor to design and develop the programs required to meet this need," the resolution observed.

For the railroad industry, the resolution called on the federal government to provide funds to make Amtrak a first-rate national rail passenger service and to put a moratorium on cutbacks in service.

Continued federal commitment is required to rehabilitate ConRail, the resolution noted. It also opposed railroad deregulation, and called for a study of possible nationalization of the industry.

The federation also urged the Administration to abandon its efforts to subvert the will of Congress by reducing annual appropriations to the Railroad Retirement trust fund mandated by the 1974 amendments to the Railway Labor Act.

"The budget should reflect those amounts necessary to restore the fund toward solvency," the resolution said. "Annual efforts to reduce necessary levels of funding are driving the fund closer to insolvency and ultimately to denying benefits to rail workers."

The resolution called upon the United States to re-establish itself as a maritime power. It noted that the maritime industry in this country has been in a continual state of decline and, as a result, jobs have been lost and the nation's security and its economy have been weakened.

No less than 50 percent of U.S. government-generated cargoes should be carried in U.S.-flag vessels, the AFL-CIO said.

"Only 5 percent of total U.S. imports and exports are carried in U.S.-built, owned and manned ships," the resolution noted.

In addition to the obvious benefits to the nation's security, it cited greater protection of the marine environment and the safety of life and property at sea because of superior U.S. construction standards and workmanship.

As for the bus and trucking industry, the federation also warned against proposed deregulation.

"Consideration of this drastic legislation should be postponed until there is evidence of the long-range impact of airline deregulation," the AFL-CIO declared.

Airline deregulation, brought about by legislation enacted in October 1978, has created concern about adverse effects on airline safety. The labor protection provision of the airline deregulation law should be strengthened, including removal of any triggering device, the AFL-CIO said.

In a related resolution, the federation urged Congress to continue financial assistance to the Rock Island, Milwaukee and Boston & Maine railroads to keep them in existence until a viable alternative can be worked out by management, labor, and the government. The three carriers are in various stages of bankruptcy proceedings.

Another resolution expressed the AFL-CIO's support for completion of the national interstate highway system.

The federation also declared its strong support for legislation pending in Congress to improve the enforcement of motor carrier regulations and to protect employees who report violations of such rules.

Present motor carrier safety regulations do not adequately protect operators, nor do they afford the traveling public sufficient protection, the resolution said.

Commitment Renewed For Consumer Efforts

The continuing commitment of the AFL-CIO to consumer protection programs in the interests of its members and the public was pledged by the convention.

It commended the efforts of regulatory agencies such as the Federal Trade Commission, the Food & Drug Administration, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission to guard consumers against unsafe and defective products and to promote honest and fair business dealings.

A convention resolution urged full funding for these agencies and rejected efforts to weaken laws and regulations protecting consumers.

"We therefore oppose efforts to undercut timely and effective rulemaking by regulatory agencies through either the so-called legislative veto or the added red tape requirement of an economic impact statement," the resolution said.

"We demand that the added health of the American people and savings in health costs and lost work time be quantified to balance actual dollar costs of business compliance with regulations protecting public health."

The federation declared its backing for establishment of a consumer agency within the Executive Branch of government, enactment of federal minimum standards for no-fault auto insurance, and for a full-scale congressional investigation of the entire insurance industry.

It also urged state and local central bodies to continue their efforts in state legislatures to place fair limits on charges and fees for consumer credit and to resist increases in such charges.

Mine Safety Law Exemptions Fought

The AFL-CIO voiced strong opposition to all attempts in Congress to eliminate workers in stone, sand and gravel operations from coverage of the Mine Safety & Health Act.

A convention resolution warned that protections of the law could be jeopardized either through new legislation or appropriations measures, stemming from an employer campaign in Congress.

It pointed out that coverage of the law would be undermined in an appropriations bill for fiscal year 1980 that would prohibit the Mine Safety & Health Administration from using funds for training programs in surface mining operations. Other measures introduced in both the House and Senate would remove workers in the stone, sand and gravel industry from the law's protections.

Revival of U.S. Merchant Fleet Called Vital to National Security

The AFL-CIO called for a series of actions to revitalize the U.S. merchant marine and the American shipbuilding industry and thereby strengthen national security.

Despite its importance, the maritime industry today stands in the greatest danger and the U.S.-flag fleet is in a sad state of neglect, the federation warned in a resolution.

"The United States is the largest trading nation in the world, yet American-flag vessels carry an alarmingly small 5 percent of our imports," the resolution pointed out.

"We have placed ourselves in a position of nearly total dependence on foreign vessels for the carriage of the imports needed to maintain our jobs and industries and the exports required for our economic survival."

The convention said the United States must adopt a specific declaration of national maritime needs and objectives and then carry out that policy with a clear understanding of the essential role of American-flag ships and shipbuilding.

"Compromises and old remedies may prevent the outright collapse of the industry, but a far-reaching and aggressive national maritime program must be enacted if the U.S. maritime industry is to be returned to its rightful position," the federation declared.

New initiatives are essential, it said, among them:

- **The negotiation of bilateral shipping agreements with the nation's trading partners.** Such agreements usually call for each nation to share equally in the transportation of oceanborne trade. Thus far, the United States has negotiated only one truly bilateral trade agreement—that with the USSR for the shipment of American grain to Russia.

Such agreements would increase U.S. sailings and maritime employment, protect against overtonnaging, and provide entry to restricted trades, the resolution noted.

- Maintaining a strong U.S. shipbuilding industry. New vessel orders for U.S. shipyards have been reduced to a trickle, the convention noted, and only six vessels have been delivered this year under the construction-subsidy program.

- Utilizing the U.S. merchant marine as a military auxiliary fleet ready to serve in national emergencies.

- Eliminating the Virgin Islands' loophole in the Jones Act, which was enacted in 1920 to protect domestic waterborne shipping from foreign intrusion. It exempted the Virgin Islands from its provisions because there seemed little possibility then that significant trade would develop between the islands and the mainland.

As a result of this loophole, the world's largest oil refinery is located in the Virgin Islands and a second refinery is planned. The majority of the oil is shipped in foreign-flag tankers.

- Initiating incentives to rebuild the U.S.-flag dry-bulk fleet. Only a handful of U.S. bulk vessels are now in operation. The AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Dept. has formulated legislative proposals that could increase U.S.-flag carriage of the nation's dry-bulk foreign trades to a 10 percent share by the year 2000.

- Implementation of a national energy and minerals policy. The U.S. merchant marine must be considered an essential component of such a policy, the federation resolution said.

Lettuce Boycott Pressed To Win Fair Contracts

Full support of labor's consumer boycott of non-union iceberg lettuce until the Farm Workers win fair settlements with California and Arizona growers was reaffirmed by the AFL-CIO.

A convention resolution noted that more than 4,000 workers have been on strike since January in the UFW's efforts to raise wages in the lettuce industry above the poverty level.

"The lettuce boycott will end when lettuce growers cease to violate the law and the rights of their employees and go to the bargaining table to negotiate just and fair contracts with the United Farm Workers," the convention declared.

Delegates also commended the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for endorsing the UFW boycott, stressing that the board deserves the support of all San Franciscans and the business community. The resolution assailed the American Farm Bureau Federation for attacks on the board and pressure tactics by business groups to have city officials rescind support for the UFW cause.

Shipyard Workers Win Pledge of Full Support

The Steelworkers drew a convention commendation for the union's election victory at the huge Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., along with a pledge of support if the USWA finds it necessary to take economic action to win a just contract.

"We will also call this case to the attention of Congress as one more reason for mandating passage of the Labor Law Reform Act," the convention declared in a resolution.

Despite overwhelming odds and fierce opposition, the Steelworkers organized the shipyard's 15,500 production and maintenance workers, ousting a long entrenched company union.

The organizing victory became a reality, however, only after the union prevailed in a protracted legal batle with the shipyard's owner, Tenneco Inc.

Following the union's certification on Oct. 27, 1978, the company refused to bargain and dragged the matter to the National Labor Relations Board, the courts, back to the NLRB and back to the courts again, raising frivolous issues in the process.

Finally, the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond last month rejected the last of the company's challenges and enforced an NLRB order directing the firm to begin bargaining with the USWA. The company has announced its belated acquiescence in the Steelworkers' majority status, and bargaining has now been scheduled.

During that protracted period, the union conducted a lengthy strike to speed up the legal processes and counter Tenneco's tactics.

"The strike did accomplish its purpose of expediting the interminable legal maneuvers available to the company under the NLRB and its many loopholes," the AFL-CIO resolution observed.

USWA President Lloyd McBride said at the time of the federal appeals court ruling last month that while pleased with the finding, "we are concerned that the workers' democratically expressed desire can be frustrated so long while the weakness of the labor law is exploited."

The shipyard is Virginia's largest private employer, building many of the U.S. Navy's nuclear ships and submarines.

Arts Unions Win Backing On NLRA Issue

The AFL-CIO urged Congress to extend certain special provisions of the National Labor Relations Act to the performing arts industry to promote labor relations in that field.

The provisions, Section 8(e) and 8(f), were added to the NLRA in 1959 because of unique characteristics in the garment and building and construction industries. The two sections deal with union shop provisions and pre-hiring agreements.

A convention resolution noted that since many of the circumstances that led to the enactment of the provisions 20 years ago also prevail in the arts and entertainment industry today, they should be extended to that sector.

The resolution also called for amending the NLRA to make it clear that performers are not to be treated as independent contractors or employers but should enjoy all the benefits of the federal labor law as employees.

Pension Fund Holdings Cited as Boycott Weapon

The AFL-CIO called upon its affiliates whose members' pension funds own stock in Seattle-First National Bank and Winn-Dixie stores to request the fund managers to urge the two companies to adopt labor policies consistent with the laws of the land.

If the firms continue to violate employee rights, the federation said in a resolution, the pension fund managers should vote their stockholdings in favor of stockholder resolutions to ensure employee rights.

The two companies are the object of national boycotts by organized labor. Winn-Dixie has relentlessly violated the National Labor Relations Act over the past two and a half decades while Seattle-First clearly seeks to destroy its employees' union, the convention resolution declared.

The bank employees voted to affiliate with the Food & Commercial Workers in March 1978, but despite rulings of the National Labor Relations Board, the bank has refused to negotiate in good faith on a contract.

Winn-Dixie's violations have resulted in contempt of court citations for denial of basic workers' rights, yet the court rulings have not stopped the company from trampling on the rights of workers to organize, bargain collectively, and receive dignity on the job, the convention declared.

"In the spirit of trade union solidarity, workers and their organizations should come to the aid of their brothers and sisters in need," it said.

NAACP Head Affirms Solidarity of Alliance

Longtime allies in the labor and civil rights movements must "come together and exercise muscle" if progress is to continue in America, Benjamin Hooks told the convention.

Hooks, executive director of the NAACP, said America is in trouble both at home and abroad. At home, the evidence ranges from the Proposition 13 tax mentality to the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan, he said.

Looking back, Hooks thanked the AFL-CIO for "putting up $800,000 to make sure the NAACP did not go out of business" when it had a $1.6 million judgment against it in a Mississippi boycott suit. And he said "I want to congratulate you for the spirit" of the federation's fight to end discrimination within the ranks of labor and for consistently looking out for all workers, not just union members.

Looking forward, Hooks said labor and the NAACP now have the opportunity "to implement the full and broad meaning of the Weber case," the Supreme Court decision in which the Steelworkers' affirmative action program at Kaiser Aluminum was upheld.

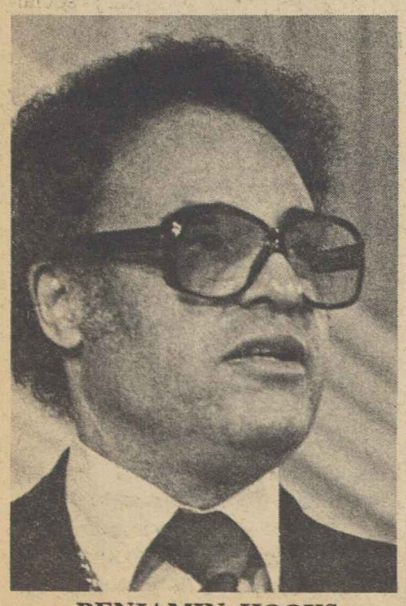
For the present, Hooks said the allies will stay together to battle for minimum wage, fulfillment of the promise of the Humphrey-Hawkins full employment legislation, winning the J. P. Stevens boycott and proving the words "right-to-work" are "a damnable lie" as applied to the compulsory open shop laws proposed in Missouri and enacted in Louisiana.

He said that the NAACP will rejoin the fight for labor law reform at any time it is asked and that it understands labor's goal of fair trade, "which means there will be no exploitation of foreign labor at the expense of American laboring men and women and that multinational companies don't move the jobs of Americans" abroad.

"There is a round of conservatism that threatens to undo much of the progress that has been made," Hooks said of the era since California enacted Proposition 13.

"I see the rise of the Nazi party and when I see the Ku Klux Klan, when I see the enemies of human progress everywhere raising their ugly heads, I know that this nation is in trouble," Hooks said.

"Those who put on night sheets and pillow cases and ride down the streets with grips and gloves and shotguns . . . may come after blacks in the morning—but remember they will be after labor in the afternoon."



BENJAMIN HOOKS

Hatch Act Reform Demanded:

Economic, Political Parity Asked for U.S. Employees

Federal government employees should have the maximum possible parity with the private sector, the AFL-CIO affirmed in a series of convention resolutions. And it made clear that the concept of equality applies to political as well as economic rights.

The federation called for major revisions in the Hatch Act and in comparable state and local laws that bar government workers from full participation in America's political system.

Some 2.8 million persons are restricted by the federal law alone, the convention noted.

"Hatch Act reform is a human and civil rights issue," the AFL-CIO declared. It termed denial of political rights because of employment as indefensible as denial because of race, religion or sex.

On pay-setting procedures for federal workers, the convention deplored the repeated departures from the concept of full salary and wage comparability with the private sector.

Only strong pressure from the labor movement persuaded the President not to again clamp a 5.5 percent pay ceiling on federal workers in a year of double-digit inflation and allow a 7 percent "guideline" raise, the convention noted.

It committed the AFL-CIO to work to assure that any form of wage limitations "be equal in degree, impact and application to both federal and private sector workers."

The convention also called for legislation to strengthen the assurance of salary comparability that is supposed to be provided under a 1970 law and to remove the President's authority to disregard comparability findings and reduce the amount of pay adjustments.

It reiterated labor's belief that collective bargaining is the best means to set conditions of employment and pledged the AFL-CIO to support "affiliates who represent federal workers in their efforts to achieve collective bargaining rights equivalent to those enjoyed by the private sector."

Other resolutions adopted by the convention:

● Protested the congressional policy by adding controversial amendments to appropriations bills that, as has been the case in the House-Senate dispute over anti-abortion amendments, result in paychecks being delayed or reduced because needed funds have not been voted.

● Asked the Senate to re-establish its Post Office & Civil Service Committee with jurisdiction parallel to the House committee. The Senate abolished the committee in its last reorganization.

● Reiterated the AFL-CIO's strong support for legislation that would reduce the workweek of fire fighters employed at government installations from 72 to 56 hours without loss of pay. The House and Senate passed such a bill by large margins in the previous Congress, but President Carter vetoed it. The federation urged the President to drop his opposition and support enactment of "this overdue legislation."

● Expressed concern at the economic impact of defense base closing on employees and communities in a resolution urging Congress to review procedures for closing bases or shifting functions. It urged a requirement for a one-year advance notice.

● Endorsed in a resolution dealing with contracting-out government work to private industry "the principle that public work which has traditionally been performed by public employees should continue to be so done and that work traditionally assigned to the private sector remain in that category.

● Opposed the phaseout of the civilian technician program of the National Guard and the military reserves and their replacement by military personnel.

● Urged Congress and the Administration to provide full funding for three agencies that deal with labor-management issues involving federal workers—the Federal Labor Relations Authority, Merit System Protection Board and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Jobs, Social Programs Key to Black Progress

If the 1980s are to see blacks finally win full equality in America, Vernon Jordan told the convention, then it must be a decade in which both blacks and whites achieve the long-sought goals of full employment, affirmative action, national health insurance and adequate housing.

"The black agenda for the 1980s transcends race, sex and region," Jordan said, but he noted the unemployment figures for blacks are now exactly what they were for all Americans in the depression of the 1930s.

Consequently, Jordan said, "the black community and the labor movement must cement their alliance" to avoid letting "the ugly scenario play itself out so the 1980s become the decade in which the gains of the 1960s are finally wiped out."

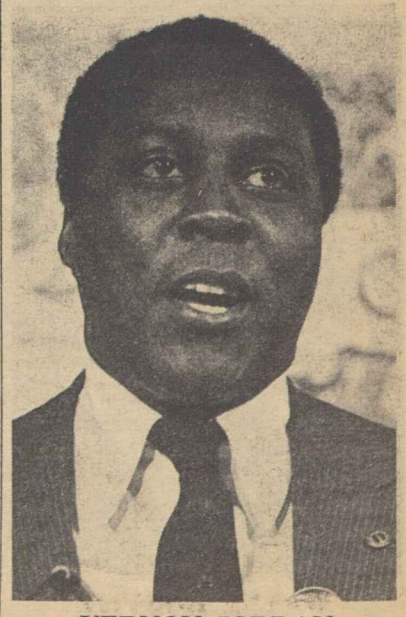
Jordan is executive director of the National Urban League, which he said "stands shoulder to shoulder with unionists in the fight for an integrated, open, pluralistic society."

Those shared goals are not just at home, but also in Iran, he noted.

"The freeing of the black and female hostages in Iran is a cynical attempt to divide the American public. Black Americans refuse to be the pawns of the Ayatollah Khomeini."

Unity must also be shown at home, Jordan said, where the "nation's economic policymakers are busy penalizing poor and working people" regardless of race. For poor people, inflation is not a matter of changing vacation plans, but of becoming "involuntary vegetarians" because it hits at housing, heating, health and food.

It is to end that "permanent economic depression" for blacks that the Urban League continues to look to the AFL-CIO to lead the way in preventing workers from "being sacrificed to the budget-cutters," Jordan said.



VERNON JORDAN

Labor's Civil Rights Goals Linked To Demand for Full Employment

The best possible affirmative action program is full employment, the AFL-CIO declared in pledging to continue its support for integration, outreach programs and enactment of ERA and for allies who share those goals.

While reaffirming support for affirmative action, the convention vowed that "we will oppose any efforts to destroy the seniority system" and hailed recent court decisions for taking those two issues out of an either/or confrontation.

In a separate convention action, the AFL-CIO urged enactment of the Fair Housing Act of 1979, legislation written in the wake of a national survey finding that a "black person has a 62-percent chance of encountering discrimination in the purchase of a home and a 75-percent chance in the rental of one" and similar problems are faced by Hispanics, Asian-Americans, women and the handicapped.

Included in the bill, which the convention said would finish the job of the 1969 law by the same name, is a provision for federal enforcement powers on behalf of blacks or handicapped persons "after a full hearing establishes discrimination."

Some of the measures advocated by the convention included reaffirmation of longstanding AFL-CIO goals or programs. Among them are:

● Continued emphasis on the outreach principle to recruit blacks, women and minorities, "which has been so successful in the construction trades and should be expanded into new sectors of the economy."

● ERA enactment, which entails holding off right-wing attempts to have state referenda undo the recent congressional gain of deadline extension to 1982.

● The community groups to which the AFL-CIO pledges support and urges affiliates to do the same include such longstanding labor allies as the A. Philip Randolph Institute, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, NAACP and National Urban Coalition as well as such relatively new organizations as the Coalition for Labor Union Women and the Labor Council for Latin-American Advancement.

● Designation by every affiliate of a person to work with the AFL-CIO Dept. of Civil Rights on relations with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The federation pledged continued cooperation with the EEOC "wherever it's possible to find efficient and equitable solutions to employment discrimination charges."

Cooperation from the EEOC under the Carter Administration was judged by the Executive Council to be an area of major improvement in the two years between conventions.

Voluntary Checkoff:

Stronger Financing Spurred for COPE

More financing of union political efforts through voluntary dues checkoff and more involvement through local COPEs were called for by the convention as the only way the labor movement can offset the burgeoning business, trade association and right-wing political action committees.

"The closer COPE is to the member, the more effective COPE will be," the convention said. The resolution called for a COPE committee in every local union, a full-scale effort by all affiliated international unions to promote voluntary contributions via payroll deduction, and "increased communications by unions and central bodies with union members on the major issues and on the records of office holders."

The urgency, the resolution emphasized, is that corporate political contributions through PACs "have increased alarmingly and their organizational effectiveness has grown as well. They can be offset only by commensurate growth in the effectiveness and funding of COPE programs."

Both the corporate PACs and the worker response of voluntary payroll deductions for COPE are relatively new to American politics. Corporate PACs have proliferated under changes made since 1974 by congressional action, court rulings and Federal Election Commission administrative decisions.

In its report to the convention, the Executive Council estimated that corporate PAC spending will reach the unprecedented level of $100 million in 1980. By the last elections in 1978, the number of corporate PACs had grown to 1,300 with at least 15 highly active right-wing groups contributing $55 million to conservative and business-oriented candidates.

Those 1978 elections were not as damaging to labor and liberals as was projected early in the year, but the council noted the loss of Senators Dick Clark of Iowa, Wendell Anderson of Minnesota, Floyd Haskell of Colorado and William Hathaway of Maine. The projection of a loss of 25-30 House seats was reduced to 12 and the loss of 8 to 10 senators was reduced to a net of three.

Also worrisome, it was reported, is the declining turnout of voters in recent elections, presidential and off-year alike. That is bad news for candidates who are the allies of labor, minority groups and liberals. The turnout of trade union members stayed ahead of the national average, but is still following the national trend of a decline, it was reported.

Federal Ban Sought On Professional Scabs

People who hire out to break strikes have no place in the American industrial scene, the AFL-CIO declared.

A convention resolution called for a federal law and supporting state and local legislation "to prohibit recruitment, transportation training, hiring and use of professional strikebreakers."



REPORTERS COVERED the convention closely for the wire services, papers, magazines, radio and television as the historic events of the 13th convention unfolded.

Changes Urged to Correct Flaws In Pension Protection Legislation

A series of legislated changes is needed to correct the flaws in the 1974 pension protection law to make it work better for wage earners and their families, the AFL-CIO convention declared.

Citing experiences of the past five years, the convention said certain provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) are unsatisfactory and its administration is unwieldy.

The pension resolution cited inefficiency, duplication of effort, and delays stemming from the administration of ERISA that "have often hurt the people that the program was intended to help."

It called on Congress to amend the law by:

- Creating a single agency, preferably in the Labor Dept., to administer ERISA.
- Revising existing cumbersome administrative machinery.
- Protecting pension rights of public employees.
- Improving termination insurance for multiemployer plans.
- Clarifying ambiguous language that poses a danger of harmful interpretations and court decisions.

The resolution also urged Congress to reject discriminatory tax proposals that would encourage provisions for retirement security outside the framework of collective bargaining.

The federation has repeatedly called for the creation of a separate agency for the administration of ERISA, which has been hampered by the division of jurisdiction between the Labor Dept. and the Treasury Dept.

Special congressional action is essential to address the inadequate provisions in the law relating to multiemployer plans, the resolution noted. While the law provides needed protections for single-employer plans, it does not extend these safeguards to workers in multiemployer plans.

In its report to the convention, the Executive Council had warned that about 10 percent of multiemployer plans are experiencing financial difficulties that could result in their termination during the next decade.

The cost of covering those failing plans, estimated at $8.3 billion, would place a severe strain on the termination insurance program and the sound plans that contribute to it.

To meet the special needs of multiemployer plan termination insurance coverage, the convention urged Congress to:

- Provide a mechanism to aid failing industry plans that will not overly increase premiums of healthier plans and place them in serious jeopardy.
- Allow failing plans to be reorganized and to secure assistance from the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. when the only reasonable alternative is termination.
- Establish guarantee levels for collectively bargained plans to meet the best interests of their participants.
- Amend liability provisions to encourage employers to continue participation in the plans.

A proposal calling for the creation of pension, health and welfare departments within the AFL-CIO and its state and local central bodies was turned down by the convention.

In recommending nonconcurrence, the Resolutions Committee said that it would be inappropriate to call on the federation to set up such departments since the AFL-CIO is already deeply involved in pension, health and welfare activities.

Horvitz Calls for Effort To Bolster Bargaining

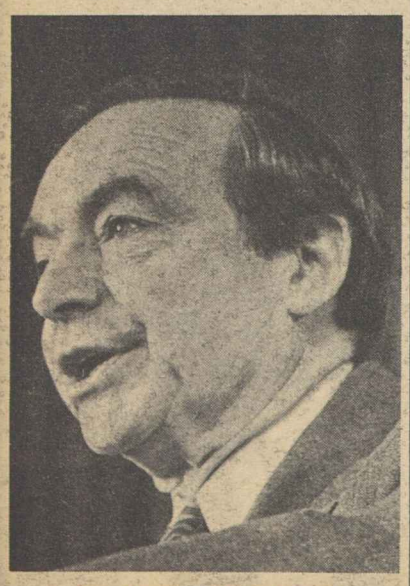
Collective bargaining can be strengthened by the very parties directly involved—labor and management—if they make fuller use of the process, the government's top mediator declared at the AFL-CIO convention.

Wayne Horvitz, director of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, said unions understand their role and responsibility in the collective bargaining process by striving to completely represent the interests of their members.

"That is no easy task in these days of guideline arithmetic, cost-of-living indexing, jawboning and wishboning," he conceded.

Although collective bargaining has served labor and management well over the years, Horvitz observed, it is now under severe strain because of attempts to circumvent it.

"There has been a growing tendency on the part of both labor and management to shirk some of their responsibilities at the bargaining table to change healthy, necessary, adversary bargaining to confrontation politics," he charged.



WAYNE HORVITZ

Instead of working out settlements through negotiations, they "seek solutions to their problems from arbitrators, from halls of Congress, from courts . . . even from mediators."

While these institutions have a place in society, they are not collective bargaining, he stressed.

"There is ample historical evidence to prove that when labor and management take the course of leaving the settlement of their mutual problem to others, the resulting solution is usually not in the best interest of either party," Horvitz said.

Further, he warned, the vacuum created by the failure of labor and management to reach settlements through bargaining could be filled by a law, federal regulation or edict that could hurt both parties in the long run.

As imperfect as collective bargaining is, Horvitz said, no better system has been devised to resolve common problems—"and, in fact, there is no better way if collective bargaining is to remain the instrument which is controlled by you and your counterparts in management."

TV Import Curbs Found Inadequate

The AFL-CIO vowed to take whatever steps are necessary to "revitalize" the U.S. manufacture of television sets and obtain other relief from import damage suffered by workers in related U.S. electronics industries.

A convention resolution noted that a labor-management group called COMPACT, the Committee to Preserve American Color Television, had proved its point to the International Trade Commission—only to find the remedies agreed to by the U.S. government "inadequate, imposed too late, or both, to prevent further job destruction in the TV industry."

Unfair trade practices have cost thousands of jobs and the AFL-CIO will continue "to seek revision of inadequate remedies now available, so that the domestic television and related electronic industry can be revitalized."

Labor's Stand Outlined On Regulatory Reform

Regulatory reform is a phrase that covers a lot of very differing interpretations, and the AFL-CIO carefully spelled out labor's position in a convention resolution.

The federation made clear its continued opposition to the so-called "legislative veto"—a proposed procedure that would allow either the Senate or the House to strike down rules issued by various government agencies to carry out laws.

This is not the role of Congress, the federation said, and it would threaten "the effectiveness of regulatory agencies in protecting the public interest."

The resolution stressed that each regulatory problem is distinct and a law passed to deal with one facet could end up destroying the effectiveness of another agency's operations.

It said the AFL-CIO will oppose measures that require a cost-benefit justification on matters affecting health, safety and the environment.

It reiterated labor's opposition to legislation that would provide new grounds for litigation. And it stressed that the procedures for selecting administrative law judges should minimize political influence and "recognize that specialized agencies are best served by a corps of administrative law judges with specialized knowledge in the same field."

Within these limitations, the resolution said, the federation is prepared to work constructively toward legislation to improve the regulatory process.

The resolution made clear, however, labor's continued strong opposition to so-called sunset laws that would wipe out existing government programs unless they were re-enacted by Congress at specified intervals.

Such devices are "invariably used as a way to end necessary social programs," the AFL-CIO said.

Repeal Sought of Law Restricting Musicians

The AFL-CIO called for repeal of a 1934 law that provides punitive measures against the Musicians. A convention resolution said Section 506 of the Lea Act is not needed because "it imposes criminal penalties for its violation which are totally inconsistent with other labor statutes."

The convention voted support of bills already introduced in the House and Senate designed to repeal the Lea Act, which makes it a criminal offense for more musicians to be assigned to a job than the employer thinks are necessary.

Strengthening Amendments Sought:

Windfall Tax Bill Branded 'Anemic'

The windfall profits tax bill that the Senate began debating the day the AFL-CIO convention opened should either be strengthened or vetoed, the delegates said.

A convention resolution termed the measure that the Senate Finance Committee sent to the floor "anemic." It would raise less than half the revenue of the measure that the House passed last June—and even the House bill was a compromise.

Already hugely profitable oil companies will reap additional billions after all regular taxes through decontrol, while the added cost to consumers over the next decade is estimated at over $1 trillion.

The best course would have been to keep price controls on crude oil, the convention said. But the resolution made clear that labor's bottom line is "a strong—not a token—windfall profits tax on the oil companies."

The most controversial portions of the Senate bill had not been acted on when Congress recessed for the Thanksgiving holiday, and the convention resolution reiterated the AFL-CIO's support for a group of strengthening amendments that were to be proposed.

In a strong speech of support for the resolution, AFL-CIO Vice President Sol C. Chaikin said the tax really should be 100 percent of the added profits the oil companies will pocket by raising prices to the artificially high levels set by the oil-exporting OPEC countries.

Chaikin, who is president of the Ladies' Garment Workers, said the revenue an effective windfall tax can bring in is desperately needed to help poor people meet higher heating costs, to develop new energy sources, to provide mass transit expansion and generate new jobs in the face of a recession threat.

Decontrol, he said, means a "massive shift of capital . . . from the pockets of average Americans into the treasuries of these money-rich oil corporations." The added revenues have to be recaptured, he urged, "so that programs can be developed for the benefit of the workers of this country."

The convention resolution noted that oil company profits rose an average of 91 percent in the third quarter over the same period a year earlier.

As for the argument that more profits are needed to encourage new oil exploration, the resolution pointed out that with their huge profits "oil companies are investing extraordinary amounts of cash to acquire companies outside the energy area."



NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM of President Lane Kirkland and Sec.-Treas. Thomas R. Donahue confers during the AFL-CIO convention. Both were elected to two-year terms by acclamation.

Public Sector Unions Backed On Bargaining

State and local government employees are entitled to the same collective bargaining rights that the private sector has had since the National Labor Relations Act was adopted 44 years ago, the AFL-CIO declared.

The convention reiterated support for covering public employees under the NLRA, declaring that federal legislation is needed in order to assure full bargaining rights for all state and local workers.

But until such legislation can be enacted, the convention directed the AFL-CIO to continue to press for effective collective bargaining legislation "in individual states and, where necessary, in political subdivisions."

Fewer than half the states now have comprehensive laws mandating collective bargaining on wages, hours and conditions of employment, the resolution noted.

In another action, the AFL-CIO voiced opposition to requirements that public employees must live within the boundaries of the community that employs them. It urged rescission of such residency requirements by state or local governments that have imposed them.

Balanced Budget Move Termed Road to 'Chaos'

The effort to force the holding of a constitutional convention to initiate a balanced budget amendment is a serious threat to both American government and the national economy, the AFL-CIO charged.

Thus far, all constitutional amendments have first been passed by two-thirds of the House and Senate and then submitted for ratification by three-fourths of the states.

The AFL-CIO warned that the never-used alternative of summoning a constitutional convention would embark the nation on an "uncharted and dangerous" course. Constitutional scholars are divided on the ground rules for such a convention, and the federation expressed concern that such a precedent would spur other efforts to turn the constitution into a collection of laws rather than a framework for government.

On the substance of the proposed amendment, the AFL-CIO warned that compelling a balanced federal budget each year would create economic chaos.

If such a requirement had been imposed over the past two years, the AFL-CIO said, "current federal programs would have been devastated and massive unemployment would have resulted in both the public and private sectors. State and local governments would have been particularly hard hit."

It said the AFL-CIO, its affiliates and central bodies will continue to oppose resolutions in state legislatures seeking a constitutional convention and will urge states that have already adopted such resolutions to withdraw them.

Welfare Reform Bill Supported as '1st Step'

The welfare reform bill the House passed in early November takes a first step towards the comprehensive program labor has urged and should be approved by the Senate, the AFL-CIO declared.

It would increase assistance to the nation's poorest households by setting a national family assistance benefit minimum of 65 percent of the poverty level.

Other provisions would require all states to make two-parent families eligible for assistance if the principal wage earner is unemployed, establish uniform eligibility standards, and provide some fiscal relief for state and local governments.

The convention stressed that the legislation is not a substitute for more comprehensive reform.

It renewed the AFL-CIO's commitment to the goals of "training and placement in decent jobs for those able to work, adequate income supplements through the tax system for the working poor, and a cash benefit sufficient to provide a decent, healthy living standard for those unable to work outside the home."

In related areas, the convention:

• Called for lifting funding ceilings for the food stamp program so that inflated food prices and increased unemployment won't result in more people going hungry. The federation also urged assistance to aged, blind and disabled persons who need food stamps but don't get them, and affirmed the principle that needy families of strikers have as much right to food stamps as others without income.

• Asked Congress to provide more funds to states for social services, including child care, for the working poor. The resolution supported efforts in Congress to raise the ceiling on funds provided under Title XX of the Social Security Act to $3.1 billion to avoid cuts in existing services.

Aid Sought for Public Hospitals

The AFL-CIO called for more assistance from federal, state, and local governments to preserve and expand public general hospital services throughout the country.

Budget cuts, excess hospital beds, and declining municipal revenues have caused cities to reduce or close down public general hospitals, especially in the nation's largest cities, the federation observed in a resolution.

Over 26 million Americans without health insurance of any kind and another 15 million Americans without adequate insurance rely on these hospitals for their health care.

All Possible Aid Pressed For Starving Cambodians

It is imperative that the U.S. government do everything possible—through such international agencies as the United Nations Children's Fund and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and on its own—to assist the suffering people of Cambodia, the AFL-CIO declared.

"Today the world is witness to a human tragedy in Cambodia of such horrifying proportions that, if not entirely unparalleled in the history of mankind, is on a scale that rivals the holocaust of Nazi Germany," the federation said in a convention resolution.

"Human devastation on such a large scale must be brought to the attention of the peoples of the world so that no one can or will say—as many once did—that they did not know what was happening."

The convention called on all voluntary foreign service agencies, including CARE, to initiate a united national fund-raising campaign for the victims of Cambodia.

It instructed the AFL-CIO Dept. of Community Services to coordinate a fund-raising campaign among the federation's affiliates and state and local central bodies to work with the voluntary agencies to insure that food and medical aid reach the victims as soon as possible.

"Time is short—and the need is great," the resolution said. "In this time of crisis, the American labor movement must and will do its part, as we have always done."

Iranian Terror Scored, Carter's Actions Lauded

President Carter took exactly the right steps to deal with the terrorism and blackmail going on in Iran during the AFL-CIO convention, delegates said in a resolution.

In praising the President's actions, the resolution used the strongest of terms to condemn the acts of Iranian dictator Ayatollah Khomeini.

"Terrorism has become the policy of his government; the tools of criminals are the instruments of his diplomacy," the resolution said. "Today, the United States is the object of the Ayatollah's hatred. No nation knows if it will be next."

At the same time, the convention said U.S. vigilante groups must not take their frustration out on Iranian students living here and said "this nation's humane democratic values will not allow us to further risk the lives Khomeini has so brutally imperiled with the military response he so richly deserves."

What was possible was to "remove oil blackmail as a potential weapon from the arsenal of this fanatical despot," and that was the Carter action the convention praised. It called on other nations of the world to follow suit.

The resolution also expressed sympathy for the families of the hostages, who were held at the U.S. embassy in Tehran throughout the six-day span of the convention.

"Khomeini's demand for extradition of the Shah is the familiar tactic of a despot seeking to divert attention from the ruinous failure of his regime to meet the real needs of the Iranian people," the convention said.

"We have no doubt that the American people overwhelmingly support the President's action" on the oil and economic measures, the convention said, as they would Carter's assertion that "we must eliminate any suggestion that economic pressures can weaken our stand on basic issues of principle."

Higher Funding Asked For Railroad Retirement

Rail unions will have the AFL-CIO's support for legislation to increase the federal government's contribution to the Railroad Retirement System.

Legislation enacted in 1974 pegged the contribution at $250 million a year and the Office of Management & Budget authorized a rise to $313 million.

But a greater share is needed to overcome the high rate of inflation, the resolution noted. It backed the rail labor effort to have Congress lift the annual payment to $363 million.

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Real Wages Slashed by Price Rise

By James M. Shevis

Fast-rising retail prices continue to drain American workers' buying power.

The government's consumer price index rose another nine-tenths of 1 percent in October, combining with a decline of eight-tenths of 1 percent in working hours to reduce real spendable earnings by 1.1 percent from the September level, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Over the past year, real spendable earnings—take-home pay adjusted for the impact of inflation—dropped 5.1 percent. A married worker with three dependents had average real spendable weekly earnings of $87.48 in October, down 96 cents from the previous month and $4.61 less than in October 1978.

The 5.1 percent decline in buying power is substantially greater than the year-to-year decrease reflected in BLS's September report on earnings, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald pointed out. In September, real spendable earnings were down 4 percent from 12 months earlier.

"A year ago, average hourly earnings were increasing at an 8.9 percent rate with the CPI up 8.8 percent," Oswald noted. "Now, average hourly earnings are increasing at only a 7.5 percent rate, and the CPI has increased at a 12.4 percent rate.

"Hence, the very deleterious effect on real spendable earnings."

The chief culprit in lifting the October CPI 12.4 percent above its year-earlier level was housing. Housing prices were up 1.5 percent—13.7 percent higher than the year-earlier level—and accounted for over 60 percent of the monthly CPI increase. The main pressure on housing costs came from home financing costs, which were up 2.4 percent.

The overall October rise in the index compared with September's 1.1 percent increase. For 10 months in a row now, the CPI has risen by about 1 percent or more.

"The October numbers are not heartening in terms of any indication of a slowdown in the rate of inflation," Oswald observed.

The nation's inflation rate of 12.4 percent exceeds the 12.2 percent inflation figure for calendar year 1974, the worst inflation year since 1946 when prices rose 18.2 percent.

Besides housing prices, medical care costs played a big role in pushing up living costs over the month.

(Continued on Page 3)

Labor, Coalition Reaffirm Health Care Plan Position



A MARSHALL PLAN of sorts promoting federally funded jobs programs is signed by Labor Sec. Ray Marshall and President William C. Marshall, fourth from left, of the AFL-CIO Great Lakes Regional Council. Flanking the two Marshalls, who are unrelated, are from left, President David K. Roe of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, President Robert G. Gibson of the Illinois AFL-CIO, President Willis N. Zagrovich of the Indiana AFL-CIO and Assistant Labor Sec. Ernest G. Green. William Marshall also is president of the Michigan AFL-CIO. **(Story, Page 3.)**

Class Lines End Urged By Kirkland

By David L. Perlman

The AFL-CIO and a coalition of 70 national organizations prodded Congress to enact a "long overdue" comprehensive national health care program that would be "accessible to all and affordable by all."

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, in a statement prepared for a joint session of two House subcommittees, called for an end to the "social class distinction" that relates the quality of health services to the affluence of the patient.

The coalition case for passage of the labor-supported Health Care for All Americans Act was presented by UAW President Douglas A. Fraser, who is chairman of the Committee for National Health Insurance. Kirkland is secretary of the coalition.

Their common theme was that patchwork solutions won't work. They warned that a program limited to "catastrophic" insurance would speed up an inflationary spiral, and an Administration proposal involving deductibles and copayment would perpetuate existing inequalities.

By contrast, Kirkland declared, the comprehensive health care bill sponsored by Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.) and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) establishes quality health care as the right of all Americans and "in the long run, it will cost less than the other proposals."

Waxman is chairman of the Commerce subcommittee which joined with a Ways & Means subcommittee headed by Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.) to hold hearings on the major proposals.

Rangel is co-sponsor of the Administration bill, which was de-

(Continued from Page 8)

Business Pressure Prevails:

Congress Clips FTC, Spurns Consumers

A Congress that listens more closely to industry trade associations than to consumers has sent the Federal Trade Commission a loud and clear message to "let the buyer beware."

On a showdown between the funeral home industry and consumer interests, the House lined up against the consumers by a 223-147 vote.

In the Senate, the Commerce Committee not only cut down the funding authorization contained in the House bill but approved a long list of further curtailments of FTC powers. While lobbyists for industry groups watched approvingly, the committee voted to forbid the agency to regulate used car sales techniques, restrict television advertising aimed at children, and investigate tactics of insurance companies and of industry standard-setting organizations.

Before the House vote, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young urged congressmen to reject the amendment by Rep. Marty Russo (D-Ill.) to quash a seven-year effort by the FTC to require funeral homes to disclose their charges for all services and to bar them from misrepresenting legal requirements regarding embalming or cemetery regulations.

Young wrote House members that "unnecessarily high funeral costs" have taken a disproportionate share of union-negotiated life insurance programs intended to help meet family needs. A bereaved family should be given information on alternative funeral options, he urged, instead of being limited to a "single-choice, high-price funeral."

The House bill would also allow Congress to disapprove any future FTC regulation through a form of one-house legislative veto. An FTC regulation would be voided if either the House or Senate passed a resolution of disapproval, providing that the other body did not take contrary action within 30 days.

Young noted that the House de-

(Continued on Page 7)

Steel Union Goals Topped By COL Gain

Pittsburgh — Improved cost-of-living protection, particularly for retirees, heads the list of bargaining proposals adopted by the Steelworkers' wage policy committee at a two-day meeting here.

The proposals, drafted as a statement of objectives for USWA members in the steel, aluminum, nonferrous metals and container industries, also call for "substantial" wage boosts, increases in wage increments, reduced work time, limits on outside contracting, and employer neutrality toward union organizing.

Recommendations for specific industries will be drawn up at separate conferences, beginning with a meeting of the basic steel conference on Dec. 6 and 7 in Pittsburgh.

(Continued on Page 2)

Corporate Profits Up 18.7% in 3rd Quarter

After-tax profits of American corporations in the third quarter posted an increase of 18.7 percent over the year-earlier level, the Commerce Dept. reported.

The earnings rise, which comes atop hefty profits in earlier quarters this year, reflects the impact of last year's tax cut on 1979 corporate tax liabilities.

Before-tax profits were estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $242.5 billion in the third quarter, up 14.4 percent from the same period in 1978. While profits dipped slightly in the second quarter when compared to the previous quarter, they rose in the third quarter, increasing by 6.4 percent at a seasonally adjusted annual rate.

The government said nonfinancial businesses increased their profits at a lower rate than financial corporations during the third quarter. Profits for nonfinancial corporations were held down by a sharp decline in auto vehicle manufacturing, which offset increases in retail trade and petroleum production, the Commerce Dept. said.

Dividends were up $500 million to an adjusted annual rate of $52.8 billion, while undistributed profits

(Continued on Page 2)

Issues Key to Relations With Administration

The AFL-CIO's relationship with the Carter Administration will be determined by issues, not politics, Federation President Lane Kirkland stressed in a network television and radio interview.

Kirkland said on the CBS program, Face the Nation, that the AFL-CIO will continue to work closely with the White House for common objectives. But the federation will not hesitate to oppose the President when it disagrees with his program, he declared.

Carter's record on issues that concern labor is "mixed," Kirkland said, and "our relations and attitude toward the Administration are a product of where we stand or part company on particular issues."

Kirkland said Carter's actions in the Iranian crisis thus far have been "calm, prudent and forceful . . . and I think he warrants the full support of the American people."

As for the further action of union members who have refused to load or service sea or air shipments to Iran, Kirkland told a questioner:

(Continued on Page 2)

2 Unions Gain RCA Accords For 20,000

Two AFL-CIO electrical workers' unions approved new agreements with the RCA Corp. covering about 20,000 employees.

The settlements, which replace contracts expiring on Dec. 1, follow the pattern of those negotiated last summer between the two unions and General Electric Co. and Westinghouse Electric Corp., except for additional "pluses" in pensions and contract language.

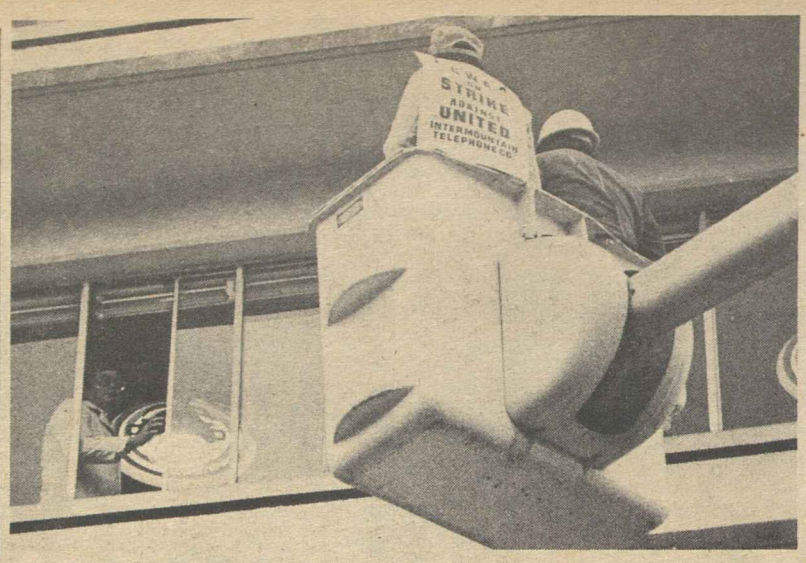
The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, representing some 13,000 workers in eight RCA locals across the country, ratified the agreement by a vote of 7,285 to 2,350. The Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers' vote was more than 5,300 in favor of the agreement to 169 against. IUE represents 6,200 workers at 10 locals.

The IBEW agreement is for three years, while the IUE pact runs for four years with a reopener after three years.

As with the GE and Westinghouse accords, the RCA agreements provide hourly increases of 12 cents in the first year, 17.5 cents the second year, and 15 cents the third year; a cost-of-living formula allowing for semiannual adjustments of one cent an hour for each increase of two-tenths of 1 percent in the consumer price index; a new dental plan, and an improved vacation schedule.

Pension improvements follow the GE pattern, with employee contributions starting on earnings above $9,000 a year instead of $6,600.

While the GE accord raised monthly retirement benefits to a range of $10 to $15 per year of service, the RCA agreement provides a range of $10 to $16 per year of service.



RATHER THAN CROSS the picket line set up by striking Communications Workers in Bristol, Tenn., Sam Hardwick rented a cherry picker hoist to lift him to a dentist's office located in the struck telephone company building. Hardwick ordered a partial plate before CWA Local 10871 struck the United Inter-Mountain Telephone Co. He kept his appointment as the pickets cheered.

Breakthrough Pact Won From D.C. Store Chain

The first contract negotiated by Local 400 of the Food & Commercial Workers for some 6,000 Woodward & Lothrop department store employees in Washington, D.C., was ratified overwhelmingly at a membership meeting.

The 39-month agreement, providing substantial improvements in wages and benefits for workers at the chain's 14 stores and two warehouses in the Washington metropolitan area, is retroactive to June 30.

That's when the UFCW local became the bargaining agent for the store's employees after winning a representation election by a 4 to 1 margin.

Local 400 Sec.-Treas. David H. Laws said the contract gains, coming in the wake of the breakthrough representation election, pave the way for stepped-up organizing efforts at other department stores in the Washington area. With the addition of the 6,000 Woodward & Lothrop members, Local 400 now represents about 23,000 retail store workers, Laws noted.

A union security clause in the contract provides for all new employees in Washington and Maryland to join the union. Similar coverage would be provided in Virginia stores with the repeal of the state's "right-to-work" law.

In addition to annual wage boosts of 8 percent, the new contract establishes wage minimums and job classifications. Laws said employees who had been working below the minimum will receive initial wage increases above the 8 percent level.

The contract also broadens medical care coverage while reducing employee contributions on premiums from 50 percent to 30 percent.

Additional improvements in benefits are prescribed in the contract, including a $2,000 life insurance policy paid by the employer beginning next year; eye examinations and glasses without cost to workers beginning in 1981, and a company-paid dental plan beginning in 1982.

Laws said the contract also improves workers' vacations and increases the number of paid holidays from seven to nine.

Kirkland Interview:

Issues Key Relations With White House

(Continued from Page 1)

"I think it is a perfectly normal spontaneous reaction of workers faced with an opportunity to demonstrate how they feel about the conduct of Iran, the seizure of Americans as hostages. I certainly will do nothing to discourage their taking that action, and I've indicated that to the White House."

He termed it "perfectly logical that our members should refuse to engage in trading with the enemy."

Kirkland rejected the suggestion that the National Accord with the Administration amounts to endorsement of an "austerity" economic program.

The premise of the accord, he stressed, is a commitment by the Administration to "give flesh and blood to the principles of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment & Balanced Growth Act."

As labor understands the accord, he said, it means "that if there is to be austerity, it will be shared equitably" and the poor will be sheltered from its impact because they "already have as much austerity as they can possibly be expected to handle."

Labor is participating in trying to shape a new wage policy because the procedures being used assure "full participation of the parties affected," a feature that Kirkland noted "was absolutely missing" when the 7 percent figure was devised.

But he said he doesn't believe that wage restraint alone will have much of an impact "because the inflation that we are experiencing simply does not derive from runaway wage increases."

Kirkland said Administration actions have contributed to inflation, specifically oil decontrol and acquiescence in the "outrageous level of interest rates" spurred by Federal Reserve Board policies.

Asked about a general tax cut to counter a slide into recession, Kirkland termed it "far more important" to fund needed programs to bolster the economy than to "dissipate" revenues through "foolish tax cuts."

As for "acceptable" levels of unemployment, the AFL-CIO considers the present unemployment rate excessive, "and anything added to that will be that much more excessive," he said. Even the 4 percent target of the Humphrey-Hawkins bill is a compromise that the federation considers "a little too high," Kirkland said.

On politics, Kirkland reiterated that the AFL-CIO is not an instrument of any political party and historically has not made presidential endorsements in primaries. While individual unions may choose to support candidates in the presidential primaries, "we are not going to get officially involved as the AFL-CIO," Kirkland said.

He made clear, however, that the federation will not necessarily remain aloof from preconvention politics when it perceives labor's interests to be directly involved. "We are not fools, and if there are things that might be done in an unofficial way that are in the best interests of the trade union movement, we will do them."

In the forthcoming presidential election, Kirkland said, the AFL-CIO will examine the candidates and party platforms after the two conventions.

"If we endorse a candidate, as I expect that we will, then we will do everything that we can to help in his election," he said.

Corporate Profits Up 18.7 Percent

(Continued from Page 1)

rose $8.2 billion to an annual adjusted rate of $95.2 billion in the third quarter, the government reported.

Meanwhile, revised figures put the increase in the nation's "real" gross national product in the July-September period at an annual rate of 3.5 percent, instead of the initial 2.4 percent estimate. Real GNP is the total value of goods and services produced over the quarter, adjusted for inflation.

Inflation, as measured by what Commerce calls the GNP implicit price deflator, rose at an annual rate of 8 percent in the third quarter, slightly less than the 8.5 percent initially reported.

COL Improvements Top Steel Proposals

(Continued from Page 1)

Members in the aluminum industry will meet in February and those in other nonferrous metals industries in March.

Meanwhile, with negotiations not too far off, workers were jolted by the U.S. Steel Corp.'s announcement that it plans to close 16 plants and mills in eight states, putting about 13,000 workers out of their jobs.

The nation's largest steelmaker said the operations would be shut down for a variety of reasons, including "operating costs, unfairly priced imports or excessive environmental spending requirements."

The union declined to comment formally on the announcement until it can more closely examine the actions, but USWA President Lloyd McBride told reporters in Washington: "We won't leave a stone unturned to see if the decision can be reversed."

McBride, who was attending a meeting of the new Pay Advisory Committee, said he would request an emergency meeting with Administration officials to see what could be done.

In the steel industry, where some 400,000 workers are covered by USWA contracts, agreements between the union and 10 major steel firms expire on Aug. 1. The parties' Experimental Negotiating Agreement, which will be used for the third go-around, calls for submission of all unresolved issues to arbitration by mid-April.

Under the ENA no-strike agreement, workers are guaranteed a $150 bonus, a 3 percent wage increase, and continued cost-of-living adjustments.

The union's wage policy committee called for elimination of "caps" and "corridors" in existing COL provisions and improvements in pension benefits to keep pace with inflation.

The major pension goal will be negotiation of COL adjustments for retirees. Other goals include increased regular benefits, "full and liberalized" early retirement, and special benefits for workers who lose jobs due to plant shutdowns or whose life expectancies are threatened by hazardous working conditions.

The committee also called for a four-day workweek, additional paid holidays, and improvements in extended vacation plans. It said the union's job and income security plans in the steel, aluminum, and container industries also should be liberalized.

Negotiation of clauses requiring employer neutrality toward USWA organizing at new locations also was proposed.

The committee also pointed to wage gaps within industries that have put some employers "at a serious competitive disadvantage" and threaten the jobs of some Steelworkers.

U.S. Labor's Continued Cooperation Pledged to ICFTU World Congress

Madrid, Spain—Continued cooperation between American trade unions and labor organizations in the industrialized world is essential, AFL-CIO European Rep. Irving Brown told the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

"In the long run, this provides the kind of material base from which we can best serve and help nations to develop independent economies after having achieved their political independence," Brown said at the ICFTU's 12th world congress here.

He told the delegates from both the industrialized and underdeveloped worlds that "there has been no decline in AFL-CIO interest or activity in international affairs" even though the federation currently is not a member of the ICFTU or the International Labor Organization. He cited especially the expanding participation of AFL-CIO unions in the international trade secretariats (ITSs).

"Over 60 of our national affiliates are in the ITSs, which we think provide for a continuing cooperation with the ICFTU, especially in the developing areas of the world, as well as coping with the economic problems of the industrialized countries," Brown said. The AFL-CIO separated from the ICFTU 10 years ago and from the ILO two years ago.

In his address, Brown condemned the holding of American embassy personnel in Tehran by the Iranian government. The action calls for protest "by anyone who believes in basic human rights and the protection of the individual and his dignity," he said.

On his main theme, Brown said the AFL-CIO has demonstrated its willingness to pursue collective economic efforts with Western Europe through its membership in the Trade Union Advisory Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development as well as in cooperation with the ICFTU in both TUAC and the ILO.

In the two years that the United States has been out of the ILO, "there has been progress on the issues we raised concerning the weaknesses" of that organization, Brown observed. He said members of the U.S. Cabinet-level committee set up to monitor ILO developments would have a "positive approach" at their forthcoming meeting.

"It is my hope that in the near future we will be back working, as in the past, with the ICFTU in this direction," Brown said.

More than ever, a strengthened alliance of free people and nations is a major priority for the free trade union movement, he stressed, since the free world is being surrounded by totalitarian powers.

"This constitutes a menace to the free world," he said. "For it is not armaments alone that are a threat. It is the fact that armaments are in the hands of dictators, and especially totalitarian dictators where the people have nothing to say about decisions on war and peace."

5.1% Drop in Year:

Price Surge Cuts Into Real Wages

(Continued from Page 1)

Rapid increases in the cost of physicians' services and hospital rooms pushed up the medical-care component of the index by 1.1 percent, the largest boost in this category this year. Medical care costs are now 9.9 percent higher than a year earlier.

Prices for most other major categories of consumer spending showed smaller increases than in September, BLS said. Energy costs continued to rise but at a lower rate than earlier in the year.

Fuel oil prices were up 1.3 percent compared with average monthly increases of about 5 percent during the first nine months of the year. Fuel oil prices are now up 56.9 percent for the year. Gas and electricity rates rose 1.1 percent in October, and are up 13.5 percent for the year.

Gasoline prices rose 1.8 percent in October, compared to average monthly increases of about 4 percent during the previous nine months. Gasoline prices are now up 50.5 percent for the year.

The average price for all types of gasoline during October was $1.006 a gallon, an increase of eight-tenths of a cent from the month before, BLS said. The slight rise compared with August and September increases of 3.7 and 3.1 cents, respectively.

The average price of a gallon of home-heating fuel oil was 85.6 cents, eight-tenths of a cent higher than in September and the smallest increase in fuel oil prices this year.

Food prices rose seven-tenths of 1 percent in October, compared to an advance of nine-tenths of 1 percent in September. Declines in poultry and egg prices were offset by increases in beef and pork prices.

Transportation costs, following substantial increases in each of the preceding 11 months, rose four-tenths of 1 percent. BLS attributed the slower rise to a 1.5 percent decline in new car prices and the slowing advance in gasoline prices over the month.

Used car prices were down for the eighth consecutive month. Public transportation costs rose 1.4 percent, however, the category's fourth large monthly increase in a row.

Apparel and upkeep costs went up five-tenths of 1 percent compared with a 1 percent increase in September. BLS said a decline in prices for women's and girls' clothing, reflecting early fall sales, was primarily responsible for the smaller rise.



STEVENS BOYCOTT SUPPORTERS in New Jersey proceed to a meeting with management officials of Bloomingdale's department store in Hackensack to urge that they stop selling products of the company, which has been branded the nation's No 1 labor law violator. The Clothing & Textile Workers protesters included local union members in wheel chairs and others using crutches and face masks to symbolize health and safety hazards that J. P. Stevens workers face every day.

New Approaches Sought To Job Health Hazards

Chicago—Banning women from a job with known hazards to human reproductive systems is no answer to the need to provide safe workplaces, a panel on job health hazards declared at the 67th National Safety Congress here. Workplaces must be cleaned up for the health of all workers, the panel pointed out.

The program was one of three sponsored by the Labor Conference of the National Safety Council at the Safety Congress.

Margaret Seminario, industrial hygienist for the AFL-CIO Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health, said some of the key problems of job health hazards to human reproduction include the way companies set policies and the relatively new awareness of this particular job health hazard.

Marly Weiss, assistant general counsel of the UAW, said that in many cases where lead has been found to be dangerous to both men and women, men have been forced to stay on the job. Informed women should have the right to work where there is a known hazard, she said, and excluding one sex from a job when both are affected is discrimination under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

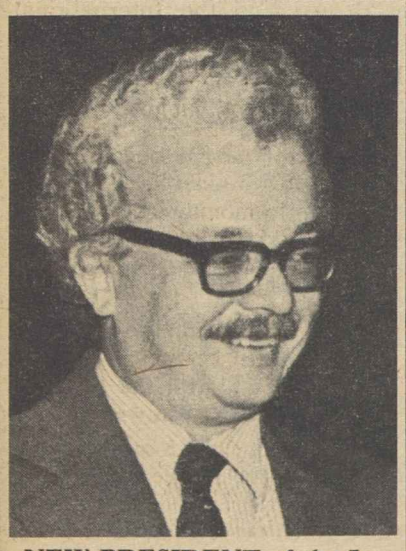
Salvatore Falletta, representing the Chemical Workers, said unions often find out too late about dangers to human reproduction. He said human reaction in the plant usually gives the company the opportunity to impose its will. Companies don't always consider men when identifying hazards to reproduction, he noted.

Falletta urged unions to demand bargaining on company rulings in such cases and on resulting wage losses. They should also demand the information on which the company based its ruling, he said.

Ronald Young, industrial hygienist for the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, pointed out that exposure to some hazards causes changes or defects in both male and female reproduction cells, some harm the fetus and some cause increases in cancer which can cross to the fetus without the mother showing any ill effects.

Young urged unions to find out what substances workers are exposed to and report them, using generic names and providing as much information as they can about exposure levels.

The Labor Conference presented its annual safety program awards at the first session of the Congress. Top awards went to Machinists Local 851, Joliet, Ill.; Laborers Local 158, Harrisburg, Pa.; Food Handlers Local 328, Providence, R.I.; Chemical Workers 4-447, Trail, B.C.; Food & Commercial Workers Local 342, Jamaica, N.Y.; and New York State Linemen's Safety Fund, East Syracuse, N.Y.



NEW PRESIDENT of the International Labor Press Association is James M. Cesnik, editor of the Newspaper Guild's Guild Reporter. Cesnik, who had been a vice president of the association, was elected at the ILPA convention in Washington to succeed Gene Klare of the Oregon Labor Press.

Great Lakes Labor to Spur CETA Jobs

The AFL-CIO Great Lakes Regional Council has signed a one-year contract with the Labor Dept. to help spur private sector job opportunities and to provide unions with information on Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA) programs.

The contract carries a $379,732 federal grant to finance the council's CETA activities over the next 12 months in six midwestern states.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall suggested that the council's program should serve as a model for other regional labor groups which are not presently involved in the CETA efforts.

The immediate goals of the contract are to:

- Improve communications between unions and the Labor Dept.'s Employment & Training Administration, which administers the CETA program.
- Provide technical assistance to CETA sponsors, such as cities, counties and states, on union involvement in CETA.
- Offer educational and technical assistance on CETA to unions.
- Establish a development and evaluation program in cooperation with union, employer and community groups to encourage hiring of the jobless in non-government, non-subsidized jobs.

The Great Lakes council comprises the presidents of six AFL-CIO state federations: William C. Marshall of Michigan, who also is president of the council; Robert G. Gibson of Illinois, council secretary-treasurer; Willis N. Zagrovich, Indiana; Hugh D. Clark, Iowa; David K. Roe, Minnesota, and John W. Schmitt, Wisconsin.

Larry A. Stout, who has been named director of the council's CETA program, will oversee the day-to-day activities of the effort.

Leather Union Elects DiPaola to Key Post

San Juan, P.R.—The executive board of the Leather Goods, Plastics & Novelty Workers at a meeting here elected Dominic DiPaola executive vice president to fill the unexpired term of Nathan Katz.

Katz recently resigned from the position and also as manager of the New York Pocketbook, Plastics & Novelty Workers Union, the union's largest local. DiPaola succeeded Katz in the latter post also.

The board also elected Rita Palter of the New York local as a vice president of the union.

Milwaukee Road Rescue Includes Job Protection

Trains are back on the track again at the Milwaukee Road as a result of efforts by railroad unions, shippers, and their congressional allies.

A law signed by President Carter paved the way for resumption of service on the financially-troubled railroad. Federal bankruptcy judge Thomas McMillen in Chicago ordered full service resumed as a result of the legislation.

McMillen had suspended service Nov. 1 on about half the carrier's 9,500 miles of line, saying that the road's cash had run out. The Milwaukee shutdown caused a deluge of protests to Congress, which subsequently enacted the Milwaukee Railroad Restructuring Act.

The new law provides federal loan guarantees of some $15 million a month to keep the trains running on the carrier's western lines. The measure also includes a $75 million employee protection plan to soften the effects of layoffs that might take place in the event of another shutdown.

The protection package covers employee separation allowances, moving expenses, unemployment insurance, and new career training.

In addition, the law gives shippers and employees until Dec. 15 to come up with a plan to take over stock ownership and keep the western lines open. Involved are 2,500 miles of freight line from Miles City, Mont., to Tacoma, Wash., and 2,200 miles of track in South Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan. At stake are some 5,500 rail workers' jobs.

James Snyder, legislative director for the United Transportation Union, called the employee protection plan "superior to any other protection" agreement outside the railroad industry. Snyder, who chairs the legislative committee of the Railway Labor Executives Association, has been the spokesman for rail labor before Congress in its consideration of the Milwaukee Road's problems.

Included in the law is a possible lump sum payment of up to $25,000 for a senior worker who is laid off, moving expenses to go to another job, and priority for jobs on other railroads.

Talks between the railroad and unions on job protection rights of present employees of the line were scheduled for Nov. 29, with representatives of the National Mediation Board in attendance.

Working Wives Boost Multi-Earner Families

A record 60 percent of all husband-wife families reported in March that at least two family members were wage earners during the previous year.

The previous high was 57 percent recorded in 1970. Since then, the number of multi-earner families has risen by more than 3 million to 28.4 million, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said.

The rising number of multi-earner families has been one of the most important socio-economic developments of the 1970s.

"Almost exclusively responsible for this rise have been the steep annual increases in the number and proportion of working wives," BLS said. Over the decade, their number has grown by about 5.5 million. By March, nearly half of all wives 16 years old and over were working or looking for work.

There also has been a sharp rise in the number of single working women solely responsible for the support of their own families, BLS said. About one of every nine women in the work force last March was either a divorced, separated, widowed or never-married woman who maintained her own family.

Between March 1970 and March 1979, the number of families headed by women climbed from 10.9 to 14.6 percent of all families, BLS said. The number of families headed by a single man was little changed at 1.7 million. Other highlights of the report:

- The number of mothers in the labor force continued to rise over the year, reaching 16.6 million in March.
- Never-married men and women continued to increase their labor force participation over the year. Last March, 70.9 percent of single men and 62.7 percent of single women were in the labor force.
- The labor force participation rate for married men continued its long-term downward trend. This was true for white, black and Hispanic men.

Health Discrimination

A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL health program has been a central goal of the American labor movement for many years. In our view, a decent level of health care—accessible and affordable to all—ought to be a part of ordinary daily life in this country. A national health program ought to be the centerpiece of any rational and humane society.

At the same time, experience has convinced us that any national health insurance proposal that does not provide a fiscal and administrative role for the insurance industry has ltitle chance of adoption in the foreseeable future.

Since America can't afford to wait any longer for national health insurance, we believe the Health Care for All Americans Act provides a responsible role for third-party payers and, therefore, should overcome the objections that have blocked congressional action far too long.

No other industrial nation, except South Africa, fails to provide its citizens with a national health insurance program, as the United States has failed to do up to this point in its history. It is both ironic and poignant that the United States finds itself in the same category as South Africa.

That is because quality health care, accessible to all and affordable by all, is essential to equality. Lack of quality health care for the young is a major inhibiting factor to enjoyment of equal opportunities later in life. And for those who bear the double burden of old age and poverty, inadequate care perpetuates the pain of a life without opportunity.

Poor vision, dental problems, hearing loss and other chronic health conditions—all of which are more prevalent among the poor—adversely affect employment opportunities for the poor and minorities.

THIS NATION can no longer deny the discrimination inherent in the health care system. It is true that today's discrimination is based more on the color of money than the color of skin, but the fact that greater percentages of blacks and Hispanics are poor means they, once again, bear an unfair share of the burden of discrimination.

The best health care in this nation is a privilege of wealth, but the lack of quality care is not solely the plight of the poor and the minorities. Workers—with comparatively good insurance policies—who need a doctor at night or on a weekend or have waited for hours in a hospital emergency room with an injured child or have faced the horrendous bills that remain after their insurance is exhausted, they surely know the problem.

This nation wisely outlawed discrimination based on color or sex or age or religion. But in health care, the system encourages discrimination based on social class, which is as invidious as any other form of discrimination. This discrimination is enforced by financial barriers called "deductibles" or "coinsurance." Financial barriers are as unfair as racial barriers, especially for the health care which all Americans need and should have as a matter of right.

—From a statement by AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland to House subcommittees on health.

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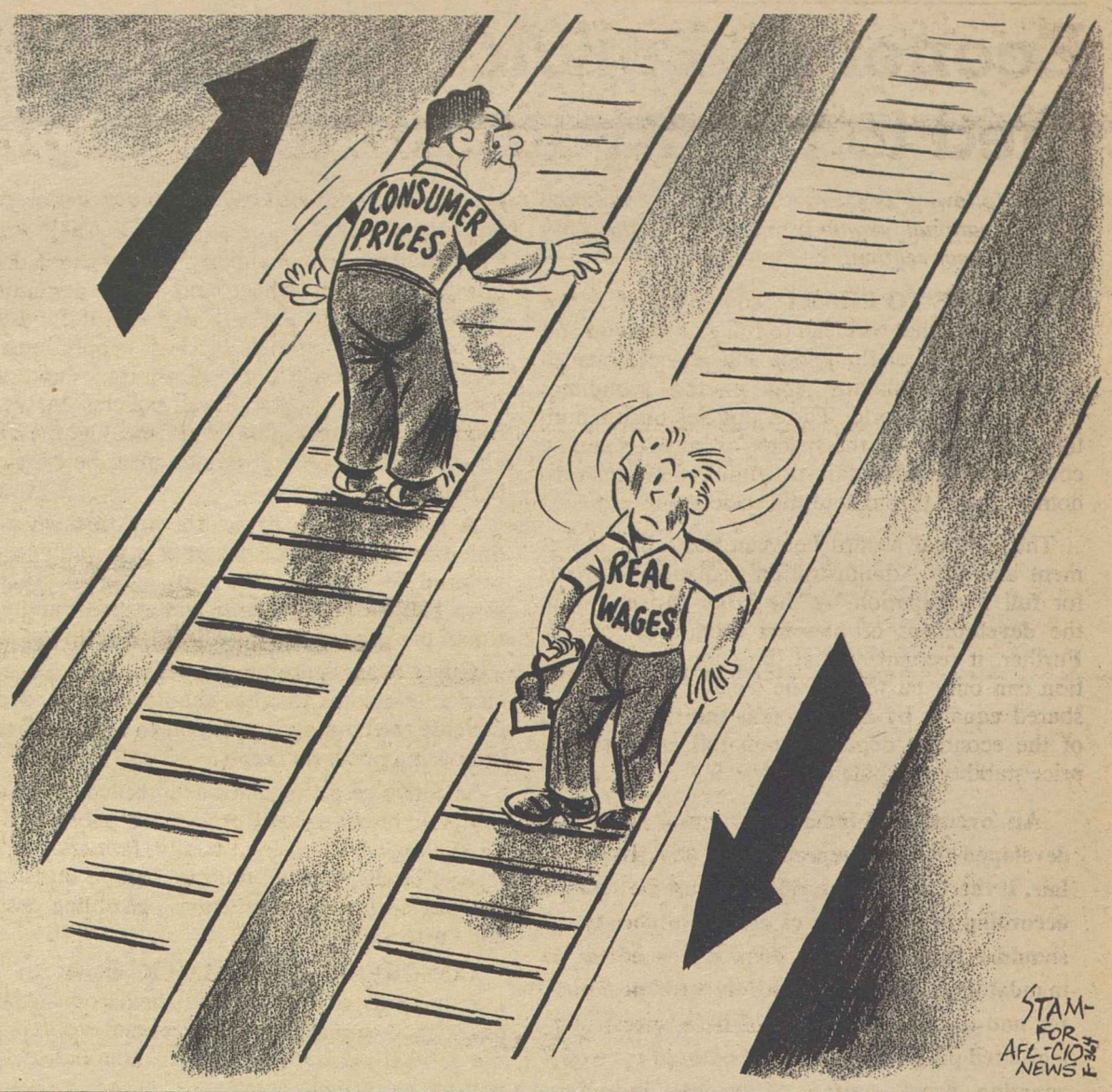
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Double Take



Record of Miscalculation:

U.S. Budget Can't Be Balanced By Cutting Growth Programs

By Gus Tyler

THEY'RE TALKING BUDGET again. All the somber men, with a sprinkling of solemn women, are intoning their calculations on surpluses and deficits in the grave manner of statesmen deciding the future fate of the nation.

This annual ritual on Capitol Hill captures wide attention from press and people. With bated breath, we wonder whether the deficit will be $26 billion or $29 billion. With eyes piercing the curtains of years, we ask whether we will finally eliminate the red ink in 1981 or 1983 or whenever.

Through the deliberations and the debate, no one cracks a smile; the litany is lugubrious.

Yet even the most casual glance at the record of miscalculations on the budget reveals that most of the reckoning is a joke. Take a few for instances:

In not a single year from 1969 to 1978 did the makers of the budget guess right. In most years, the error ran into the multibillions. In 1969, Congress and President projected a deficit of $8 billion; instead there was a surplus of $3.2 billion. The next year, things went topsy-turvy: the projected surplus of $3.4 billion for 1970 turned out to be a deficit of $2.8 billion.

These errors are only minor, however. In 1975, the projected deficit of $9.2 billion turned out to be a deficit of more than $45 billion—a $36 billion miscalculation.

So, you ask, can't they count? Yes, they can. But they don't know what to count because they never know in advance what the expenditures will be and what the revenue will be. They don't know because they cannot know.

Expenses depend on a number of unpredictables. Inflation will boost costs; contracts will encounter overruns; emergencies will emerge; entitlement programs will find more people entitled than they anticipated. So outgo will end up bigger than assumed.

Income, also, cannot be predicted. How much comes in depends on the state of the total economy: if business is brisk, more will come in; if bad, less will come in.

Ironically, almost sardonically, all that serious super-concentration on balancing the budget is often responsible for creating the budget deficit. To make the books balance, the solemn solons chop away at one project after another, imagining that they are saving money. In many instances, they are cutting off funds that would employ people doing worthwhile things, causing the economy to slump.

These slumps in the economy—they refer to it as "cooling the economy" or "slowing down growth," or cutting down on spending—are the prime reasons budgets end in the red.

Consider 1971, when the projected surplus was $1.3 billion and the actual result was a deficit of $23 billion. What went wrong? Expenses actually did run $11 billion over the estimate. But the real disaster was the shortfall in income by $14 billion.

The reverse happened in 1973 when an estimated deficit of $25 billion actually turned out to be a deficit of only $1 billion. That year, expenditures exceeded the estimate by about $1 billion, but income surpassed estimates by $12 billion.

We can afford to spend more if we take in more —and the best way to take in more is to devise a budget that will stimulate growth. That would be a serious approach instead of the present ludicrous caper in which we plan to balance the books by cutting down our income.

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UN Treaties Backed 'With No Illusions'

The AFL-CIO supports the human rights treaties submitted by President Carter to the Senate with no illusions.

We note that the number of nations that have ratified each of the treaties exceeds the number of democracies in the world. Some of these nations have constitutions which already provide for the rights proclaimed in the treaties, but violate these rights at will. There is little reason to believe that such nations will accord greater respect to international conventions.

Without illusions, we support the treaties simply because they express our own democratic values—as Americans and as trade unionists—and because we believe no good purpose is served by even the appearance of ambiguity in our commitment to these values.

—Tom Kahn, assistant to the president of the AFL-CIO, at Senate hearings.

Convention Resolution:

Economic Policies for the '80s Tied to Equity in Inflation Fight

The following is excerpted from the resolution on the national economy adopted by the 13th AFL-CIO convention.

IT IS TIME TO CHART economic policies for the 1980s that will lead to full employment and full production of the goods and services needed in the U.S. economy and in the economies throughout the world. Those policies must simultaneously deal with the specter of inflation and be concerned with the fair distribution of the economic returns throughout the society.

The national accord between the labor movement and the Administration provides the basis for full participation by the labor movement in the development of national economic policies. Further, it recognizes that the fight against inflation can only be won if the austerity required is shared equally by all, and that the future health of the economy depends upon full employment, price stability and balanced growth.

An overall anti-inflation program must be developed that is comprehensive, effective, and fair. If there is to be sacrifice, it must be shared according to the ability of groups in society to shoulder the sacrifice. If there is a need for a mandatory program of controls with penalties for non-compliance, it should be a specifically legislated program of across-the-board controls, covering every source of income including profits, dividends, rents, interest rates, executive compensation, professional fees, as well as wages and prices. Due process in resolution of inequities is an essential component of any anti-inflation program.

The newly-constituted Pay Advisory Committee has been assigned the task of injecting a greater measure of fairness into the Administration's wage restraint program, including a more equitable low-wage exemption, a system for hearing appeals and broader participation in the development of wage standards. The success of wage restraint will depend on its fairness and on effective measures to reduce price increases.

The fight against inflation must attack directly the most serious problem areas of energy, food, health care, shelter and high interest rates.

Energy supplies must be expanded to relieve the OPEC stranglehold on U.S. energy prices. There must be conservation, development of alternate energy sources, an Energy Independence Authority, controls on the price of oil and gas, windfall profits taxes on oil companies, as well as other actions spelled out in more detail in a separate resolution.

Speculation in commodity markets that drives up the prices of wheat and other agricultural products must be curbed. Exports of foodstuffs and other raw materials in short supply must be regulated to prevent domestic shortages and price rises. Restrictive agricultural policies that contribute to shortages must be revised, and the benefits of price support programs must be restricted to family farmers.

A new approach to health care through a national health insurance program is the only lasting solution to medical care cost inflation. Interim steps include hospital cost containment and control of professional fees for health care.

Government housing programs for low and moderate-income families should be expended to increase the housing supply and to reduce inflation in housing prices and rents.

Selective credit regulation is needed to channel available credit toward productive public and industrial needs, housing, family farmers, and to restrict credit-financed non-productive investment such as corporate acquisitions, gambling casinos and currency speculation.

CONGRESS MUST BLOCK efforts to dismantle or to weaken federal regulatory agencies established to protect consumers and workers and the general public from unfair, monopolistic and anti-social business practices.

The structure of the American economy must be reviewed to determine the inflationary effect of such developments as business mergers, interlocking relationships among the giant corporations and banks, corporate domination of key parts of the national economy and its effect on America's position in the world economy, and the impact of corporations on American communities and democratic institutions. Detailed information on such factors of American economic and social life is essential for the adoption of appropriate government policies.

The Administration was correct in establishing a Price Advisory Committee to provide for public participation in the development of price standards and in making the price restraint program more effective. The tightening of the profit margin loophole was long overdue. Anti-inflation policies will not be successful if they are one-sided, dealing solely with wage restraint. The decrease in worker buying power must be reversed if the U.S. economy is to be pulled out of the recession and move ahead with steady, healthy economic growth.

Other Regulatory Agencies Threatened:

Power of FTC to Curb Abuses Target of Attacks in Congress

ANTI-REGULATORY FEVER sweeping through Congress threatens to wipe out or seriously weaken the Federal Trade Commission's power to promote competition and protect the public from marketplace abuses, AFL-CIO lobbyist Michael Gildea declared on Labor News Conference.

Gildea said recent congressional action to block the FTC's rule on price disclosure in the funeral industry and to curb the agency's study of the effects of TV commercials on young children are clear signs that business and industry interests are "outgunning and outspending labor and consumer interests in Congress." He said other measures pending in Congress would end the FTC's "power to regulate mergers so that one company doesn't dominate an entire industry" and wash out the agency's antitrust case against the eight largest oil companies.

"There is a very strong possibility that the FTC is going to be stripped of most of its powers to help consumers," Gildea asserted, adding, that "the doctrine of 'let the buyer beware' would again rule the marketplace."

Consumer protections that have been built up over the years in what was widely hailed as a "new age of consumerism" are now being eroded in Congress, Gildea said. He warned that if the current attacks on the FTC are successful they could spell the demise of other regulatory bodies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Food & Drug Administration and the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Gildea, who is assistant to the federation's legislative director, said that such a development would be a severe blow to both businesses and consumers. "There has to be some element of federal regulation" to assure that there is fair competition in the marketplace, that products are safe and fairly priced, he said.

These agencies "didn't come out of thin air; they evolved as a result of serious problems in the marketplace—problems of health, problems of unfair competition, problems of overpricing," he declared. "The need is there today, just as it always was," he added.

Reporters questioning Gildea on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and Lloyd Schwartz of the Fairchild Publications. Labor News Conference is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

A GROWING PROPORTION of workers today earn their daily bread in ways their grandparents might not have thought likely, or in some cases even possible. In effect, they're earning their living as much or more by the strain of their brain as the sweat of their brow.

About half of all workers in the United States today have more white in their workshirts than blue. In May 1978, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 49.8 percent of the U.S. workforce was involved in professional, technical, managerial, clerical or sales work. And even in the manufacturing sector—the bedrock of the economy and the sector which makes all others possible—one worker in four was considered white collar.

These statistics present an apparently sharp contrast with the conditions of workers of a few generations ago, when earning a living usually meant backbreaking work in a mine or mill or on a farm.

What is surprising about the changing character of the workforce is that simply because a worker isn't putting in a 12-hour day behind a plow or in front of a blast furnace doesn't mean there aren't problems. There are.

Often the problems are different—and complex beyond the imagination of the workers toiling in the early industrial era of this nation. It would have taken an H. G. Wells to describe the daily work routine of an air traffic controller. Consider the job conditions a controller faces—problems ranging from eyestrain from staring hour after hour at a video display terminal (VDT) to the extreme mental and emotional stress of worrying about hundreds of people in jets soaring 35,000 feet overhead.

But while new problems arise every day, the old problems rarely disappear simply because a worker reports to an office or laboratory rather than a mine or factory. That is why, some believe, the "new" non-industrial worker will be attracted to unionization.

According to the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees, the trend already is firmly established. The air traffic controllers, for example, are well-organized. More than one million teachers bargain collectively with their employers, either through the American Federation of Teachers or groups such as the National Education Association or the American Association of University Professors.

More than 30,000 journalists and newspaper employees belong to The Newspaper Guild; tens of thousands of professional and technical workers of all sorts bargain with their public or private employers through unions such as the State, County & Municipal Employees or Professional & Technical Engineers

In fact, the DPE reports, 45 percent of all "organizable" professionals—those who are not self-employed or strictly management—already are in unions.

THE FIGURES ARE MOUNTING for other white collar workers, such as sales people and clerical personnel. And they will go higher, says DPE Director Jack Golodner, because workers—whatever their job—will continue to realize they have common objectives that can be achieved only in concert, through collective bargaining.

From the days of the first craft guilds, workers found it advantageous to band together to better their lives—to increase wages, reduce hours and improve conditions on the job.

Little has changed over the generations, white collar unionists would argue, about the basic need for unity in pursuit of common goals—decent work at decent pay under decent conditions. Today's engineer or nurse or clerk or salesperson or social worker may not have to stand in front of a blast furnace or wield a pick and shovel. But that worker still has to answer to an employer, deal with hassles and hazards peculiar to the profession, and bring home a living wage. In that, white collar or blue, there's not a bit of difference.



ATTACKS IN CONGRESS on the Federal Trade Commission pose a threat to other regulatory agencies, Michael Gildea of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Legislation warned. He was questioned on Labor News Conference by Lloyd Schwartz, left, of Fairchild Publications and Ann McFeatters of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. The program is produced by the AFL-CIO as a public service and is aired weekly on the Mutual radio network.

House Takes Anti-Consumer Position

The House voted against the AFL-CIO position and against consumer interests on both of these rollcalls.

Column I *shows the 234-166 vote that killed the labor-supported hospital cost containment bill and substituted a meaningless commission to study hospital costs. Right votes (R) against the amendment were cast by 158 Democrats and 8 Republicans. Voting wrong (W) were 99 Democrats and 135 Republicans.*

Column II *is the 223-147 passage of an amendment to the Federal Trade Commission bill that would prohibit the FTC from requiring funeral homes to furnish customers with full price information. Right votes against the amendment were cast by 133 Democrats and 14 Republicans. Voting wrong were 108 Democrats and 115 Republicans.*

Numerals show House districts; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong; P—present but not voting; A—absent and not paired.

	I	II
ALABAMA		
1. Edwards (R)	W	W
2. Dickinson (R)	W	W
3. Nichols (D)	W	W
4. Bevill (D)	W	R
5. Flippo (D)	W	W
6. Buchanan (R)	W	R
7. Shelby (D)	W	W
ALASKA		
AL Young (R)	A	A
ARIZONA		
1. Rhodes (R)	A	A
2. Udall (D)	W	R
3. Stump (D)	W	W
4. Rudd (R)	PW	W
ARKANSAS		
1. Alexander (D)	W	W
2. Bethune (R)	W	W
3. Hammerschmidt (R)	W	W
4. Anthony (D)	W	W
CALIFORNIA		
1. Johnson (D)	R	R
2. Clausen (R)	W	W
3. Matsui (D)	R	R
4. Fazio (D)	R	R
5. Burton, John L. (D)	R	R
6. Burton, Philip (D)	R	R
7. Miller (D)	R	R
8. Dellums (D)	R	R
9. Stark (D)	R	R
10. Edwards (D)	R	R
11. Royer (R)	W	A
12. McCloskey (R)	R	A
13. Mineta (D)	R	W
14. Shumway (R)	W	W
15. Coelho (D)	A	W
16. Panetta (D)	R	R
17. Pashayan (R)	W	R
18. Thomas (R)	W	R
19. Lagomarsino (R)	W	W
20. Goldwater (R)	W	A
21. Corman (D)	R	R
22. Moorhead (R)	W	W
23. Beilenson (D)	R	R
24. Waxman (D)	R	R
25. Roybal (D)	R	R
26. Rousselot (R)	W	W
27. Dornan (R)	W	W
28. Dixon (D)	R	R
29. Hawkins (D)	R	R
30. Danielson (D)	R	R
31. Wilson, C. H. (D)	W	R
32. Anderson (D)	R	R
33. Grisham (R)	W	W
34. Lungren (R)	W	W
35. Lloyd (D)	W	R
36. Brown (D)	R	R
37. Lewis (R)	W	W
38. Patterson (D)	R	A
39. Dannemeyer (R)	W	W
40. Badham (R)	W	W
41. Wilson, Bob (R)	W	A
42. Van Deerlin (D)	R	R
43. Burgener (R)	W	W
COLORADO		
1. Schroeder (D)	A	A
2. Wirth (D)	R	A
3. Kogovsek (D)	R	R
4. Johnson (R)	W	W
5. Kramer (R)	A	W
CONNECTICUT		
1. Cotter (D)	R	W
2. Dodd (D)	R	A
3. Giaimo (D)	R	A
4. McKinney (R)	W	A
5. Ratchford (D)	R	R
6. Moffett (D)	R	R
DELAWARE		
AL Evans (R)	W	A
FLORIDA		
1. Hutto (D)	R	W
2. Fuqua (D)	W	W
3. Bennett (D)	W	R
4. Chappell (D)	W	W
5. Kelly (R)	W	W
6. Young (R)	W	W
7. Gibbons (D)	A	R
8. Ireland (D)	W	W
9. Nelson (D)	W	W
10. Bafalis (R)	W	A
11. Mica (D)	R	R
12. Stack (D)	R	R
13. Lehman (D)	R	R
14. Pepper (D)	R	R
15. Fascell (D)	R	R
GEORGIA		
1. Ginn (D)	W	W
2. Mathis (D)	W	W
3. Brinkley (D)	W	W
4. Levitas (D)	W	W
5. Fowler (D)	R	A
6. Gingrich (R)	W	W
7. McDonald (D)	W	W
8. Evans (D)	W	W
9. Jenkins (D)	W	W
10. Barnard (D)	W	W
HAWAII		
1. Heftel (D)	W	W
2. Akaka	R	W
IDAHO		
1. Symms (R)	W	W
2. Hansen (R)	W	W
ILLINOIS		
1. Stewart (D)	R	R
2. Murphy (D)	R	A
3. Russo (D)	W	W
4. Derwinski (R)	W	W
5. Fary (D)	PR	W
6. Hyde (R)	PW	W
7. Collins (D)	R	R
8. Rostenkowski (D)	R	W
9. Yates (D)	R	R
10. Vacancy		
11. Annunzio (D)	R	R
12. Crane, Philip (R)	A	A
13. McClory (R)	W	W
14. Erlenborn (R)	W	W
15. Corcoran (R)	W	W
16. Anderson (R)	A	A
17. O'Brien (R)	W	W
18. Michel (R)	W	W
19. Railsback (R)	W	W
20. Findley (R)	W	W
21. Madigan (R)	W	W
22. Crane, Dan (R)	W	W
23. Price (D)	R	R
24. Simon (D)	R	W
INDIANA		
1. Benjamin (D)	W	R
2. Fithian (D)	W	R
3. Brademas (D)	R	R
4. Quayle (R)	W	A
5. Hillis (R)	W	W
6. Evans (D)	W	W
7. Myers (R)	W	W
8. Deckard (R)	W	W
9. Hamilton (D)	W	W
10. Sharp (D)	W	R
11. Jacobs (D)	R	R
IOWA		
1. Leach (R)	W	R
2. Tauke (R)	W	W
3. Grassley (R)	W	W
4. Smith (D)	W	W
5. Harkin (D)	W	A
6. Bedell (D)	W	W
KANSAS		
1. Sebelius (R)	W	W
2. Jeffries (R)	W	W
3. Winn (R)	A	A
4. Glickman (D)	W	R
5. Whittaker (R)	W	W
KENTUCKY		
1. Hubbard (D)	R	W
2. Natcher (D)	W	W
3. Mazzoli (D)	A	A
4. Snyder (R)	W	W
5. Carter (R)	W	W
6. Hopkins (R)	W	W
7. Perkins (D)	R	W
LOUISIANA		
1. Livingston (R)	W	W
2. Boggs (D)	W	W
3. Treen (R)	A	A
4. Leach (D)	W	W
5. Huckaby (D)	W	W
6. Moore (R)	W	W
7. Breaux (D)	PW	PW
8. Long (D)	W	W
MAINE		
1. Emery (R)	W	W
2. Snowe (R)	W	P
MARYLAND		
1. Bauman (R)	W	W
2. Long (D)	R	R
3. Mikulski (D)	R	A
4. Holt (R)	W	W
5. Spellman (D)	R	R
6. Byron (D)	W	W
7. Mitchell (D)	R	R
8. Barnes (D)	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS		
1. Conte (R)	R	W
2. Boland (D)	R	W
3. Early (D)	R	W
4. Drinan (D)	R	R
5. Shannon (D)	R	R
6. Mavroules (D)	PR	W
7. Markey (D)	R	R
8. O'Neill (D)	Speaker	
9. Moakley (D)	R	W
10. Heckler (R)	R	W
11. Donnelly (D)	R	W
12. Studds (D)	R	R
MICHIGAN		
1. Conyers (D)	R	R
2. Pursell (R)	W	A
3. Wolpe (D)	R	R
4. Stockman (R)	W	W
5. Sawyer (R)	A	A
6. Carr (D)	R	R
7. Kildee (D)	R	R
8. Traxler (D)	W	R
9. Vander Jagt (R)	W	W
10. Albosta (D)	W	R
11. Davis (R)	W	P
12. Bonior (D)	R	R
13. Diggs (D)	A	A
14. Nedzi (D)	R	R
15. Ford (D)	R	R
16. Dingell (D)	R	A
17. Broadhead (D)	R	R
18. Blanchard (D)	R	R
19. Broomfield (R)	W	W
MINNESOTA		
1. Erdahl (R)	W	W
2. Hagedorn (R)	W	W
3. Frenzel (R)	W	W
4. Vento (D)	R	R
5. Sabo (D)	R	R
6. Nolan (D)	R	A
7. Stangeland (R)	W	W
8. Oberstar (D)	PR	R
MISSISSIPPI		
1. Whitten (D)	W	W
2. Bowen (D)	W	W
3. Montgomery (D)	W	W
4. Hinson (R)	W	W
5. Lott (R)	W	W
MISSOURI		
1. Clay (D)	R	R
2. Young (D)	W	W
3. Gephardt (D)	W	R
4. Skelton (D)	W	W
5. Bolling (D)	R	A
6. Coleman (R)	W	W
7. Taylor (R)	W	W
8. Ichord (D)	W	W
9. Volkmer (D)	W	W
10. Burlison (D)	R	W
MONTANA		
1. Williams (D)	R	R
2. Marlenee (R)	W	W
NEBRASKA		
1. Bereuter (R)	W	R
2. Cavanaugh (D)	R	R
3. Smith (R)	W	W
NEVADA		
AL Santini (D)	W	W
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
1. D'Amours (D)	R	R
2. Cleveland (R)	W	A
NEW JERSEY		
1. Florio (D)	R	R
2. Hughes (D)	W	W
3. Howard (D)	R	R
4. Thompson (D)	R	R
5. Fenwick (R)	W	W
6. Forsythe (R)	W	W
7. Maguire (D)	R	R
8. Roe (D)	R	A
9. Hollenbeck (R)	W	R
10. Rodino (D)	R	R
11. Minish (D)	R	R
12. Rinaldo (R)	R	R
13. Courter (R)	W	W
14. Guarini (D)	R	W
15. Patten (D)	R	W
NEW MEXICO		
1. Lujan (R)	W	W
2. Runnels (D)	W	A
NEW YORK		
1. Carney (R)	W	W
2. Downey (D)	R	R
3. Ambro (D)	R	R
4. Lent (R)	W	W
5. Wydler (R)	W	R
6. Wolff (D)	R	R
7. Addabbo (D)	R	R
8. Rosenthal (D)	R	A
9. Ferraro (D)	R	R
10. Biaggi (D)	R	A
11. Scheuer (D)	R	R
12. Chisholm (D)	PR	R
13. Solarz (D)	R	R
14. Richmond (D)	R	A
15. Zeferetti (D)	R	W
16. Holtzman (D)	R	R
17. Murphy (D)	W	W
18. Green (R)	R	R
19. Rangel (D)	R	R
20. Weiss (D)	R	R
21. Garcia (D)	R	PR
22. Bingham (D)	R	R
23. Peyser (D)	R	R
24. Ottinger (D)	R	R
25. Fish (R)	W	A
26. Gilman (R)	R	R
27. McHugh (D)	R	W
28. Stratton (D)	R	W
29. Solomon (R)	A	A
30. McEwen (R)	W	W
31. Michell (R)	W	W
32. Hanley (D)	W	P
33. Lee (R)	A	A
34. Horton (R)	R	R
35. Conable (R)	W	A
36. LaFalce (D)	R	P
37. Nowak (D)	R	R
38. Kemp (R)	W	A
39. Lundine (D)	R	R
NORTH CAROLINA		
1. Jones (D)	A	PW
2. Fountain (D)	W	W
3. Whitley (D)	W	W
4. Andrews (D)	W	W
5. Neal (D)	A	A
6. Preyer (D)	R	W
7. Rose (D)	R	W
8. Hefner (D)	R	W
9. Martin (R)	W	W
10. Broyhill (R)	W	W
11. Gudger (D)	W	W
NORTH DAKOTA		
AL Andrews (R)	W	W
OHIO		
1. Gradison (R)	W	W
2. Luken (D)	W	R
3. Hall (D)	R	R
4. Guyer (R)	W	W
5. Latta (R)	W	W
6. Harsha (R)	W	W
7. Brown (R)	A	A
8. Kindness (R)	W	W
9. Ashley (D)	R	R
10. Miller (R)	W	W
11. Stanton (R)	W	W
12. Devine (R)	W	W
13. Pease (D)	R	R
14. Seiberling (D)	R	R
15. Wylie (R)	R	W
16. Regula (R)	W	W
17. Ashbrook (R)	W	W
18. Applegate (D)	W	W
19. Williams (R)	W	W
20. Oakar (D)	R	R
21. Stokes (D)	R	R
22. Vanik (D)	R	R
23. Mottl (D)	R	R
OKLAHOMA		
1. Jones (D)	W	R
2. Synar (D)	W	W
3. Watkins (D)	W	W
4. Steed (D)	W	W
5. Edwards (R)	W	W
6. English (D)	W	W
OREGON		
1. AuCoin (D)	W	R
2. Ullman (D)	R	R
3. Duncan (D)	W	R
4. Weaver (D)	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA		
1. Myers (D)	R	W
2. Gray (D)	R	R
3. Lederer (D)	R	W
4. Dougherty (R)	W	A
5. Schulze (R)	W	W
6. Yatron (D)	W	R
7. Edgar (D)	R	R
8. Kostmayer (D)	R	R
9. Shuster (R)	PW	A
10. McDade (R)	W	W
11. Flood (D)	A	A
12. Murtha (D)	W	W
13. Coughlin (R)	W	W
14. Moorhead (D)	R	A
15. Ritter (R)	W	W
16. Walker (R)	W	W
17. Ertel (D)	W	W
18. Walgren (D)	R	R
19. Goodling (R)	A	W
20. Gaydos (D)	R	R
21. Bailey (D)	R	W
22. Murphy (D)	W	W
23. Clinger (R)	W	W
24. Marks (R)	W	W
25. Atkinson (D)	W	W
RHODE ISLAND		
1. St Germain (D)	R	R
2. Beard (D)	R	R
SOUTH CAROLINA		
1. Davis (D)	R	W
2. Spence (R)	W	W
3. Derrick (D)	W	W
4. Campbell (R)	W	W
5. Holland (D)	W	A
6. Jenrette (D)	R	W
SOUTH DAKOTA		
1. Daschle (D)	W	R
2. Abdnor (R)	W	W
TENNESSEE		
1. Quillen (R)	W	W
2. Duncan (R)	W	W
3. Bouquard (D)	W	W
4. Gore (D)	R	R
5. Boner (D)	R	R
6. Beard (R)	W	A
7. Jones (D)	W	W
8. Ford (D)	PR	P
TEXAS		
1. Hall (D)	W	W
2. Wilson (D)	W	W
3. Collins (R)	W	W
4. Roberts (D)	PW	A
5. Mattox (D)	W	W
6. Gramm (D)	W	W
7. Archer (R)	W	A
8. Eckhardt (D)	R	R
9. Brooks (D)	W	W
10. Pickle (D)	W	W
11. Leath (D)	W	W
12. Wright (D)	A	W
13. Hightower (D)	W	W
14. Wyatt (D)	W	W
15. de la Garza (D)	A	A
16. White (D)	W	W
17. Stenholm (D)	W	W
18. Leland (D)	R	R
19. Hance (D)	W	W
20. Gonzalez (D)	R	W
21. Loeffler (R)	W	W
22. Paul (R)	W	W
23. Kazen (D)	W	W
24. Frost (D)	W	W
UTAH		
1. McKay (D)	W	W
2. Marriott (R)	A	A
VERMONT		
AL Jeffords (R)	W	W
VIRGINIA		
1. Trible (R)	W	W
2. Whitehurst (R)	W	W
3. Satterfield (D)	W	W
4. Daniel, Robert (R)	W	W
5. Daniel, Dan (D)	W	W
6. Butler (R)	W	W
7. Robinson (R)	W	W
8. Harris (D)	R	R
9. Wampler (R)	W	W
10. Fisher (D)	R	R
WASHINGTON		
1. Pritchard (R)	W	R
2. Swift (D)	W	R
3. Bonker (D)	R	R
4. McCormack (D)	R	R
5. Foley (D)	W	R
6. Dicks (D)	R	R
7. Lowry (D)	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA		
1. Mollohan (D)	W	W
2. Staggers (D)	R	R
3. Slack (D)	W	W
4. Rahall (D)	R	R
WISCONSIN		
1. Aspin (D)	R	PR
2. Kastenmeier (D)	R	R
3. Baldus (D)	R	W
4. Zablocki (D)	R	W
5. Reuss (D)	R	R
6. Petri (R)	W	R
7. Obey (D)	R	A
8. Roth (R)	W	W
9. Sensenbrenner (R)	W	W
WYOMING		
AL Cheney (R	W	R

Challenge for the '80s:

Political, Social Issues Posed By Corporate Concentration

The growing concentration of corporate power begun in the 1960s poses a challenge over the next decade for all Americans, AFL-CIO Economist Markley Roberts declares in the American Federationist.

"American workers and their unions have long been concerned about concentration of economic and political power into fewer and fewer hands," Roberts observes in the AFL-CIO monthly publication.

"It is not simply a matter of the size of the giant corporations. There are serious political and social issues involving the power of big business over the lives of American citizens and over democratic government itself — apart from the negative impact of corporate concentration and power on inflation, efficiency, innovation, job-creation, and the American enterprise system."

Economic concentration is increasing, mainly as a result of mergers and acquisitions, and this concentrates power that major corporate figures are not reluctant to use, Roberts points out.

The top 100 manufacturing firms—or one one-hundredth of 1 percent of the U.S. total of 1.5 million — get 50 percent of all manufacturing profits, the article notes. The top 200 receive 70 percent, and the top 500 get 80 percent. In 1947, the top 200 manufacturing corporations held 46 percent of the assets. In 1971, they held 61 percent.

Employment is also more and more concentrated, Roberts observes. In 1958, there were 32 industrial corporations with 50,000 or more workers. By 1977, this had increased to 70 corporations with that many workers.

Most of these large firms shroud their operations in secrecy. They don't want to reveal data on line-of-product sales, foreign and domestic operations, costs, prices, and profits.

"They work at keeping secrecy barriers to protect them from criticism and effective regulation," Roberts asserts.

Workers have a direct interest in getting more information about the corporations with which they bargain, he points out. Annual corporate financial reports and SEC reports don't give enough information, and it's difficult to bargain effectively with subsidiaries of big corporations, he notes.

Conglomerate mergers and multinational corporate decisions to shift production to overseas plants often result in plant relocation and plant shutdowns that throw workers and communities on the scrap heap, Roberts points out.

"Job loss and loss of local industry are catastrophic for many communities," he adds.

Economic power finds its way increasingly into the political arena, the author notes. To help make the country ever more profitable for themselves, the big corporations and big banks exert hard political power as an important supplement to economic power, he observes.

Corporate political power is represented by the National Association of Manufacturers with its anti-union Council for a Union-Free Environment, the National Right to Work Committee, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, more than 1,300 well-financed corporate and industry association political action committees, and corporation lobbyists in Washington and in state capitals.

"Corporations are chartered by society," Roberts says. "Their pursuit of profit must be tempered and better regulated to assure that the national interest and basic democratic processes flourish and prevail.

"It is time for big business corporations to become federally regulated institutions through a law to regulate corporate power, to make them accountable to the American people."

Federal chartering of big corporations with assets over $10 million would be one effective way to bring corporate power under better control, Roberts argues. And he suggests other avenues to remedy the situation.

Labor-backed legislation in the Senate would prohibit corporations with assets or annual sales over $2 billion from acquiring any additional companies. There is also proposed legislation to speed up antitrust trials.

Other proposals in Congress to curb corporate power include stronger penalties for frauds against consumers, greater liability for executives involved in corporate wrongdoing, prohibitions against thought-control of workers by use of polygraph "lie detectors" and invasion of privacy, and requiring the giant oil companies to relinquish their holdings in competing sources of energy.

"A full-scale examination is needed of the structure of the American economy to inform Congress and the public on such economic developments as interlocking relations among the giant corporations and banks, their domination of key parts of the national economy, their impact on America's position in the world economy, and their impact on American communities and democratic institutions," the article concludes.



SPEAKING TOUR of the United States by General Secretary Lucy Mvubelo of the South African Trade Union Council included a stop at the AFL-CIO headquarters, where she discussed recent labor reforms in the country with Tom Kahn, special assistant to the federation president.

TV Dumping Penalties Scored as 'Wrist Slap'

A coalition of unions and employers in the U.S. television manufacturing industry has charged that the Treasury Dept. is preparing a "slap on the wrist" for Japanese manufacturers who have been found guilty of dumping their sets in this country and the American importers who purchased them for resale.

The Japanese and the American importers were supposed to pay $400 million to $600 million in fines, according to the COMPACT coalition, but now the Treasury Dept. may be preparing to settle for "as little as 9 percent" of the amount owed.

Dumping is the practice of selling goods abroad at prices less than those charged at home, in some cases for less than actual cost.

COMPACT—the Committee to Preserve American Color Television—was formed in 1976 in an effort to protect manufacturers and workers in the U.S. industry. Several domestic TV makers had gone out of business and more than 30,000 workers had lost their jobs because of rising imports, the group said when it was formed.

Co-chairmen of the coalition are Jacob Clayman, former president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., and Allen W. Dawson, executive vice president of Corning Glass Works.

Clayman and Dawson noted that the Treasury Dept. first issued a finding of dumping against the Japanese in 1971 and has collected only an "infinitesimal" amount of duties from the Japanese and the U.S. firms that purchased the sets at illegally low prices.

Now that a new international trade agreement is about to take effect, they said, the Treasury Dept. is engaged in a "crash program" to close the case.

"Having failed for eight years to implement the old law," they charged in a statement, "Treasury suddenly is pulling out all the stops to beat the deadline and administer a slap on the wrist to the violators they gave a free ride to all these years."

COMPACT wants its case heard in Customs Court, and its leaders say that a hearing will be possible only if the settlement as proposed by the Treasury Dept. is deferred until Jan. 1 when the new trade agreements go into effect.

Aside from the Industrial Union Dept., labor members of COMPACT include the Allied Industrial Workers; Flint Glass Workers; Communications Workers; Glass Bottle Blowers; Machinists; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Electrical Radio & Machine Workers; Furniture Workers; Steelworkers, and the independent Radionic Workers.

VA Doctors, AFGE Develop Plan To Strengthen Union, Improve Care

The American Federation of Government Employees and a professional association of physicians employed by the Veterans Administration have joined in a working agreement intended to give the doctors both effective union representation and a stronger voice in improving the health care system for America's veterans.

Most VA physicians are represented by AFGE locals at the bargaining table and are also members of the National Association of Veterans Administration Physicians, a professional group that does not seek bargaining status.

The agreement between the two organizations came as a preface to a Dec. 18 vote to be held at 77 VA facilities. At these centers, some 10,500 professional employees are represented by the AFGE, either through locals that include both professional and non-professional workers or in separate professional units.

The issue on the ballot is whether these professionals wish to be represented by the AFGE as part of a new national unit encompassing some 118,000 VA employees or in a separate professional unit.

Professionals would continue to be represented by the AFGE under either option, but both the union and the physicians' group are urging a single national unit of all VA employees represented by the AFGE.

As part of a Declaration of Joint Principles, the two organizations agreed on close cooperation on "common goals of preserving and strengthening the VA health care delivery system and improving the working conditions of all those dedicated to the care of veterans."

It noted cutback proposals that would make VA hospitals merely "charity wards of affiliated medical schools" with the remainder of VA operations contracted out to "old folks homes and nursing homes."

The physicians' group termed AFGE's bargaining strength "essential" and urged its members to join their AFGE locals as well as vote for a single national bargaining unit.

AFGE on its part looked to the physicians for "timely advice and assistance regarding matters of specific concern to VA physicians" and has recommended to its VA Council that a representative designated by the physicians' association be "an ex officio adviser" to the council's executive committee and to the bargaining team.

The AFGE, in cooperation with five other AFL-CIO affiliates having smaller numbers of members at VA facilities, had initially sought national bargaining rights for all VA employees. The VA did not agree to this and differing expiration dates of contracts posed obstacles.

But when the Federal Labor Relations Authority was established last year under the Civil Service Reform Act, the AFGE won the right to consolidate its 240 separate bargaining units into a national unit that would negotiate a master contract applicable to all installations represented by AFGE.

That, in turn, led to the scheduling of the election to determine whether there should be a separate bargaining unit of professionals—a category that includes non-supervisory physicians, nurses, dentists and technologists.

Regardless of the outcome of the professional vote, the AFGE national unit at the VA will be the largest single bargaining unit at any government agency. However, other unions both affiliated and unaffiliated with the AFL-CIO, will continue to bargain for employees in the VA installations where they hold representation rights.

Congress Stifles FTC In Slam at Consumers

(Continued from Page 1)

feat two years ago of a bill to establish a consumer protection agency left the Federal Trade Commission to protect the consumer interest.

In other congressional developments:

- Congress completed action on its budget ceiling for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1. A House-Senate deadlock over procedures for reconciling appropriations already voted with the new ceilings delayed action more than a month beyond the Sept. 15 deadline set by law. Most of the difference from the first budget resolution stemmed from the inflation rate, and the new tally sets a spending limit of $547.6 billion, with revenues estimated at $29.8 billion below spending.

The Senate broke a deadlock in conference by dropping a provision that would have required legislative committees to cut back spending already authorized in order to stay within the new ceilings. Instead, the conference agreement urges that this be done. The House, which opposed the mandatory "reconciliation" process, approved the conference agreement after defeating by a 207-187 vote a Republican motion that would have required a 2 percent cut in domestic spending to stay within the limits.

- The House defeated a bill by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.) that would have brought hospital medical interns and residents under protection of the National Labor Relations Act. It would have reversed an NLRB decision holding that the "house staff" at hospitals were primarily students rather than employees.

Kirkland Asks End to Class Lines:

Labor, Coalition Reaffirm Health Care Plan Position

(Continued from Page 1)

fended by Health, Education & Welfare Sec. Patricia Roberts Harris as a more realistic and less costly approach.

The Administration bill would provide no-strings coverage only for the poorest of the poor and for infants through their first year. Otherwise it would depend largely on a form of catastrophic insurance coverage to be provided through employers, which would require out-of-pocket payments of $2,500 before the plan takes over.

Kirkland countered that the Administration proposal "would merely pour new money into the present system, which is inherently inflationary and which puts emphasis on reimbursement for sickness, rather than prevention of sickness."

He said the AFL-CIO and other groups in the health care coalition have already compromised significantly by agreeing to a role for the insurance industry. This was done, Kirkland said, because of a belief that any bill that doesn't give the health insurance industry a share of the action isn't likely to get through Congress.

That concession "should overcome the objections that have blocked congressional action far too long," Kirkland suggested. "America can't afford to wait any longer for national health insurance."

While the best in health care remains "a privilege of wealth," it is not just the poor who suffer, Kirkland noted.

He pointed to the problem encountered by "workers with comparatively good insurance policies who need a doctor at night or on a weekend, or have waited for hours in a hospital emergency room with an injured child, or have faced the horrendous bills that remain after their insurance is exhausted."

Fraser stressed the universal and comprehensive coverage of the labor-supported Health Care for All Americans bill. It would include, without strings, all hospital services, physician services in and out of hospitals, home health services, X-rays and lab tests. Prescription drugs would also be provided for chronically ill Medicare beneficiaries.

Benefits would be largely funded by employer-paid premiums based on total wages. Employers would be required to pay at least 65 percent of the premium cost and could pay the full amount, either voluntarily or under the terms of a negotiated union contract.

There would be a variety of insurance options, but no policy would relegate participants to second-class status. The various groupings of insurers, including Blue Cross-Blue Shield, private companies and the various forms of health maintenance organizations would negotiate with hospitals to establish their overall budgets and with groups of physicians to set appropriate fees.

Kirkland protested provisions of some health insurance bills that would through various devices require persons using health services to pay a substantial out-of-pocket amount on the theory that this would make them "cost-conscious" and curb inflation.

"In plain English," Kirkland told the committee, deductibles, co-insurance and co-payments "all mean that the patient pays."

In fact, he insisted, "making the patient cost-conscious has no bearing on medical costs because the patient has no way to control those costs."

It is the doctor and not the patient who decides on the treatment, who sets medical fees, who determines how long a patient stays in the hospital, Kirkland stressed.

Adding to the patient cost, he suggested, would merely lessen the likelihood that an illness will be treated at an early stage rather than after it becomes serious.

Fraser told the two subcommittees that Americans will spend $220 billion for health care this year, both through tax-funded programs and in out-of-pocket costs. By all projections, that figure will continue to rise.

The Health Care for All Americans bill provides a means of keeping costs down under a more equitable system of delivering health care, he testified.

As for fears that medical services would be flooded by people with minor or imaginary problems, Fraser noted that hasn't been a significant problem in other countries that have adopted comprehensive health care.

There will be an added demand for services, he agreed. "But most people do not love to visit the doctor or the dentist. They do not flock to the waiting rooms, greedily seeking to be treated for fake pains."

While a small minority may overuse services, "to predict vast increases in abuses by patients is absurd," Fraser testified. Abuses in the Medicare and Medicaid programs "have been by providers and seldom by patients," he noted.

Harris stressed the higher costs of the Waxman-Kennedy approach, but conceded that the Administration's cost estimates for its bill assumes passage of the Hospital Cost Containment bill that the House recently gutted. Nevertheless, she expressed hope that the Senate will revive the bill and that the House will change its position.

Republican members of the panel sought to persuade the HEW secretary to support a token program limited to catastrophic insurance.

But while declining to predict whether the President would veto such a bill, Harris said firmly that "a catastrophic-only program does not meet our responsibilities to the American people."

Waxman said at the start of the hearings that the United States is "alone" among western industrial nations in not providing comprehensive health care.



TOP ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARD of Cornell University's New York State School of Industrial & Labor Relations is presented to Jack Golodner, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees, in recognition of his achievements in the field of labor relations. Making the presentation is E. Howard Molisani, a Cornell trustee and secretary-treasurer of the New York State AFL-CIO. Golodner is a 1953 graduate of the school.

Senate Actions Weaken Tax on Windfall Profits

The Senate killed by a 50-32 vote a labor-supported attempt to substitute the House-passed windfall profits tax for a Finance Committee bill that would bring in less than half as much revenue over the next 10 years.

It then went on to cut an additional $10 billion loophole into the committee version of the bill, which an AFL-CIO convention resolution termed so "anemic" that it should be vetoed if not improved by Congress.

The extra money for the oil companies came in an amendment granting "independent" producers who don't refine or market their oil an additional exemption from the windfall profits tax. The original committee version was so generous to the independents that the AFL-CIO had urged the Senate to close the loophole, thus increasing the windfall revenues by more than $16 billion. Instead, the Senate widened it.

There was a ray of hope, however, for a labor-supported amendment by Sen. Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) which would raise the windfall profits tax on oil from wells that began producing after 1972. The estimates of added revenues from the Bradley amendment ranged from $18.6 billion to $22.5 billion.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Russell B. Long (D-La.) had sought to table it, as he had the Bumpers substitute.

But this time, the Senate balked and rejected the tabling motion on a 58-39 vote, thus keeping the amendment before the Senate.

Friends of the oil industry prevented an immediate vote on the Bradley amendment, however, and hinted at the possibility of a filibuster if the Senate bill should somehow turn out significantly tougher than the committee version.

Regular corporation taxes will take only a relatively modest bite out of the estimated trillion dollars the oil companies are expected to collect over the next decade by raising prices of domestic oil to the artificially high and constantly rising world price set by the OPEC oil-exporting cartel.

The House-passed bill, which would bring in about $277 billion, is itself more modest than the Administration had sought and the House Ways & Means Committee had recommended. The Senate Finance Committee bill, before floor amendments, would yield an estimated $138 billion.

In a letter to senators, the AFL-CIO said labor would have preferred to retain controls. "But faced with the realities of profits that are an embarrassment even to the oil companies . . . the strongest possible windfall profits tax bill is an absolute necessity."

Still before Congress is the division of the funds. The Administration and the AFL-CIO have urged earmarking to help lower-income families pay higher fuel bills, to finance alternate energy sources such as synthetic fuel and solar power, and to fund mass transit expansion, as major examples.

The Senate Finance Committee bill includes an assortment of tax credits for corporations as well as individuals, and the House has not yet dealt directly with the issue of an energy trust fund.

Labor Endorses Senate Ratification Of UN Treaties on Human Rights

The AFL-CIO has endorsed President Carter's request that the Senate ratify four international agreements dealing with human rights. But it told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that labor has "no illusions" that totalitarian nations that have signed the agreements intend to comply with them.

Three of the documents are United Nations covenants and one was drawn up by the Organization of American States. They encompass various civil and political rights, including the right to form and join trade unions. Other provisions guarantee the right to emigrate and commit signatory governments to eradicate all vestiges of racial discrimination from their societies.

Tom Kahn, assistant to the president of the AFL-CIO, testified that the federation supports the treaties "with the reservations, understandings and declarations recommended" by President Carter. These reservations are intended to assure that the sometimes broad language of the treaties won't be interpreted in ways that conflict with constitutional guarantees or this country's understanding of democratic principles.

He said the AFL-CIO endorses ratification of all of the treaties because the right to organize unions, as spelled out in the International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights, also depends on freedom of association, the right to peaceful assembly and other basic rights dealt with in other treaties submitted for ratification.

The UN covenants, he noted, stem from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that the United Nations adopted more than 30 years ago.

Kahn said the AFL-CIO is quite aware that "the number of nations that have ratified each of the treaties exceeds the number of democracies in the world" and has "no illusions" that nations that regularly violate human rights will change their policies as a result of the treaties.

Likewise, he acknowledged, U.S. ratification will not end "criticism of imperfect U.S. compliance with human rights standards by nations with a perfect record of noncompliance." Nor will it give to Americans any greater legal protection than the country's Bill of Rights, vigorously enforced.

Nevertheless, he stressed, the labor movement supports ratification because the treaties "express our own democratic values—as Americans and as trade unionists—and because we believe no good purpose is served in our foreign policy by even the appearance of ambiguity in our commitment to these values."

W.A. Lubbers Set for NLRB Counsel Post

William A. Lubbers, a career officer with the National Labor Relations Board, has been nominated by President Carter to a four-year term as general counsel of the agency. The nomination is subject to Senate confirmation.

Lubbers, a Democrat, would succeed John S. Irving, a Republican, who was appointed in 1975 by former President Ford. Irving resigned on October 19. Norton C. Come has been serving as acting general counsel.

Lubbers, 55, currently serves as executive secretary of the NLRB. During his 27 years with the agency, he has held posts as attorney-advisor, supervisory attorney, deputy chief counsel to Chairman John H. Fanning, and NLRB solicitor.

A native of Cedar Grove, Wis., Lubbers began his federal service in 1951 when he joined the Wage Stabilization Board in Washington, as attorney. He transferred to the NLRB the following year.

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Union-Busting Practices Spelled Out by Labor Spy

Wholesale Food Costs Up Sharply

A sharp surge in wholesale food prices sent the government's producer price index up 1.3 percent in November, and AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald warned that this "portends continued problems for consumers in the months ahead."

Prices for consumer foods climbed 2.6 percent over the month, the steepest rise in more than five years, and more than offset a slackening of the steady increase in energy prices.

Oswald noted that such big jumps in food costs have their heaviest impact on low-income families. He urged that the government's anti-inflation policies "start concentrating on the price increases in the necessities of life."

The 1.3 percent monthly rise in the producer price index for finished products—those ready for sale to the consumer—put the year-to-year increase in the index at 12.8 percent, the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The higher food prices were led by a jump of 21.5 percent in processed poultry prices and increases of 6 percent for beef and veal. Pork prices also were up sharply over the month—7 percent—but remained lower than they were a year ago. Other heavy increases were posted by fresh and dried vegetables, but prices for fresh fruit, milled rice and fish turned down.

All of the changes at the wholesale level will have an impact on prices paid by consumers over the next few months.

The November increase in the wholesale cost of finished energy items was 2.5 percent, the smallest monthly advance since February, BLS said. The index for finished consumer goods other than food and energy rose six-tenths of 1 percent, continuing a year-long pattern. Capital equipment prices were up five-tenths of 1 percent, much less than the 1.2 percent rise in October.

The slowdown in wholesale energy cost increases resulted mainly from smaller advances for home heating oil (one-tenth of 1 percent as compared with 4.7 percent in October) and gasoline (3.4 percent against the October rise of 5.1 percent). Over the year, prices for fuel oil and gasoline have risen 74.3 percent and 60.2 percent, respectively, at the wholesale level.

The BLS index of producer prices for intermediate goods, supplies and components that need further processing before reaching the consumer went up nine-tenths of 1 percent, only half as much as in the previous month. A major factor was a slowing of prices for

(Continued on Page 3)

Oil Firms Victors in Early Votes

Oil producers have won most but not all of the early rounds of the Senate battle over the windfall profits bill.

In a significant exception, the Senate voted 58-35 to increase the windfall tax on oil from wells put in production from 1973 to 1978 under a formula that would bring in an estimated $22.5 billion more over a 10-year period than the version drawn up by the industry-allied Senate Finance Committee.

Another consumer victory was a vote to postpone the phaseout of the windfall tax until a later stage than the committee bill, restoring $4.5 billion in revenues.

But as the AFL-CIO News went to press, America's consumers and taxpayers had lost out on all other attempts to strengthen the Senate committee bill.

The windfall tax would be imposed on the extra profits that oil companies will take in by raising the price of domestic oil to the artificially high "world price" set by the oil-exporting nations.

The Senate first rejected an attempt to substitute the revenue provisions of the House-passed bill, which would bring in an estimated $277 billion over 10 years as compared with $138 billion in the Senate committee version. The House bill, adopted last June, was itself a watered-down version of the Administration proposal and the bill drawn up by the Ways & Means Committee.

Then the Senate voted to give independent oil producers a $10 billion profit break by exempting a larger share of their output from the tax.

Later in the debate, the Senate

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LABOR SPY ACTIVITIES that broke up a union organizing drive in Los Angeles were described to a House Labor subcommittee by David Sickler, left, an AFL-CIO field representative, and Rocci Pettigrew, who helped get union activists fired while working as an undercover agent.

Employer's Role Cited For Panel

A repentent labor spy testified at a congressional hearing that he and other undercover agents helped get key union supporters fired and broke up an organizing drive by a Southern California local of the Printing & Graphic Communications Union.

The witness, Rocci Pettigrew, told his story to a House Labor-Management subcommittee headed by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.). The panel has been focusing on the role of management consultants, supposedly a more sophisticated breed of union-busters. But there was nothing sophisticated in the spying and entrapment procedures described by Pettigrew.

He was known by the name of Rocky West to his fellow employees at the Anja Engineering Co. in Monrovia. Only the president of the firm and the plant superintendent were aware that he was an agent of the West Coast Detective Agency, Pettigrew testified.

Previous assignments for the detective agency, Pettigrew said, had involved investigation of employee thefts or drug problems. But just a few days after he started work at the Anja firm, Pettigrew was ordered to devote his full attention to a union organizing effort that had just begun.

Pettigrew said that he and other agents used at various times during the campaign were expected to report on each employee who indicated any pro-union sentiment. Agents got $15 for daily reports plus expenses, he said, in addition to their company-paid salaries.

The detective agency has had as many as 24 agents working at Anja

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For 700,000 Workers:

Wage Violations Hit $162 Million Record

Wage-hour investigators caught employers shortchanging nearly 700,000 workers by a record total of $162.5 million during the 1979 fiscal year, Labor Sec. Ray Marshall reported.

Of the total, $124 million resulted from employer chiseling on the minimum wage and overtime pay requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

In addition to the FLSA violations, the Labor Dept. wage-hour division also uncovered $11.3 million owed workers under the Davis-Bacon Act and other prevailing wage laws. Other major underpayments were $10.3 million due for sex discrimination in violation of the Equal Pay Act and $17 million owed for illegal age discrimination.

Since government inspections cover only a portion of the nation's workplaces each year, the true amount of underpayments is obviously higher.

The Labor Dept. also reported a record high in the amount of short wages it was able to recover for employees.

For fiscal 1979, employers agreed to pay $98.7 million in back wages to nearly 552,000 employees.

Both the total underpayments and the amount recovered are 26 percent above the tally for the previous year when $78.1 million was recovered.

The 60.7 percent recovery rate was the highest in the department's history, and Marshall credited both an increased staff authorized by Congress and administrative improvements within the department.

The report said the chief reason for the gap between money owed and money collected is that some cases where an employer refuses to pay are considered unsuitable for litigation by the government. In those cases, the employee involved can bring a private suit, and any money recovered would not be included in the department's tallies. Another obstacle is a two-year statute of limitations on filing a complaint against an employer.

U.S. Steel Plant Closings Termed 'Tragedy' to 13,000 Left Jobless

U.S. Steel's decision to close more than a dozen of its plants in eight states and permanently lay off more than 13,000 workers is "an economic tragedy," Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride said.

McBride urged emergency government action to aid the workers. He pledged that the union "will leave no stone unturned in efforts to save future jobs in the steel industry."

In announcing the company's actions, U.S. Steel Board Chairman David M. Roderick said the facilities to be closed "have become non-competitive for a variety of reasons, including operating costs, unfairly priced imports or excessive environmental spending requirements."

The Environmental Protection Agency, however, differed sharply with Roderick's claim that clean air and water standards were a major factor in the company's decision.

EPA spokesman Marlin Fitzwater pointed out that of the 16 plants involved, only two were in violation of any environmental requirement and facing cleanup costs. He pointed out that the agency had reached cleanup agreements with nine other steel firms over the past two years, "which indicates industry can modernize and meet foreign competition."

Workers at U.S. Steel's Youngstown, Ohio, mills were particularly bitter over the announced closings there, branding the company's decision a "betrayal" of a promise to keep the plants open as long as they remained profitable. Through extra efforts on the part of the workers, the turn-of-the century Youngstown plants actually bested

(Continued on Page 2)

Labor Scores Plan for New Tax Bonanza

A Senate bill that would give corporations a new multi-billion dollar tax windfall by changing depreciation rules would seriously worsen an already tilted tax structure, the AFL-CIO charged.

Research Director Rudy Oswald called on the Senate Finance Committee to reject the so-called "10-5-3" depreciation proposal which, he said, would shift tax obligations from corporations to individual taxpayers.

The proposed legislation would allow companies to write off their complete investment in

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Senate Tilting Windfall Bill To Oil Firms

(Continued from Page 1)

killed a labor-supported amendment by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), that would have denied independent producers a $1.4 billion percentage depletion tax allowance on the windfall portion of revenues.

Still to come were votes on proposals that would further weaken the Senate bill, as well as on amendments to strengthen it. One labor-opposed amendment would allow oil companies to keep a large part of the windfall tax if they agree to "plow back" the added revenue into new oil exploration.

Oil industry allies had threatened a filibuster if the Senate appeared to be moving toward passage of a bill close to the House version. But with the revenue estimate thus far some $122 billion less than the House had voted, the filibuster talk has died down.

A major labor-urged amendment still to be voted on would apply a minimum tax to categories of oil that the Senate committee bill would exempt from the windfall tax.

Apart from the amount of revenue, other differences will have to be resolved by House-Senate conferees. For example, the Senate voted to delete from the bill provisions for trust funds for transportation grants and fuel assistance.

The House bill contains a trust fund mechanism, but doesn't specify the purposes for which the money would be earmarked.

On the labor-supported amendments that were adopted, the increase in the windfall rate on the 1973-78 oil was sponsored by Senators Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) and John H. Chafee (R-R.I.). The amendment to postpone the phase-out of the tax was sponsored by Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.).

Labor Board Caseload Up 7.1% in First Quarter

Unions filed 7,324 unfair labor practice charges against employers in the first three months of 1979, the National Labor Relations Board reported.

The union unfair practice filings contributed to the 13,904 cases recorded in the first quarter, a 7.1 percent increase over the same period in 1978. A total of 10,424 unfair practice cases were filed with the board, 3,100 against unions of which 375 were secondary boycott cases.

The NLRB conducted 1,404 elections during the period with workers voting union in 48 percent of them. Unions won bargaining rights for 32,710 employees. AFL-CIO unions participated in 867 elections, winning 399 and losing 468, the board reported. Unaffiliated unions participated in 580 elections, winning 272 and losing 308.

Of the 192 decertification elections in the quarter, unions won 51 and lost 141. Of 28 union shop deauthorization polls conducted by the NLRB, 15 favored deauthorization and 13 favored continuation of the union shop.

At the end of March 1979 there were 23,241 cases of all types pending disposition at various precedural levels compared to 20,996 at the end of December 1978 and 19,999 at the end of March 1978.

Rail Unions Propose Deregulation Safeguard

Warning of the impact of proposed rail industry deregulation measures on railroad employees, a union spokesman called for provisions to protect workers whose jobs are jeopardized.

"Much of the savings to be achieved . . . as well as changes which would be made to enhance the earning power of the railroads, will be made at the expense of the employees of the industry in terms of job abolishments and transfers," warned Jim Snyder, chairman of the legislative committee of the Railway Labor Executives Association. Deregulation proposals would ease restrictions on railroad mergers, abandonments and rate setting.

Snyder, legislative director of the United Transportation Union, told the Senate Commerce Committee: "The railroad employee should be at least a partial beneficiary along with his employer of the fruits of this legislation. He must not be made its victim."

Snyder stressed the need to protect railroad workers against the effects of proposed deregulation provisions "which will adversely affect him." On behalf of the RLEA, he submitted suggested language for protective provisions to be incorporated into a Senate bill dealing with deregulation of the industry.

While Snyder was critical of the measure and declared "the RLEA vigorously opposes . . . abandonment provisions" of the bill, he called it "a substantial improvement" over the Carter Administration's proposed deregulation plan submitted to Congress last spring.

He said the measure's approach to mergers and abandonments also is "an improvement" over the Administration approach. However, he criticized various provisions of the bill—including time limitations and criteria for judging mergers and other types of consolidation—for not providing for adequate input from rail employees and other affected groups.

Snyder also said that in view of the fuel crisis this nation faces, abandonment and destruction of rail lines because more money can be made by a corporation investing in other aspects of its business "must not be permitted."

The recent AFL-CIO convention attacked deregulation as "antithetical to adequate service and fair rates" and called for "an in-depth study of the feasibility of nationalization of the nation's railroads."

Wage Panel Broadens Tandem Pay Exception

The Pay Advisory Committee has recommended and the Council on Wage & Price Stability approved a proposal to significantly broaden the tandem exception to the wage guideline.

A tandem relationship is a regular and historical linkage in pay and/or benefits between one group of workers and another.

The committee said the tandem exception is being modified to "recognize additional forms of historical leader-follower (tandem) pay relationships in wages and/or benefits and thereby avoid inequities and distortions which a narrower interpretation of the definition of tandem tends to create."

The committee said in a series of questions and answers that to qualify for a tandem exception, pay increases "need not necessarily be identical in terms of value and timing." It also recognizes and permits exceptions "for longstanding relationships between employee units or between employee units and an industry pay increase or labor market area pay movements."

All employers may self-administer tandem exceptions where they are able to show a consistent historical pay relationship.

The committee's recommendation was submitted by Chairman John T. Dunlop on Nov. 28, 1979. CWPS Chairman Alfred E. Kahn replied in a letter released Nov. 30, 1979, that "the council accepts the recommendation as we understand it."

The Pay Advisory Committee was created on Sept. 28, 1979, with Dunlop as chairman; 17 other members were named two-weeks later. The six labor members serving on the committee are AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, William H. Wynn, president of the Food & Commercial Workers; Lloyd McBride, president of the Steelworkers; John H. Lyons, president of the Iron Workers; Douglas Fraser, president, Auto Workers; Frank Fitzsimmons, president, Teamsters.



NEWEST Cabinet member is Shirley M. Hufstedler, the federal appellate court judge chosen as the first Secretary of Education.

Air Line Employees Ratify Hughes Pact

Chicago—The Air Line Employees Association ratified a new three-year contract with Hughes Airwest by an overwhelming vote, 2,098 to 110.

The agreement was reached earlier this fall after a six-week strike against the carrier. The pact provides wage increases, fringe benefit improvements and work-rules clarification.

'Tragedy' to Workers:

U.S. Steel Closings Cost 13,000 Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

a modern U.S. Steel mill last year in a profitability contest.

The loss of more than 4,000 U.S. Steel jobs at the Youngstown plants comes on top of 4,000 earlier layoffs when Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. shut a major plant there two years ago. And the day after U.S. Steel's announcement, Jones & Laughlin said it was closing yet another plant—its Brier Hill mill—which would mean the loss of 1,300 more jobs.

McBride expresed the hope that many of the jobs still may be saved and said the USWA will focus its immediate efforts on aid to workers whose jobs will be lost.

"Nearly everyone of the 13,000 . . . is a family breadwinner," he said. "Instead of 13,000 we are talking about at least 40,000 people who will be directly touched, and we are talking about many more thousands whose employment depends on the mill payrolls. It is as though the entire population of a large-sized city had received word of total job loss."

McBride said the union would seek an emergency meeting of the Labor & Community Adjustment Group of the Steel Tripartite Committee to prepare and coordinate a government response to the layoffs.

He also reported that he has called on all USWA local union presidents to prepare to head off future plant closings.

"Where we see poor maintenance or failure to innovate and stay modern, we will make such matters a subject of discussion with management," he declared. "Operation of the plant may be the purview of management, but failure to operate is of major concern to our members."

On the U.S. Steel closings, McBride said the union has urged that a government coordinator be assigned immediately to oversee adjustment programs that could ease the impact on the workers and their communities.

"We need to obtain immediate information on the details of the shutdowns and on the specific applications of the available adjustment programs, he said.

As to the future course of the industry, McBride declared:

"We cannot permit the nation to become dependent on foreign steel as it has become dependent on foreign oil. The industry needs extensive modernization, not shutdowns to reduce our steel capacity in the 1980s."

Rep. Charles Vanik (D-Ohio), chairman of a House trade subcommittee, said his panel would begin hearings immediately on a proposal for a multibillion-dollar loan program to help the steel industry modernize its plants. He said he feared that U.S. Steel's decision was the forerunner of similar actions by other steel firms.

"The answer to the problem," he said, "is to replace rundown, old, obsolete mills with modern, efficient, clean facilities."

The business press suggested that U.S. Steel had been planning its cutbacks for some time.

Business Week magazine reported in September that "a new strategy for the future" by the firm "calls for a massive efficiency drive in steel by shutting down unprofitable facilities, even though that will substantialy reduce capacity, and then by cracking down on labor."

The magazine also said the company intended to move away from steel and put more of its capital into such areas as chemicals, transportation and mining.

Business Week observed that U.S. Steel "is taking a tremendous risk" in cutting back on steel capacity and thus giving up some of its share of the steel market in exchange "for higher profits in the near term."

Public Employee Pacts Increase 55% in 5 Years

State and local government agreements with employee organizations rose 55.8 percent between 1972 and 1977, a government survey disclosed.

A newly-published report based on the 1977 Census of Governments lists 30,442 agreements as of October 1977, of which 23,564 were actual contracts and the remainder memoranda of understanding.

The formal contracts covered 3.8 million workers, or 29.4 percent of all full-time and part-time state and local government employees, the Census Bureau said.

It found membership in what the report terms "employee labor organizations" to be even higher than the number covered by contract. The Census Bureau put the membership total at 4.7 million workers, about half the total state and local government workforce.

In job categories, local firefighters were the most highly organized at the time of the 1977 survey, with 72.9 percent. Next came teachers, with 64.2 percent organized.

Employee bargaining units existed in 36 state governments and 12,110 local jurisdictions, the survey found.

It noted that 485 work stoppages had occurred in the 12 months ending October 1977, up from 381 in the previous census survey five years earlier.

The 1976-77 stoppages involved 1.4 million lost workdays. About 30 percent of the stoppages were resolved by direct negotiations between the parties and 28.5 percent by third-party mediation, the survey found.

Steelworkers' Vote Upheld by Court

A unanimous U.S. Court of Appeals panel for the District of Columbia circuit turned down a loser's challenge to the 1977 election of Lloyd McBride as president of the Steelworkers.

The three-judge panel affirmed a district court's finding that the challenge brought by Edward Sadlowski was "without merit." Sadlowski, who lost to McBride on a 328,861 to 249,281 vote, charged that the Labor Dept. had inadequately investigated his complaints about the conduct of the election.

Construction Study Shows:

Productivity Higher With Union Workers

By Rex Hardesty

Union construction workers are about one-third more productive than their non-union counterparts on the same kind of jobs, a new university study found.

Dr. Steven G. Allen of North Carolina State University said in announcing his study of more than 5,000 workers that the range of higher productivity for union members is from a low of 29 percent to a high of 38 percent. That outcome depends on the statistical variations used, he explained, on which the "mean" is 37 percent.

Allen said the assembled data point to two factors as causing the higher union productivity—better training through the union apprenticeship system and lower employer costs in finding and hiring qualified craftsmen via the union hiring hall. But he emphasized that the study was able only to determine the outcome of worker productivity, not attribute precise causes.

He noted that the study, which is the first of its kind, included findings that might be contrary to widely held opinion. What it proves, he said, is that "one cannot focus entirely on wage differences, strikes and jurisdictional disputes, although this is exactly what most academicians and the news media have been doing for some time."

Allen, an assistant professor of economics at North Carolina State, is a 1973 Michigan State graduate who received his doctorate at Harvard in 1978. His study was conducted on behalf of the Center to Protect Workers' Rights, which is headed by AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. President Robert A. Georgine.

In introducing Allen at the press conference announcing the study, Georgine said the center plans to continue the kind of study represented by Allen's work. Georgine said Allen was involved in "further study of absenteeism and labor markets in construction and in testing the effects of unemployment and inflation on the wage structure."

Allen said his study employed many of the same methods as a recent study of industrial output of union and non-union workers by Charles Brown of the University of Maryland and James Medoff of Harvard. But Allen noted that the construction industry study was not as easy as measuring, for example, the output of a coal mine where you can "divide tons of coal produced by manhours used" and come out with a precise figure.

Like the Brown-Medoff study, Allen sought to control such factors as capital, how recently the investment was made, firm size, region and kind of industry or construction in order to get a more accurate reading of the labor factor.

Brown and Medoff found the union industrial workers in 20 plants they studied were 24 percent more productive than non-union workers and Allen cited two other similar studies:

- Union workers in wooden household furniture were found to be 20 to 31 percent more productive in a 1976 study of 144 worksites by John R. Frantz of Harvard.
- Union workers in cement plants were found to be 6 to 8 percent more productive in a study by Kim B. Clark published in April 1979 by the National Bureau of Economic Research. That study covered 128 plants, only nine of which were union, but reached back to 1953 to cover a period in which six plants changed union status.

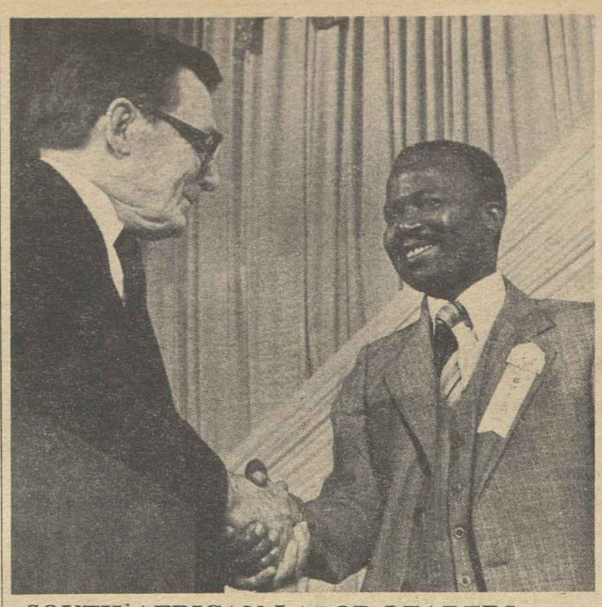
The similarity of the studies, Allen noted, tends to develop the statistical method for further research in the field. And all found evidence of the stability of the collective bargaining contract—especially in a more stable workforce with lower quit rates, higher skill development and higher worker morale—as a major contributing factor to the higher productivity. The lower employer cost in finding workers is peculiar to construction in the industries studied thus far, Allen said.

But conversely, he said the investment factor was not as major in determining productivity in construction as in manufacturing and other sectors, because "there is relatively little fixed capital equipment in construction. The amount of output per unit of time depends mainly on the expertise of the individual worker in construction, whereas in manufacturing the pace of the production process is frequently predetermined by technology, as in assembly lines and continuous processes."

Allen also found that the union members in his survey earn in a range of 41 to 45 percent more than their non-union counterparts.

For the employer, that wage rate applies to only the labor segment of his cost—which for construction is currently 16 to 30 percent, depending on the type of construction.

Thus even a 45 percent higher wage rate could add only 6 percent to the employer's total cost, whereas an increase of more than one-third in productivity increases the overall payoff. Getting the job finished one-third earlier saves the employer in materials, equipment rental, other overhead—and especially interest on construction loans—as well as increasing employer profits.





SOUTH AFRICAN LABOR LEADERS are greeted by AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland following their introduction to the federation's 13th convention. Churchill Mhlanga, president of the Glass & Allied Workers, and Mary Ntseke, general secretary of the Black & Allied Workers, were part of a five-member delegation of union observers from South Africa that also included Emma Mashinini, secretary, Commercial Catering & Allied Workers; Desmond Rose, vice president of the National Union of Commercial Catering & Allied Workers, and Morris Kagan, senior vice president of the National Union of Distributive Workers. The delegation heard a strong reaffirmation of previously stated AFL-CIO policy toward South Africa, including a rejection of recent "labor law reforms" that continue the policy of discrimination toward black trade unions and workers.

Puerto Rico Police Vote To Affiliate

San Juan, P. R.—Delegates representing Puerto Rico's 8,000 police officers voted enthusiastic approval of affiliation with the AFL-CIO International Union of Police Associations.

The 300 delegates ratified the affiliation vote taken earlier by the board of directors of the Puerto Rico Police Association.

Association President Angel David Gonzalez termed the action "history-making."

The international union's secretary-treasurer, Robert D. Gordon, said in San Juan that the $505-a-month basic salary for Puerto Rico police is "a disgrace." He said the union will set up a San Juan office to help its new affiliate achieve its goals.

The IUPA also announced the chartering of the Houston Police Patrolmen's Union, a 300-member group which will be the first affiliate in Texas.

Jewish Labor Group's Role as 'Bridge' Cited

New York—The role of the Jewish Labor Committee in forming a bridge between the American trade union movement and the Jewish community was the central theme of the JLC's 45th anniversary convention here.

In addresses to the delegates, outgoing President Jacob Sheinkman and his successor, Donald L. Slaiman, both stressed the need to assure that labor's message gets through to American Jews. Sheinkman is secretary-treasurer of the Clothing & Textile Workers and Slaiman is deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services.

Federation President Lane Kirkland, in a message to the delegates, pledged that American labor "will remain steadfast in support of Israel, strengthened by the knowledge, made surer in recent months, that to hold the fort for democracy and reason in the Middle East is to hold it for Americans." Kirkland told the convention that the JLC "has its work cut out for it, and you have our continuing support."

Discussing the Iranian hostage crisis on the eve of the United Nations Security Council debate, Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser, told the JLC that the Tehran government is testing "the established principles of civilized behavior." He issued a stern warning to Iran that while the United States seeks a peaceful solution to the crisis, it will not yield to any demands so long as Americans are held hostage.

"There should be no illusion on this subject," Brzezinski declared.

President Carter's efforts to resolve the Iranian situation peacefully were praised by the convention, but he was urged to "consider other means at his disposal" and to "use them if necessary."

Brzezinski also cited the JLC's record in safeguarding democratic institutions, in rescuing victims of Nazi persecution during and after World War II, and as a strong advocate of human rights within the framework of the labor movement.

He saluted the presence of Huber Matos, who spent 20 years in Cuban prisons for challenging Castro's perversion of the Cuban revolution, and Boris Penson, a Soviet dissident who was recently released from confinement in his country. Both were present as guests of the JLC.

Another major speaker, Shimon Peres, leader of Israel's Labor Party, charged that the Soviet Union is the behind-the-scenes manipulator of the problems now confronting the world and called for "true unity" of democratic forces against Soviet aggression and opportunism.

On trade union matters, Wilbur Daniels, chairman of the JLC's Trade Union Council on Human Rights, cited the organization's work in mobilizing Jewish community support for such labor objectives as minimum wage improvements, the original Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment bill, and labor law reform. Daniels is executive vice president of the Ladies' Garment Workers.

Resolutions adopted by the delegates expressed firm support for labor's boycotts of J. P. Stevens textile products, Coors beer and Winn-Dixie stores.

In concert with a discussion of the economic outlook for the 1980s by Gus Tyler, assistant president of the ILGWU, the convention condemned national policies that seek to "cool" inflation by sacrificing jobs. It also isued a "white paper" detailing a program to explore, develop and produce energy sources from federal lands through a government-owned energy corporation.

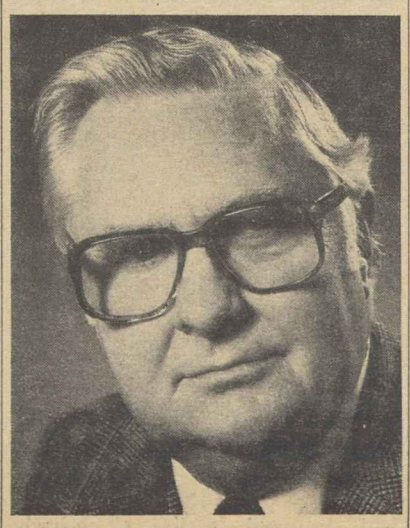
A session on black-Jewish relations led by Norman Hill, executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, and Theodore Mann, president of the Conference of Major Jewish Organizations, stressed to need to reinforce the labor-civil rights coalition without recriminations.

Dean Clowes Named To Labor Dept. Post

Dean K. Clowes, a trade unionist with a wide background in international labor affairs, has been named deputy under secretary of labor for international affairs.

Labor Sec. Ray Marshall announced the appointment of Clowes to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Howard Samuel on his election as president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

Clowes will be responsible for all international activities of the Labor Dept. and will direct the Bureau of International Labor Affairs. The bureau assists in formulating international economic and trade policies affecting American workers and administers the trade adjustment assistance program as well as arranging trade union exchange and other programs for foreign visitors to the United States.



DEAN CLOWES

Clowes, 56, had been director of the International Affairs Dept. of the Steelworkers since 1972. He has served the union also as director of the Political Action Dept. and of its Older & Retired Workers Dept.

His career began as a CIO representative in Atlanta. He became a labor adviser to the Marshall Plan in Europe and joined the Steelworkers as a staff representative in 1953.

State-County Gains Illinois Unit of 650

Springfield, Ill.—A 650 worker unit of state maintenance workers voted decisively for representation by the State, County & Municipal Employees in a re-run representation election.

The tally was 232 for AFSCME to 157 for continued representation by the unaffiliated Illinois State Employees Association.

Food Costs Lead Wholesale Surge

(Continued from Page 1)

construction materials, which edged up two-tenths of 1 percent after a jump of 1.6 percent in October.

The index for crude materials—those entering the market for the first time for later processing, manufacure or fabrication—rose 2 percent over the month, due mostly to a larger advance in prices for crude foodstuffs. Crude energy materials were up 1.7 percent, against a 2.5 percent rise in October. The 3.1 percent rise in the price of crude petroleum was the smallest since May. The increase in natural gas prices also was the smallest since last spring.

Consumer Protection

THE AFL-CIO PLEDGES its continuing commitment to the advancement of consumer interests in this country, on behalf of its own members and the general public.

We commend the efforts of regulatory agencies, such as the Federal Trade Commission, the Food & Drug Administration, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission to guard the public against unsafe and defective products and to promote honest and fair business dealings with the public.

We urge full funding for these essential agencies and support for legislative authority necessary to carry out their vital functions.

We reject efforts to weaken laws and regulations protecting consumers based on unproven business claims that such protections add to business costs and contribute to inflation. We therefore oppose efforts to undercut timely and effective rulemaking by regulatory agencies through either the so-called legislative veto or the added red tape requirement of an economic impact statement.

We demand that the added health of the American people and savings in health costs and lost work time be quantified to balance actual dollar costs of business compliance with regulations protecting public health.

We continue to endorse the establishment of a consumer agency to promote and represent consumer interests within the Executive Branch of government.

We again call for enactment of federal minimum standards for no-fault automobile insurance and for a full scale investigation by the Congress of the entire insurance industry so as to expose abuses and recommend remedial actions.

We support legislation to reinstate the rights of state attorneys general under the 1976 Parens Patriae Act to protect consumers from illegal price-fixing by businesses.

We oppose any weakening of consumer protections in the Federal Consumer Credit Protection Act and related consumer credit statutes, whether openly or in the guise of "simplifications."

State and local central bodies should continue their efforts in state legislatures to place fair limits on charges and fees for consumer credit and to resist increases in such charges.

—Resolution adopted by the 13th AFL-CIO convention.

To Meet Human Needs

HUNGER, POVERTY AND DISEASE wrought by hurricanes, earthquakes and revolutions continue to plague large areas of the world.

There is always an urgent need for water systems, housing, roads and medical care in the underdeveloped areas which can be partially met by individual contributions through CARE. For each dollar contributed by U.S. citizens, CARE has delivered $9.34 in aid.

The thirteenth convention of the AFL-CIO congratulates CARE for its successful worldwide operations, and urges affiliated organizations to continue financial support of CARE as an important means of meeting human needs.

—From a resolution adopted by the 13th AFL-CIO convention.

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'Here's the Bill!'



All Volunteer Force:

Recruiting Scandal Exposes Military Personnel Problems

By Gus Tyler

SOONER OR LATER, the scandal over how men and women are being recruited into the armed services had to break. Recruiters concealed criminal and medical records; they falsified credits for high school education; they coached their enlistees to pass tests. They were engaging in these illegal acts because they were under pressure to meet quotas.

Now and then, one of the recruiters was caught, reprimanded, punished. But now, the Army reports to a congressional committee, the violations have gone wholesale. A big batch of recruiters—427 of them—has been fired; more than 12,000 enlistees have been improperly recruited.

The Army is not alone. Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), who is chairman of the committee conducting the hearings, says matters are worse in the Navy and the Marines.

This means that there are tens, perhaps hundreds, of thousands of men and women in the armed forces who don't belong there: they don't qualify—morally or educationally. They were frauded into uniform to meet quotas. Of the recruiters who were charged with improprieties, three out of four were recipients of honors for their excellent scores as service salesmen.

The problem is not corruption, however; the recruiters did not get rich by their monkey-business. They were just doing what they felt had to be done to fill the slots in our "all volunteer force."

The problem is the voluntary service as presently designed. Instituted six years ago, the AVF (All Volunteer Force) has had a tough time doing what it was supposed to do; namely, raise the necessary personnel for the services.

Recruiting has been very expensive. The single largest item in our military budget is not missiles or submarines but personnel, which eats up more than half the total defense outlay. Pay for recruits rose by 193 percent (in constant dollars) between 1964 and 1976 while pay for the average unskilled worker in the private economy rose by only 10 percent.

Despite pay inducement, bonuses, tax advantages, heavy advertising, and recruiter cheating, the services have not been able to get the people they need. There is a shortfall, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

The quantitative shortfall has been concealed. Instead of admitting that they could not get the necessary number, the services have simply reduced their requirements. The 1970 Gates Commission Report projected a military force of 2,500,000. By 1979, that was reduced to 2,047,000—about half a million below the projection.

The military has had all these problems despite the high unemployment rate among youth.

The traditional alternative to volunteer force is conscription, the draft. But this notion is so unpopular that Congress could not even pass a proposal simply to put together a roster of names of young people to be held in readiness.

So we are faced with a dangerous dilemma. Neither the volunteer nor the draft approach is serving our national needs at a time when world tensions suggest that we do not leave ourselves naked in a naughty world.

Up to now, this question has been hush-hushed. The scandal of the recruiters may force us to address the challenge more frankly and forcefully.

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New Horizons Seen Enlarging Bargaining

To the workers at the turn of the century, freedom meant freedom *from*—freedom *from* exploitation and the irrational authority of a boss; freedom *from* drudgery, monotony and the dehumanizing aspects of manual labor.

For the worker of today's post-industrial age, however, freedom *from* no longer suffices. These workers seek freedom *to*—to make their voices heard at the workplace, in the community and in the affairs of the nation.

They seek freedom to travel, to learn, to participate in all that our culture offers. Rather than seeking ways to limit the scope of collective bargaining, we should be seeking ways to channel these demands into the crucible of collective negotiation.

—Jack Golodner, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees, accepting award from New York State School of Industrial & Labor Relations.

Growth Continues:

U.S. Labor Holding Its Own In Battling Management Foes

By Alan Kistler

The recent AFL-CIO convention and the change in top leadership touched off the expected critiques of the American labor movement. An article in the Economist, a respected British publication, dealing with the "declining" trade union movement and the need for a "survival strategy," brought a reply from Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services. This is most of that letter.

MANAGEMENT HAS ALWAYS resisted the growth of American unions, not just in the '30s and now the '70s as is popularly thought, but also in the '40s, '50s and '60s, to cover only a few decades. In the '40s, following the war, unions were forced into possibly the most serious bout of strikes in their history in order to preserve the institutions they had built in the late '30s and during the war years. Next, frustration and sometimes bitter defeats followed the CIO's Southern Drive in the '40s and '50s; Boulwarism was management's attack in the '50s and we began a whole new struggle in that decade to organize public employees deprived of the legal right to organize; and the current stage which did not begin recently but started in the late '50s and early '60s to use technological change and plant relocation as a whip in an attempt to beat back unionization.

Union membership has not fallen; it has grown. From 1968 to 1976, the latest published figures, union membership in the United States increased by 2.5 million. This growth occurred in spite of the massive shift from manufacturing to services, a dramatic turnaround to our disadvantage in international trade; an upheaval of American industry moving away from traditional manufacturing centers to the South, West and overseas; an unprecedented growth in the labor force due to changes in age patterns and a historically unique rise in the number of women of all ages entering the job market, and, most of all, high levels of unemployment, especially in manufacturing.

As might be expected, this resulted in a drop of relative position so that the labor movement represents 28.9 percent of the non-agricultural labor force (not 20 percent as the Economist article claimed). Even this figure is misleading since labor force figures include large numbers of managers, supervisors and others who are not organizable either by law or tradition in the United States, let alone independent professionals and others who are represented by associations outside the labor movement. Labor is, roughly, at about 35-40 percent of its potential, not large enough from my viewpoint, but hardly insubstantial.

The main example typically given of our "declining political clout" is the defeat of labor law reform legislation presented to Congress in 1978. That was a defeat. But it should be recognized that this piece of legislation was backed by an overwhelming majority in the House of Representatives, a considerable majority in the Senate and the President of the United States. It was beaten only by the creation of a legislative impasse which would have very possibly, had it happened in a European parliamentary context, toppled the government.

The labor movement wins virtually every election in which the management refrains from creating an atmosphere of fear and intimidation. The Economist reported an unsuccessful election campaign at a German-owned firm called Badische. It is interesting to contrast this with another German firm Volkswagen who, when they set up a new manufacturing plant in the United States, did not resort to these kinds of tactics. The result was 800 to 70 in favor of the union.

THE LABOR MOVEMENT does not have to "justify its existence" to the workers of this country. But we do have to fight for that existence, as we have always had to, and as we fought last year along side the over 8,000 workers who were illegally fired or disciplined (most of them fired) as determined by the National Labor Relations Board, for attempting to join our movement.

This fight will go on. But it will be aimed at the real opposition—those who attempt to stop workers from their fight to form unions, freely and without coercion.

We will continue to analyze our programs, welcome new ideas and energy, and increase the sophistication of our efforts.

We recognize the symptoms for what they are—the battle cries of a management that has never conceded its authority without a fight—and that has never really accepted collective bargaining. Some of its tactics are new, but the fight is the same. We engaged that fight a long time ago, and we will be continuing it many years after the next spate of predictions of our impending demise.

For Patients, Employees:

Doctors, Union Join to Improve Conditions at VA Hospitals

IMPROVED CONDITIONS for both patients and employees of Veterans Administration hospitals is the focus of the joint drive launched by the American Federation of Government Employees and the VA physicians association, AFGE President Kenneth T. Blaylock said in a network radio interview.

The unique working agreement was "built around the common concerns" of the doctors and the union over the slippage in the quality of the VA health care system and the threatened phase-out of specialized care for military veterans, Blaylock said. Noting that the union has consolidated all of its VA units into an agency-wide unit, he said the joint effort will use the collective bargaining system to negotiate agency regulations and address the "very real problems" of the agency.

Top quality specialized care for "the young men and women who disrupt their lives or wreck their health in behalf of the defense" of the nation "is really the bottom line," Baylock declared on the AFL-CIO program, Labor News Conference.

He said the VA health care system is hampered by deteriorating facilities, equipment shortages, heavy work schedules and insufficient medical, technical and professional personnel. He pointed out that most of the VA facilities are now connected with a university program and that university officials—not VA officials—make many of the key policy and operational decisions.

"No longer does the VA, for instance, even determine which doctors are eligible for hire at a VA hospital—the dean's committee of the particular university makes that determination," Blaylock asserted. He said much of the VA's congressional funding is now channeled to the university system, not for VA programs.

It's reaching the point where the universities "are calling virtually all of the shots on the (VA) health care system," producing "a very adverse effect on the patients," Blaylock declared.

Reporters questioning him on the public affairs program were Michael Arian of Government Employee Relations Report, a publication of the Bureau of National Affairs, and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. Labor News Conference is aired weekly by Mutual radio.



Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE FLOOD OF WOMEN into the labor force in recent decades, whether by choice or necessity, is creating pressures to bring society's laws and policies up to date with this new reality.

Between 1890 and 1978, the female labor force participation rate grew from 18 percent to 50 percent. In 1978, 42 million women—half of the female population age 16 and older—were working or looking for work. Nearly half of all working women were married and an increasing number of mothers. By March 1979, the number of working women with children had climbed to 16.6 million.

The trend towards an increasingly female labor force is likely to continue, according to a new study issued by the Urban Institute. Women will be entering the work force at a rate of about a million a year until 1990 and most of the new workers will be married mothers, the institute says.

Ralph Smith, editor of "The Subtle Revolution: Women at Work," estimates that by 1990, 55 percent of American women 16 years of age and older will be in the work force. Together with general population growth, this means some 52 million women will be working or looking for work.

"Subtle Revolution" explores the implications of this trend in terms of women in the job market, home and family life, and institutional responses. It also helps to dispel some misunderstandings about women in the work force.

For example, the book buries the once prevailing belief that most women can depend on men for financial support, that they choose to work for "pin money."

Such an outlook, in the words of the authors, gave rise "to the attitude that women's unemployment is not a major social problem. This misconception distorts the truth about the contemporary female labor force."

These women "are clearly working because of necessity," the authors assert. Further, of the remaining 32 percent of working women, many make important contributions to their household incomes—earnings that often provide the margin that enables a family to enjoy a better standard of living.

Womens' unemployment, then, is a significant problem for working women and their families, particularly in the cases of the least skilled and most needy women workers whose incomes provide the sole source of support for their families.

UNDERSTANDING WHY women work is very important to improving the status and opportunities available to working women. For example, the authors point out that persistence of the "pin money" point of view affects attitudes of employers, parents, teachers and women themselves in ways that perpetuate the current problems of limited job opportunities and limited earnings potential for women.

In terms of education, training and ultimately employment, the preconception that "women's place is in the home" leads young women—and the adults who guide and influence them—to expect and plan for a career in the home rather than a place in the world of work. Similarly, some employers hesitate to hire women for certain jobs, such as those requiring a great deal of training, if they do not expect them to stay on the job.

The authors call for a number of policy changes to prepare for an increasingly female work force. These include vigorous enforcement of equal employment opportunity legislation and counseling on career planning for women aimed at predominantly male occupations.

The advocates of changes in laws as well as in public and private policies say their objective is to move the institutions of society toward neutrality on the decision of women to work. Penalties that have developed as laws lagged behind social change would be ended. The right of a woman to work or to be a fulltime homemaker would be preserved.



QUALITY PATIENT CARE and better employee conditions in Veterans Administration hospitals are the focus of a joint drive by the Government Employees union and the VA physicians association, AFGE President Kenneth T. Blaylock, center, said on Labor News Conference. The AFL-CIO vice president was questioned by Michael Arian, left, of Government Employee Relations Report and David Prosten of Press Associates, Inc. The AFL-CIO produced program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.

How to Buy:

Consumer Complaints Mount On Inadequate Product Labels

By Sidney Margolius

A FRIEND WITH HIGH BLOOD pressure was advised by her doctor to start immediately on a low-salt diet. She was also advised by her physician that the most important thing to remember when shopping was her eyeglasses or a magnifying glass. The reason: she had to read the labels, small printed as they might be, to check on the presence of salt in unsuspected places, like in canned green peas or processed cheeses.

Others who depend on adequate labeling to check their food ingredients include diabetics and kidney patients who have to monitor their sugar and other carbohydrate consumption; allergic patients who have to check for the presence of milk, nuts, eggs, monosodium glutamate, among hundreds of other items, and children on no-additive diets.

Labeling also is important to those who do not eat pork or pork products for religious reasons. The purchase of a frozen pie crust made with lard, for example, would break their religious proscriptions.

Currently, the government does require some ingredient labeling with the ingredients listed in descending order of amount. The trouble is that, although one gets an idea if there's more water than beef in the corned beef hash can, one doesn't know exactly what is the percentage of each. And when it comes down to salt, inscribed somewhere at the bottom of the ingredient list, there's still no way to know how much is included.

At recent government hearings held by the Food & Drug Administration (over 3,000 attended; 9,000 answered by mail), one of the most prevalent complaints from consumers was that they didn't know how much of each ingredient was included in a product.

They also asked for the listing of the amount of cholesterol, the percentage of fat and carbohydrates, and the type of food coloring. They also called for a "use-by" date on perishable food. Consumers wanted more use of nutritional labeling and said the present use of the recommended daily allowance as a nutritional guide was confusing.

Another barrier to careful buying is the so-called standard item. There are about 20 items so classified, including cheese, margarine, mayonnaise, salad dressings and jams, which are exempt from any kind of labeling at all. You may remember that in a recent ad campaign for a low-fat mayonnaise-type product, the manufacturer stressed that the product could not be called mayonnaise. It was marketed as "imitation."

The manufacturer may, and sometimes does, voluntarily list the ingredients of standardized products. For awhile, it looked like we were getting closer to full-disclosure labeling. Many firms have started listing percentages of ingredients, calorie count, fat count and the like. But a government program aimed at attaining such labeling voluntarily from manufacturers was suspended in April, the victim of budget cuts. Not all manufacturers planned to participate in the program, but, said a spokeswoman for the White House consumer affairs office, "We hate to see the end of any program that could potentially supply such important information to the public." The spokeswoman said the cutoff of the labeling program might show a need to go the congressional route and have labeling legislation passed.

Of course, the legislators react best to constituent pressure and, despite many complaints about product labeling, a recent survey showed that the majority of consumers still don't see it as a problem.

According to the study, done for the Food & Drug Administration in June, only 10 percent of those surveyed were seriously critical of food labeling and saw the need for revision, and another 15 percent expressed some interest in the problem.

THE SURVEY was made among 1,347 primary food shoppers, those who do most of the shopping for a single household. It was commissioned by the FDA in coordination with the Federal Trade Commission and the Dept. of Agriculture. The FDA did point out that the 75 percent who expressed no interest in changing labeling were not strongly opposed to it, but rather neutral or apathetic.

Those who had complaints about product labels expressed a desired, similar to those in the study cited above, that all ingredients be listed on labels, including individual spices and flavorings rather than the generic terms. They also expressed a desire to have calorie information listed and favored the simplification of label language. This group also said they would like ingredients listed on all foods, including the so-called standard items.

The Grocery Manufacturers of America countered that some of these requirements, when initiated, would result in higher costs. "Inclusion of all flavorings could be a costly task," a spokesman for the grocery manufacturers said. "Larger labels to accommodate this additional information would be needed."

Since they appear to be in the minority still, those supporting broader labeling cannot remain quiet or little will be accomplished. Only if consumer groups and individuals rally around their labels, will the Washington agencies or even Congress respond.

Soup to Nonsense:

Willing Suspension of Disbelief Impossible in Some TV Scenes

By Jane Goodsell

THE COUPLE ON TV is having an intense discussion at a table for two in an expensive restaurant. She says, "We've got to stop seeing each other," and he says, "But without you my life is meaningless, I can't go on," and just then the waiter appears to take their order.

The girl shrugs, "I don't care, anything is fine," and the man tells the waiter, "We'll both have the veal." The waiter says, "Very good, sir." He disappears and the couple resumes the discussion where it left off, but I'm not listening. I can't get my mind off the waiter's inexplicable behavior. Why didn't he ask them what kind of salad dressing—blue cheese, french, thousand island or oil and vinegar—they prefer? Not only that, he didn't even find out whether they want baked potatoes, french fries or rice pilaf.

It's little things like this that bother me when I watch television. I can accept vampires, witches, cute young men from Outer Space, and heroes who can keep their balance on the wings of airplanes. What strains my credulity is a hero who can always get a taxi when he needs one; and I have trouble relating to heroines whose faces don't get blotchy when they cry their eyes out over boyfriends who jilts them for Somebody Else.

Another scene I find untrue to life is the one where the wife announces that she can't go on living like this, she's splitting, getting the next plane out of San Antonio. She grabs a suitcase out of the closet, throws a few things into it, and off she goes, presumably forever.

This is patently ridiculous.

I've never known a woman who could leave home for an overnight visit to her mother without writing a three-page list of instructions on feeding the cat, watering the plants, picking up her skirt at the dry cleaners, cancelling her hair appointment and reminding the plumber to fix the bathroom faucet.

Still, in one way television has it all over real life. You can always switch to another channel.



MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION gave a special recognition award to the AFL-CIO's Human Resources Development Institute for its success in finding jobs for workers with mental impairments. HRDI Program Coordinator Vincent Moretti, left, accepts the plaque from William Stratton, former Illinois governor and now an official of the Canteen Corp.

Earnings Understated:

Oil Company Profits Cloak Added Riches

THE BIG OIL COMPANIES have every right to be embarrassed.

Here they are, explaining themselves in full-page newspaper and magazine ads and over radio and television: Profits are not that high; earnings are reinvested in costly exploration; the industry is vital to the national security.

But a recent analysis of oil company earnings charges that the profits are substantially understated and the industry is deceiving the public. What's more, the big oil companies are taking over energy-related companies and are moving aggressively into political spending.

The record third quarter profits reported by oil companies inspired an analysis by the Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition, the Tax Reform Research Group and the Energy Action Educational Foundation.

The 18 largest oil companies reported $6 billion in profits for the third quarter, up 103 percent from the same period a year earlier. They made $15 billion in the first nine months of 1979, up 71 percent over a year earlier.

But the analysis of oil company accounting techniques and tax deferrals shows how they understated even these record profits.

"By expensing the costs of their unsuccessful exploration wells, by deducting 'phantom taxes' from income and by the way they account for petroleum inventories, oil companies have been able to under-report their earnings by at least 33 percent," the analysis showed.

And contrary to oil company claims that they reinvest profits in oil and gas exploration and production, the analysis revealed that "13 of the largest oil companies spent only 42 percent of their 1978 cash flow of $24 billion in exploration and production investments."

If this is so, then what are the oil companies doing with the rest of the billions of dollars?

According to several reports, they are moving into the rest of the energy field as well as diversifying into other industries. They smell the billions of dollars floating their way as oil price decontrol continues and as government "incentives" become available to develop other energy sources.

Instead of exploring for more domestic oil and gas, for example, Mobil Oil spent 37 percent of its global capital budget this year to buy a competitor, General Crude, for $800 million.

A few years ago, Mobil put out $1.8 billion for Montgomery Ward and the Container Corp. of America. Exxon diversified. Gulf Oil took over the model city of Reston, Va., and looked at the price tag for the Barnum & Bailey Circus.

It seems that an energy crisis for ordinary Americans is seen as a golden opportunity by big oil.

The New York Times quoted one academic specialist as saying the companies will evolve into "energy management" and natural resource companies.

Major oil companies began about a decade ago to hedge their position, taking over or buying into the largest coal producers. Others moved into copper mining and chemicals. They have long since acquired fleets of tankers, many registered in Liberia and Panama to escape union contracts and U.S. taxes.

The only way to stop the big oil octopus from gaining complete domination of the nation's natural resources and energy future is through the President and the Congress. **(PAI).**

Georgine Cites Defects:

Pension Law Change Called Unwarranted

A Senate bill that would establish a single agency to deal with all phases of pension plan regulation is marred by provisions that would impose new burdens on multiemployer plans, President Robert A. Georgine of the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. protested.

Georgine testified before a Senate Finance subcommittee as chairman of the National Coordinating Committee for Multiemployer Plans, made up of union-negotiated pension and health-welfare programs that cover a number of employers in an industry or a geographical area.

There is an urgent need to shore up the funding and termination insurance guarantees of these plans, Georgine noted, and hearings have been held on legislation needed to avert widespread abandonment of pension plans when the government's benefit insurance coverage becomes mandatory next May. Passage of that termination insurance bill is "vital" and should not be delayed, Georgine urged.

But he called on the Senate panel to make changes in the additional legislation that has been introduced by Senators Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.).

He saw problems especially in a so-called "anti-fraud" provision that would open the door to costly litigation which in some cases could be based on claims that someone connected with the plan had misrepresented its benefits or conditions 20 or 30 years before.

Georgine noted that a labor-supported provision of the bill confirms the finding of the Supreme Court that pension plans are not comparable to stock sales, and therefore regulations imposed by the Securities & Exchange Commission to prevent misrepresentation of corporate stocks can't be applied to pensions funds, which are already fully regulated by other government agencies.

Yet the anti-fraud language of the Williams-Javits bill would amount to the same over-regulation the Supreme Court decision sought to prevent, Georgine said.

He conceded that expressing opposition to something labeled "anti-fraud" could be "misunderstood by some and clearly distorted by others."

But he stressed that "remedies already exist under current law" to deal with fraud against pension plan participants and their beneficiaries.

The record does not show the need for additional legislation, Georgine contended, and the "vague standard" that would be written into law conflicts with present legal obligations on plans "to disclose specified information to participants in a specified manner."

Georgine also objected to another provision of the bill that would allow certain state laws governing health insurance to supersede federal standards.

He noted that multiemployer plans often cross state boundaries, and trying to make a plan operating in several states comply with differing requirements could present an "almost insurmountable" task.

Georgine welcomed the bill's intent to give a single agency jurisdiction over the whole field of pension plan regulation. While an Administration reorganization plan defining the role of the Labor Dept. and the Internal Revenue Service was intended to lessen the overlap and conflict, Georgine said serious jurisdictional problems remain.

He applauded also other provisions of the bill to remedy some of the rigidities in present law that have created problems and suggested some changes in language.



RAIL AND TRANSIT union leaders who met with their Japanese counterparts in a continuing exchange program received a warm welcome in Tokyo from U.S. Ambassador Mike Mansfield, seated, the former Senate majority leader. Standing, from left: Amalgamated Transit Union Vice President Walter Bierwagen; Railway & Airline Clerks Vice President C. S. Coleman; Milo Shimrak of the railroad division of the Transport Workers Union, and Vice President Kenneth R. Moore of the United Transportation Union.

Libraries Assured of Union Aid In Source Material on Labor

Unions will cooperate with the nation's public libraries in meeting the need to provide wider services to workers and to broaden source material on labor topics, the White House Conference on Library & Information Services was told.

Dorothy Shields, assistant director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education, said in a statement delivered to the 500 conference participants that libraries are vital to the continuing education of workers and their children as well.

"Labor's stake in the public library system is both individual and institutional," Shields said, noting that union members have special concerns as workers, taxpayers, parents and citizens.

"Unions themselves have a stake as educators and advocates for social reform and as partners in the collective bargaining process," she observed.

But many librarians suffer from misconceptions and lack of information about the roles of unions and their members, Shelds suggested.

She cited the need for libraries to expand source materials on labor topics, to assist students on special assignments, as well as to supplement efforts of the AFL-CIO in pressing for the inclusion of labor studies in the curricula of elementary and secondary schools.

This source material should cover contributions of workers and their unions to the development of the nation and the achievement of progressive social legislation, and it should be given "a fair and balanced representation in the collections and programs of the public library," she asserted.

"You may have assumed that this was the case; unfortunately, we have evidence that this is far from true," Shields said in citing findings of a 1976 survey of librarians conducted by a joint committee of the American Library Association and the AFL-CIO.

In an effort to improve services and to broaden cooperation between unions and libraries, Shields spelled out needed remedies. They call for:

- Representation of labor and consumer groups on library trustee boards.
- Libraries to make available technical information and economic data for unions in collective bargaining research.
- A balanced presentation of the contribution of labor in library collections.
- Librarians to take a fresh look at the composition of the labor movement and to discard their "caricature impression" of workers.
- Continued backing of union members for public support of libraries to fulfill educational services.

Also addressing the conference was Albert K. Herling, past president of the International Labor Press Association, who called for passage of federal library aid legislation.

Enactment of the measure, introducd by Senators Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) and Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), is crucial to the maintenance of the public library systems, Herling said.

"This is a time when library budgets are being ruthlessly cut—as are other necessary pubic services—on the altar of lower taxes, even as the demand and need for library and informations services are on the increase," he stressed.

House Scuttles Proposal On Dr. King's Birthday

A labor-supported bill to make the birthday anniversary of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., a national holiday was withdrawn from the House floor by its sponsors after it had been mangled by an amendment.

As sent to the House floor, the bill would have established Jan. 15 as a federal legal holiday—the same category as such observances as Veterans Day, Columbus Day and Memorial Day.

That would have meant that federal offices would be closed and employees would have the day off. But as is the case with all holidays, private-sector observances would have to be negotiated with employers. State and local observances would be governed by legislation, local ordinances or bargaining agreements.

By a 207-191 vote, the House substituted a proposal by Rep. Robin L. Beard, Jr. (R-Tenn.) to observe the anniversary on a Sunday, with no provision for holiday pay for any federal employee required to work on that date.

A coalition of Republicans and conservative Democrats argued it would be too costly to have another holiday on a working day.

Rep. Robert Garcia (D-N.Y.), floor manager for the bill, said its supporters were not prepared to settle for a "token commemorative" which he said would put the occasion in the category of a "National Peanut Week."

Garcia said efforts will be made to switch the necessary votes so that the bill could be brought up again in the second session of Congress. A companion bill is awaiting Senate action.

Despite the failure of Congress to act, 14 states have declared the birthday of the slain civil rights leader a state holiday and a number of union contracts have included it in the list of negotiated holidays.

E. T. 'Buck' Harris Dies, Retired SAG Editor

Los Angeles—E. T. "Buck" Harris, public relations director for the Screen Actors Guild and editor of its monthly magazine for 28 years, died at the Motion Picture Country Home at the age of 77.

Harris, who retired in 1974, had been a vice president of the International Labor Press Association.

Adult Education Focus Urged in New Agency

A high-level position is needed in the Dept. of Education to provide special attention to adult education programs, the transition team overseeing the structuring of the new department was urged.

That recommendation came from the Coalition of Adult Education Organizations, which includes among other groups the AFL-CIO, American Federation of Teachers and the National Council of Senior Citizens.

In a letter to Harrison Wellford, associate director of the transition team in the Office of Management & Budget, the coalition noted that adult learning has experienced a dramatic growth during the 1970s.

Citing statistics of the National Center for Education, the coalition said some 18 million adults are currently participating in classes, job training and other forms of organized instruction.

Yet although adult education is the fastest growing area of education in the country, the coalition said it has had a low priority in the Office of Education under the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.

The coalition acknowledged that the new department will have the vital responsibility of providing leadership, funding and assistance to secondary schools.

"However, as the nation moves forward with an increasing older population, greater technological advances, and changing areas of growth within the economy, the needs of adult learners must be considered in the national interest," it stressed.

The coalition called for the creation of a position in the Secretary or Under Secretary's office with direct responsibility for all department programs involving adult learners.

It also warned in addressing the expected functions of the Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education that one field should not be subordinate to the other.

"Adult education and vocational education are of equal importance," the coalition stressed. "In some ways they are overlapping, in others they are quite distinct and separate. The leadership given in this area must be cognizant of both areas of education."

The coalition further cited the need for other bureaus and sections of the new department to be staffed with professionals who have a thorough understanding of adult education.

To Stop Union Campaign:

House Panel Told Of Labor Spy Use

(Continued from Page 1)

during the union organizing drive, he said.

"Every agent had to make out a daily report of everything he heard, of all the employees who were pro-union," Pettigrew testified.

"If their names appeared in more than one agent's report, we would find ways to set them up, get them fired or arrested," he said.

Pettigrew told the subcommittee that part of his role was to set up union activists for dismissal, and he gave one case in which he instigated a theft in order to get a key union activist fired.

As Pettigrew expained it, he had become personally friendly with the "hit target"—the man he was supposed to get fired.

With company keys, he got access to cartons of the firm's cigarette lighters, persuaded the employee that it would be "like taking candy from a baby," and helped load the loot in the worker's truck. But when the employee reached his house, police, private detective agents and photographers were there to catch him in the act of unloading the truck. After the worker was fired, the company agreed to drop charges—after the former employee had paid the retail value of the stolen lighters.

Other dismissals were less dramatic, he testified, but there were so many that the union had to abandon its campaign when it couldn't get the petitions needed for an election.

Pettigrew said he was involved in having 46 pro-union employees fired and helped "set up" 16 workers for arrests.

"These were all loyal, honest employees, as far as we know, until we arrived there," Pettigrew testified. "We would coax them into stealing," he testified, egging them on with suggestions such as, "Why don't you take these; there is no one watching."

When the facts of the labor spying came unraveled, the company put up a notice required by the National Labor Relations Board promising not to employ detectives "to engage in surveillance" of union activities. A recent NLRB election gave the union a 100 to 98 victory with challenged ballots still being adjudicated.

Pettigrew was introduced to the subcommittee by AFL-CIO Field Rep. David Sickler, who is assigned to the federation's coordinated organizing committee in Los Angeles.

Sickler stressed that the tactics used in the Anja campaign are not an isolated occurrence.

The subcommittee heard the president of a Teamsters local in Greensboro, N.C., describe the delaying tactics used by a company law firm to thwart a union victory.

The witness, R. V. Durham, said his local had won an election for a unit of 1,400 workers at the Lexington, N.C., plant of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. in July 1978. The law firm representing the company filed objections to NLRB certification of the union as bargaining agent, initially raising 33 issues. A nine-day hearing was held on three of the objections in January 1979, with 99 witnesses testifying.

Last April, he related, the hearing officer recommended certification despite the objections, and the company's response was a 94-page legal brief.

When the union was finally certified last August, more than a year after its election victory, Durham testified, the company said it would not bargain until all the court proceedings it had instituted had been finally resolved.

Such tactics, he charged, "are making a mockery of the idea that employees have the right to self-organization."



HEARINGS BY a House Judiciary subcommittee covered issues affecting union members who make recordings and who appear on television. Subcommittee Chairman Robert W. Kastenmeier (D-Wis.), left, and Rep. George E. Danielson (D-Calif.) welcome three union witnesses. From left, Director Jack Golodner of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees; Executive Sec. Sanford I. Wolff of the Television & Radio Artists, and Musicians President Victor Fuentealba.

Unions Ask Protection On Royalties, Cable TV

Performers whose records are broadcast by radio or television stations are entitled to copyright protection and royalty payments, Musicians President Victor Fuentealba urged at House hearings.

In a related area, Executive Sec. Sanford I. Wolff of the Television & Radio Artists (AFTRA) asked Congress to set up a more adequate formula for the license fees that cable television systems pay for retransmitting broadcast signals to their subscribers.

Past assumptions on added audiences, he said, have been invalidated in the case of powerful "superstations" whose already large broadcast range is further expanded by satellite transmission to cable systems in every part of the country. Some such superstations rival television networks in coverage, Wolff testified.

Jack Golodner, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. for Professional Employees, supported the position of both affiliated unions in testimony on successive days at the House Judiciary subcommittee hearings.

Golodner said the labor-supported bill to establish royalty rights for performers whose records are broadcast poses no financial hardship to the generally highly profitable commercial radio stations.

The smallest stations would be totally exempt, he noted, and about one-third of all stations would pay a maximum of $2.05 a day.

Under the bill, royalty fees would be divided equally between the performers and the recording company. The performer share would be divided among all performers involved and—in the case of musical works—arrangers, orchestrators and copyists as well. The royalty fees would be deposited with the U.S. Copyright Office.

On cable retransmission, Golodner said people who work on television programs are entitled to fair payments. When cable television pickup was limited to relatively close fringe areas of a station's range, he noted, the problems were few. But with television superstations, Golodner testified, "what had been a trickle of unreimbursed use of their work product by cable television systems has suddenly become a roaring river."

Labor Scores Plan for New Tax Bonanza

(Continued from Page 1)

buildings in just 10 years, even though the average life of commercial buildings is close to 33 years.

It would allow companies to use the cost of machinery and equipment to offset taxes within five years—less than half the normal depreciation period. It would also cut vehicle depreciation to 3 years, a relatively minor change.

Oswald said the effect of such legislation would be to cut corporation taxes to the federal government in half. By 1984, he said, the revenue loss would mount to more than $50 billion, and presumably individual taxpayers would be called on to make up the lost revenue.

The AFL-CIO sees "no justification," Oswald said, to hand over $50 billion to corporations and stockholders "in the hope that this largess will eventually trickle down to workers and consumers in the form of jobs and reasonable prices."

Further, he held, "healthy, growing corporations would receive unnecesary bonanzas while the competitive position of marginal or faltering firms would be diminished."

As an added indignity to the ordinary taxpayer, Oswald noted, firms that are eligible for a 10 percent investment tax credit in effect pay only $90 for a $100 piece of new equipment but would be allowed a depreciation tax write-off of the full $100.

Oswald said productivity won't be improved "through huge across-the-board tax giveaways."

AFL-CIO Calls for Safeguards On Credits, Trade Aid for China

The AFL-CIO warned Congress that proposals to subsidize the industrial growth of the People's Republic of China through Export-Import Bank credits and "most-favored-nation" tariff treatment of imports from China are "not in America's interests."

In a statement to the trade subcommittee of the House Ways & Means Committee, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said that before giving China a favored position in the U.S. marketplace, "the United States needs to have safeguards regarding trade matters and their potential disruption of the U.S. economy."

Even without tariff concessions and special subsidies, Oswald pointed out, U.S. trade with China more than tripled in 1978. Although poor harvests vastly expanded China's food purchases, the United States had a deficit in manufactured products in trading with China, which became an important exporter of textiles to the U.S. market.

Increases in Chinese chemical and steel exports to the United States are the likely result of the proposed concessions and credits. The benefits, Oswald said, would accrue to the government of China and U.S. importers, not to the peoples of China or the United States.

"Once the United States has granted China most-favored-nation status, Eximbank credits and special trade preferences, the United States will have given China all the best advantages," Oswald concluded.

"But China has not agreed to realistic safeguards under the U.S. multifiber agreement; they have not agreed to a bilateral maritime agreement regarding the shipment of products traded between our two countries, and most of all they have not agreed to effective policies or trading practices that would assure U.S. industries and American workers that trade with China will not be disruptive to their industries or their jobs."

Granting "most-favored-nation" treatment to a Communist country should require certain separate and specific safeguards, Oswald said. Centrally planned, highly protected Communist economies are not engaged in "free trade," he noted. They do not have markets or pricing practices in the sense that Americans know them.

"Most-favored-nation" treatment is not necessary for trade purposes, he said. The United States has already had exports to and imports from China. Some imports have already damaged American producers and workers. As an example, Oswald cited the ITC report that the U.S. market in clothespins was disrupted by Chinese imports.

Even without most-favored-nation treatment, China became the sixth largest exporter of textiles to the U.S. market. However, China has so far not negotiated a suitable textile quota under the U.S. multifiber agreement. As a result, the U.S. has unilaterally curbed some textile imports.

Key Economic Indicators Drop

New evidence that the nation's economy is in an "earnest decline" and "heading South" on the charts surfaced in the latest government report on leading economic indicators.

The Commerce Dept. reported a decline of nine-tenths of 1 percent in the indicators for October leaving little doubt, according to department spokesmen, that the Administration's expected economic slowdown has started.

The leading indicators, which cover 10 different measurements of economic activity, have confounded and confused economic analysts, moving up and down and sideways over the past six months. The index, however, has fallen 3.3 percent since it peaked in October 1978.

Theodore Torda, a Commerce Dept. economist, told reporters "this is the start of an earnest decline." He indicated that industrial production would also show a decline in the next report.

Other economists are pointing to a weakening in new orders, layoffs in automobiles and steel and an anticipated slowing in consumer spending as real income continues to decline.

12/8/79

Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Petition Drive Asks Hostages' Release

'Flood Iran Embassy' —Kirkland

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland has called on all union members and their families to join in a nationwide campaign demanding the release of the American hostages held by Iranian terrorists in the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

In a letter to affiliated unions, state federations and local labor councils, Kirkland launched a trade union drive to obtain as many signatures as possible on petitions to be sent to the Iranian embassy in Washington demanding "the immediate, unconditional release and return of all the hostages, unharmed."

"We want to flood the Iranian embassy with these petitions, demonstrating the united support of American workers and their families for the U.S. government's position that this gross violation of international law be ended immediately and that our fellow Americans be returned to this country without delay," Kirkland said.

He urged all labor bodies to circulate copies of the petitions to local unions as quickly as possible for distribution among members and their families and friends and to see that each signed petition is mailed immediately to the Iranian embassy. "We want a constant, continuing flood of mail," Kirkland said.

At least four of the hostages are members of the American Federation of Government Employees. The AFGE board has urged all federal employees to wear white armbands as a vigil for the hostages.

Kirkland called on every labor organization to publicize the campaign in every way possible, and urged that the petitions be circulated "at every factory, shop and job site in America."

"We must do everything we can to convince the terrorists in Iran and the rest of the world that American workers fully support their government in this crisis," he concluded.

"The hostages must be freed. The world must—and will—learn that the United States cannot and will not be blackmailed by terrorists. I am confident of your complete support for this emergency campaign."

The text of the petition, addressed to Charge d'Affairs Hassan Etessam at the Iranian embassy in Washington, reads:

"We the undersigned demand

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Use of Tax Funds Scored To Finance Union-Busting



TAXPAYER FUNDS are paying union-busting management consultants, union witnesses charged at House hearings on workplace pressures. From left: State, County & Municipal Employees Legislative Director Anthony Carnevale; attorney Jules Bernstein, who testified for the AFL-CIO; attorney Phillis Payne, and Charles McDonald, coordinator of the labor-management consultants project of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services.

Testimony Documents Wide Abuse

By David L. Perlman

The AFL-CIO protested the "outrageous" misuse of public funds to finance union-busting campaigns by employers and pressed for a full-scale investigation and crackdown by Congress.

Witnesses at House hearings have documented the use of taxpayer funds for an array of anti-union activities, including payments to management consultants hired by employers to prevent workers from organizing.

That's just "the tip of the iceberg," labor attorney Jules Bernstein told a House subcommittee headed by Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.). He predicted that a full investigation would uncover a massive "abuse of public funds" at the federal, state and local levels.

Bernstein testified on behalf of the AFL-CIO along with Charles McDonald of the Dept. of Organization & Field Services, who is coordinating the federation's program on employer consultants. Joining them on the panel was Anthony Carnevale, legislative director of the State, County & Municipal Employees.

Federal and state Medicaid funds have been used by hospitals to hire $100-an-hour consultants furnished by the union-busting Modern Management Methods firm, Bernstein said.

In Massachusetts alone, he testified, a state rate-setting agency found and subsequently disallowed the use by six hospitals of more than $250,000 in Medicaid reimbursements to pay the 3M firm, as

(Continued on Page 3)

Labor Members Dissent:

Benefits Tax Splits Social Security Unit

A national advisory council that included both union and employer members termed social security "the government's most successful program" but differed sharply on proposals for change.

One recommendation that drew a strong dissent from the three labor representatives would make one-half of social security benefits subject to income tax.

Benefits are now fully tax-exempt, and union members of the Advisory Council on Social Security charged the proposed change would have the same effect as reducing benefit payments.

All 13 members of the advisory panel agreed, however, that the social security program should no longer be financed exclusively from the payroll tax on workers and their employers.

The council was unanimous also in holding that the additional funding should not be derived from a value-added tax, a form of national sales tax that the trade union movement strongly opposes.

But there was disagreement over the mechanism for injecting new sources of revenue, with the labor members seeking an influx of general tax revenues into the entire social security program.

The council majority proposed earmarking income tax revenue to pay the full cost of the Medicare hospital insurance program, with the social security payroll tax as the sole source of the basic retirement, survivor and disability benefits.

The three labor members—AFL-CIO Social Security Director Bert Seidman, Teachers Vice President Velma Hill and UAW Social Security Director Melvin Glasser—also dissented or noted reservations on other recommendations in the

(Continued on Page 2)

Chrysler Aid Plan Backed To Save Jobs

The AFL-CIO urged Congress to approve federal loan guarantees that would enable the Chrysler Corp. to stay in business and save the jobs of some 500,000 workers.

Most of the workers whose jobs are at stake are employed in supplier industries such as glass, rubber, textile and steel, AFL-CIO Legislative Director Kenneth Young noted.

In a letter to House members, Young expressed the AFL-CIO's solidarity with the position taken by the UAW, which represents Chrysler's 125,000 employees. He noted that the union has already

(Continued on Page 3)

Windfall Tax Battle Heats Up in Senate

Oil industry allies mounted a filibuster to keep the Senate from toughening the windfall profits tax bill—and found themselves in a political hardball contest with Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd.

Byrd, who supports a stiffer tax than the industry-aligned Senate Finance Committee has proposed said he will keep the Senate in session until an agreement is reached. And he held open the possibility of an even more potent weapon.

If filibuster tactics continue, Byrd warned, he would be inclined to ask President Carter to reinstitute price controls on domestic oil.

"I hope the President will exercise his rights under the law," Byrd said. "I would hope the President will be ready to reinstitute controls and roll them back if necessary."

Carter began the phaseout of price controls on various categories of oil produced in the United States last June in the belief that higher prices would encourage voluntary conservation and stimulate new oil production. He asked for an excise tax on the "windfall" that oil companies would receive by selling oil from existing wells at the artificially

(Continued on Page 8)

Wildcat Strike Liability Lifted for Parent Unions

A unanimous Supreme Court ruled that an international union can't be held liable for an employer's economic losses resulting from wildcat strikes by locals.

Basing its decision on federal labor law and the wording of a United Mine Workers' collective bargaining agreement, the court held that the UMW was not directly responsible for unauthorized strikes it did not encourage.

The ruling affirms a finding by a federal appeals court that neither the UMW nor its District 17 could be sued for damages by Carbon Fuel Co. of West Virginia because of wildcat strikes staged by UMW local unions.

The high court's decision included key legal points that had been urged by the AFL-CIO in a brief filed with the court.

The company brought the suit against three UMW locals, the district council and the international following a series of strikes between 1969 and 1973.

A federal court jury entered ver-

(Continued on Page 6)



TRUMPETER AWARD of the National Consumers League is presented to Jacob Clayman, right, president of the National Council of Senior Citizens. Joining in the awards ceremony were, from left, economist Robert R. Nathan, NCL President Erma Angevine and Executive Vice President Sandra L. Willett. Clayman, who retired earlier this year as president of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept., was cited for his role in promoting consumer and worker interests.

Worker Hazards Cited In Toxic Waste Cleanup

The AFL-CIO has called on three federal regulatory agencies to develop a coordinated effort to protect workers engaged in the cleanup of hazardous waste dumps across the country.

Director George H. R. Taylor of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Occupational Safety & Health warned that workers involved in the cleanup operations face serious health risks.

An immediate concern of the federation is the dangers being encountered by workers at Love Canal, N.Y., Taylor noted in letters to the heads of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health.

"According to physicians and researchers monitoring the Love Canal situation, workers involved in the cleanup operations have not been informed of potential risks and are being afforded little or no protection from exposure to toxic chemicals," he asserted.

Taylor said thousands of workers would be involved in cleanup operations over the next decade because of the extensive scope of the toxic waste problem.

He stressed the need for OSHA. EPA and NIOSH to identify all toxic waste sites targeted for cleanup, to develop a coordinated hazard alert program that details procedures for protection of the cleanup crews, and to establish a contingency plan for awarding federal funds for the cleanup efforts.

While the Love Canal situation is among the most notorious of the toxic waste abuses, a study conducted for the House Commerce Committee noted that some 30,000 toxic waste disposal sites are currently in use in the United States. The study found that only about 10 percent of the 77 billion pounds of toxic waste generated annually is disposed of in an "environmentally sound manner."

In the case of Love Canal, serious environmental damage resulted from years of improper disposal of toxic materials by Hooker Chemical Co. at the site, the study noted. Because of increased illness and mounting health risks, residents of the community had to abandon 230 homes, and at least another 140 will have to be evacuated.

The growing public health problem at Love Canal includes a sharp increase in miscarriages, birth defects and nervous system disorders. In certain areas of the community, the study noted that the miscarriage rate rose 25 percent. It also found that of 16 children born from 1974 through 1978, nine had birth defects.

GOP's Treen Wins Louisiana Election

The apparent narrow gubernatorial victory of conservative Republican Rep. David Treen dulled an otherwise strong Louisiana election showing by a black-labor coalition.

The AFL-CIO unions participated in a coalition that endorsed Treen's Democratic opponent, Louis Lambert, in the runoff. A canvass three days after the election showed Treen clinging to a lead of about 9,000 votes out of 1.4 million cast—or 690,000 votes to 681,000 for Lambert.

In state legislative races, coalition-endorsed candidates won slight majorities in both houses.

Petition Drive Asks Release Of Hostages

(Continued from Page 1)

the immediate and unconditional release of each and every American being held hostage in Tehran. Americans of all opinions are united behind our government's refusal to surrender to terrorist blackmail.

"The Ayatollah Khomeini has perverted the spirit of religion, violated international law, and affronted the civilized values of humankind.

"Iran stands alone, dishonored and condemned by outraged world opinion. It can redeem itself in only one way:

"Release the hostages now."

The petition form appears on one side of an 8½-by-11-inch sheet and contains space for 10 signatures. The other side bears the address of the Iranian charge d'affairs in Washington. Thus, each form can be mailed promptly, once the ten signatures are obtained, simply by folding it, stapling it, stamping it and dropping it into a mail box.

TO: Charge d'Affairs Hassan Etessam
Embassy of Iran
3005 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

We the undersigned demand the immediate and unconditional release of each and every American being held hostage in Teheran. Americans of all opinions are united behind our Government's refusal to surrender to terrorist blackmail.

The Ayatollah Khomeini has perverted the spirit of religion, violated international law, and affronted the civilized values of humankind.

Iran stands alone, dishonored and condemned by outraged world opinion. It can redeem itself in only one way:

Release the hostages now.

Name Address

THIS PETITION FORM will be used by union members and their families all over the country to call on the Iranian government to release the American hostages being held by terrorists in Tehran. The other side bears the address of the Iranian embassy in Washington.

Labor Members Dissent:

Plan to Tax Benefits Splits Social Security Advisers

(Continued from Page 1)

advisory council's 400-page report, the product of an 18-month study.

They joined in protesting a recommendation for mandatory coverage of all public employees—a complex issue that is currently being considered by a separate study group.

Despite disagreements on these and a number of other issues, the entire advisory council joined in putting down alarmist allegations about the stability of the social security system, which is now paying out nearly $9 billion a month to some 35 million persons.

The system will continue to provide basic retirement, disability and survivorship protection "for as far ahead as anyone can see," the council said. All present and future participants "can count on receiving all the benefits to which they are entitled," it affirmed.

These are some of the areas covered by the advisory panel's report:

• On financing, the council majority would finance the basic Medicare program from designated portions of personal and corporate income taxes, diverting a part of the present Medicare tax to the basic OASDI program (Old Age, Survivors, & Disability Insurance). For 1980, this would mean a 5.6 percent payroll tax on workers and employers rather than the currently scheduled 6.13 percent. The council also proposed a slowdown in the scheduled rise in the taxable wage base.

The three labor members said they "enthusiastically welcome" the proposal to finance part of social security with non-payroll tax revenues. But instead of 100 percent funding of hospital insurance, "we would favor a gradual across-the-board infusion of general revenue funds into the entire social security system," to eventually provide one-third of the total funds.

This would enable both a slight rollback in the payroll tax rate and gradual improvements in the benefit program itself. The labor members said also that earmarking income taxes would make the program a "target for budget-cutters," and funding Medicare entirely from general revenue would make it more vulnerable to attempts to impose a welfare-type means test.

• The council explored at length issues involving treatment of women under the social security law, but found it difficult to reach a consensus.

A narrow majority of the council endorsed as an immediate step proposals to allow persons divorced after at least 10 years of marriage to receive retirement benefits based on shared earnings of husband and wife, and to allow aged widows or widowers to receive benefits on the basis of combined earnings with their late spouse.

Six council members, including the three labor members, said the concept should be more fully explored and developed before the law is changed. The advisory panel was fully agreed on elimination of nearly all "gender-based distinctions remaining in the social security law."

In another area, however, the labor members urged that persons caring for young children be allowed additional "dropout years" of low earnings or no earnings in computing social security benefits. The council majority merely suggested that "serious consideration" be given to this suggestion "at some future date."

• A revised benefit formula proposed by the council would increase the minimum retirement benefit for persons with a long work history at low wages. A retiree with 30 or more years of covered employment would get a benefit at least equal to the poverty level as defined by the government.

The formula would also be adjusted to provide a larger and more equitable retirement income for higher-paid workers, who pay in substantially more in socal security taxes as the taxable wage base goes up.

• A majority of the council said one-half of benefits—in effect the share of social security derived from the employer portion of the payroll tax—should be subject to federal income tax.

The labor members said they "strongly oppose" that recommendation, which "would be tantamount to a cut in benefit payments." Further, any such proposal should be considered only "in the framework of overall tax reform" that would eliminate "the many loopholes the wealthy and large corporations now enjoy."

• On the proposal for mandatory coverage for all public workers and for employees of non-profit organizations, the council majority said all new hires should be covered by social security and existing employees given the option to come in under the system. For the federal workforce, it suggested an "exchange of credits" between social security and civil service retirement.

The labor members reiterated the "essential protections" the AFL-CIO has insisted on as part of any plan for universal social security coverage and said the council majority could give no assurances on these factors. They questioned the decision to make a recommendation while a separate study is under way.

After the report was issued, President William H. McClennan of the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. termed the compulsory coverage proposal "premature and irresponsible" and charged that social security coverage of all newly-hired public employees would seriously threaten the financial stability of existing public employee retirement plans.

• The council rejected most of the proposals the Carter Administration made last January to save money by cutting back benefits. It advocated a less stringent limit on family benefits to disabled workers than the House has voted. A council majority, including the labor members, also recommended reduction in the waiting period for disability benefits from the present five months to three months.

The council which submitted these and other recommendations was appointed in early 1978 as part of a continuing pattern of quadrennial reviews of the social security system. Reports by previous advisory bodies have formed the basis for changes in the social security law and for bills seeking to change the law.

Henry J. Aaron, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, was chairman of the advisory panel. Most of its other members also had academic connections or were former government officials. Management and labor each had three representatives on the 13-member body.

Abuses Documented:

Use of Public Funds In Union-Busting Hit

(Continued from Page 1)

it is commonly known, to conduct anti-union campaigns. The state agency said there were undoubtedly other such cases that were not uncovered in audits that relied heavily on sampling. Union sources have identified at least eight other hospitals in Massachusetts alone that used 3M consultants.

McDonald told the subcommittee that one of the nation's largest defense contractors, General Dynamics, has used 3M consultants to resist organizing campaigns by the Machinists and the Office & Professional Employees. He urged an inquiry to determine whether General Dynamics has been including its fees to 3M in its contract costs.

McDonald cited other reports from affiliates of encountering a "particularly vicious" consultant hired by a firm that was receiving full reimbursement from the National Aeronautics & Space Administration under a cost-plus contract, of union-busting by an organization funded through the federal CETA program, and of low-cost loans from the Small Business Administration being used by an Ohio firm for "illicit and outrageously coercive" anti-union activities.

Bernstein welcomed as "a small but significant first step" a recent regulation by the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare specifying that costs incurred to influence employees regarding union representation can not be charged to Medicare expenses, whether carried out directly by the hospital or through a consultant, attorney or other third party.

By contrast, he cited the attitude taken by the Defense Dept. in a case in which time spent by employees at a "captive audience" meeting where management attacked the union was billed to the government by Rockwell International as part of its cost in carrying out its federal contract.

The engineers' union involved, an affiliate of the UAW, estimated that the anti-union campaign cost the government more than $1 million in direct charges, and more in indirect costs.

But Bernstein read to the committee a memorandum from the Defense Contract Audit Agency asserting that "an anti-union stance on the part of an employer should not be assumed to be unreasonable" in terms of contract reimbursement since it "may be taken for a sound business reason" such as economy "or because of an honest belief that the employer is a better guardian of its employees' welfare than would be a union."

Employers may well conclude that it is "sound business" for them to fight union organization, Bernstein agreed. "But under no circumstances may the federal government fund such activities," he insisted.

To do so, he stressed, would flout the declared intent of the National Labor Relations Act "to encourage the practice and procedure of collective bargaining."

The AFL-CIO testimony also challenged anti-union seminars for business executives held by publicly supported colleges. Bernstein cited examples such as a three-day course on how to keep unions out that was offered by the University of Wisconsin Extension Division, and a course at the University of Denver College of Law on "Possibility and Problems of Terminating Union Representation."

Federal college aid funds may be helping to put on such courses, he suggested. Bernstein noted also that participants in these anti-union seminars are able to get income tax deductions or charge off as tax-exempt expenses the cost of tuition.

Carnevale, testifying for AFSCME, cited still other examples of misuse of public funds.

In a current campaign in Milwaukee, he said, the state's largest provider of day care services has retained the notorious 3M firm to resist the union's organizing drive.

The day care operation gets about 27 percent of its funds from HEW and another 47 percent in Head Start money distributed by federal social service grants distributed through the states, Carnevale pointed out. He said 3M consultants have been paid an estimated $50,000 of budgeted funds thus far.

Carnevale also charged that federal grants under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, intended to improve management at the state and local level, have in fact been used to train management to resist unions.

Bernstein told the committee that unions in the AFL-CIO Public Employee Dept. have documented use of these federal funds to pay for anti-union seminars and manuals.

Still another type of public fund abuse, he said, are the anti-union activities conducted by some local Chambers of Commerce that have gotten local government funding to carry on industrial development.

UAW Backed On Bid to Save Chrysler Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

made important sacrifices in its contract with Chrysler and is willing to accept an additional holddown on wages to help keep their employer in business.

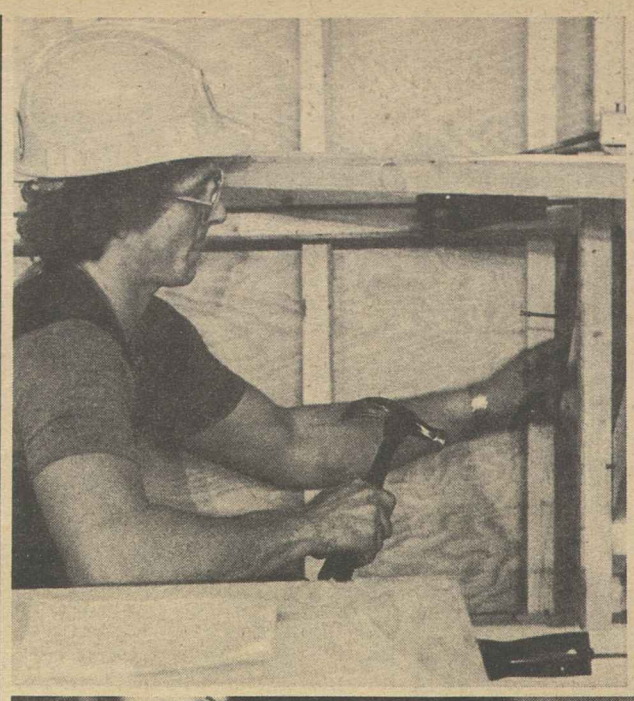
Young said the AFL-CIO considers that the UAW has "good reason" to reject the three-year wage freeze demanded in a bill reported by the Senate Banking Committee, which may be proposed as an amendment to the labor-supported bill that is before the House.

"Such a freeze is tantamount to asking these workers to accept a 50 percent cut in their real income when inflation and productivity gains are taken into account," Young said.

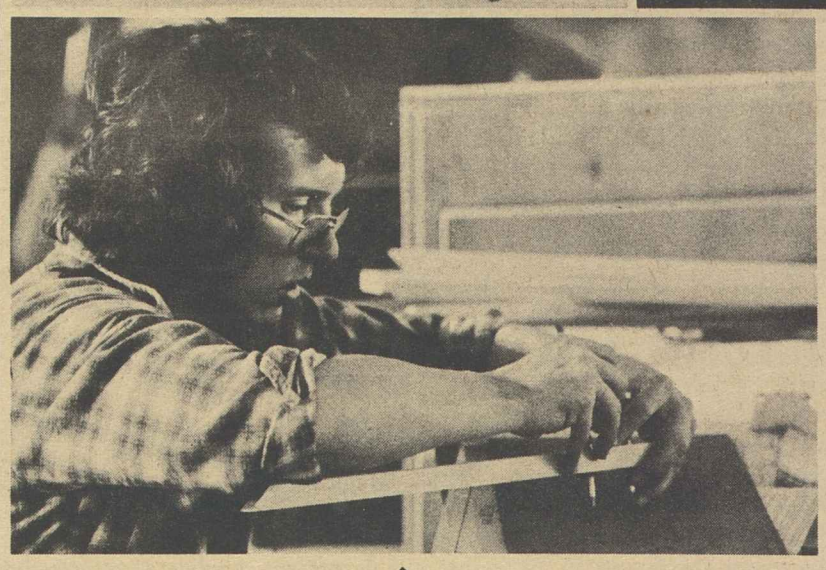
He stressed that the issue goes beyond lost jobs. "The immediate effect on an economy heading into a deeper recession will be devastating" if Chrysler goes under, Young stressed.

It will add to federal, state and local budget deficits, he said. Other employers will have to pay higher pension reinsurance premiums to make up for the drain of a Chrysler collapse. Further, Young warned, the nation's trade deficit will soar as foreign auto makers take up a large part of the Chrysler market.

An initial attempt to work out a compromise before the bill reached the House floor fell apart, but efforts were expected to continue as the measure was being debated. Time was an important factor, with the company's bankruptcy possible if the loan guarantee is delayed until the second session of Congress.







TOP WINNERS emerging from the 1979 International Carpentry Apprenticeship Contest in New Orleans represent the states of Oregon, Illinois and Louisiana. First place carpenter is Albert Pitts, Shreveport, La., top left; first place millwright is Derryl Cummings, Portland, Ore., top right, and first place mill-cabinet maker is John Monahan, Chicago, left. The annual competition is jointly sponsored by the Carpenters, Associated General Contractors and the National Association of Home Builders.

Carpenters Honor Top Apprentices

New Orleans—Contestants from Oregon, Illinois and Louisiana shared top honors in the 1979 International Carpentry Apprenticeship contest which drew competitors from 38 states, the District of Columbia and five Canadian provinces.

A total of 76 entrants—representing fourth-year apprentices in carpentry, mill-cabinet and millwright crafts—competed for $9,500 in cash prizes, trophies and plaques.

The annual contest is jointly sponsored by the Carpenters, Associated General Contractors and the National Association of Home Builders to promote quality craft training in carpentry and related skills.

This year's first-place winners in the three categories are Albert Pitts, Shreveport, La., carpenter; John Monahan, Chicago, mill-cabinet, and Derryl Cummings, Portland, Ore., millwright.

The two days of competition included a four-hour written examination and an eight-hour manipulative test. As spectators and judges watched, carpentry apprentices built a complex concrete form and a workbench; mill-cabinet apprentices assembled an office counter with shelves, mail slot and locking cabinet door, and millwright apprentices produced an array of metal gears, chains, ball bearings and flywheels.

Carpenters' First Vice President William Konyha, who also heads the union apprenticeship and training program, termed the 1979 contest one of the best in the 13 years of the competition.

A training conference for Carpenters' apprenticeship instructors and coordinators held in conjunction with the contest drew more than 900 representatives.

Contest sponsors announced that the competition will be held in Cleveland next year and in Denver in 1981.

5.8 Percent Joblessness Holds in Narrow Range

The unemployment rate continued to hover in a narrow range for the 16th month as it moved to 5.8 percent in November from 6 percent in October, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The jobless rate has been at or close to the 5.8 percent level since the summer of 1978, BLS Commissioner Janet L. Norwood told the Joint Economic Committee. She said that although employment has continued to grow in recent months, the increase has been much slower than in 1978 or early 1979.

Unemployment, she said, "has been essentially unchanged" for the past 16 months.

The drop in the November rate was not forecast by economists or forecasting organizations, and most of them continued to predict a sharp rise in unemployment in 1980.

The BLS figures showed an employment increase of 350,000 with most of the gain in the service-producing sector, manufacturing holding steady and construction up slightly.

Average weekly hours of work remained unchanged from October at 35.6 hours, and average hourly earnings were up 1 percent.

The November drop in unemployment rates showed up in the figures affecting blacks, teenagers and adult women. Black unemployment declined to 10.8 percent from the October rate of 11.7 percent; teenagers dropped to 15.9 from 16.6 percent; adult women declined to 5.5 from 5.8 percent. Unemployment for adult men held constant at 4.3 percent.

Norwood told the committee that many of the layoffs in the steel and auto industries were scheduled to take place after the survey reporting period but that the November report reflected drops in employment in autos, and the factory workweek was down for the month.

Unions in Breakthrough On Foreign-Flag Ships

The Marine Engineers and Seafarers have signed breakthrough agreements with El Paso Marine Co. to man three Liberian-flag liquid natural gas (LNG) carriers with American officers and seamen.

The MEBA and SIU members, working under standard collective bargaining contracts, are replacing Norwegian officers and crews who had been operating the French-built ships for El Paso.

The two unions hailed the agreement as a strong vote of confidence in American merchant marine skills and the ability of U.S. crews to compete economically with foreign seamen.

MEBA President Jesse M. Calhoon said the agreement with El Paso represents a major step toward "rebuilding an American presence on the merchant marine sea lanes of the world."

Calhoon said the agreement also refutes often-stated claims that American officers and crews have priced themselves out of the market.

He noted that El Paso operates three sister LNG carriers that were built in America, fly the U.S. flag and are manned by American crews.

"El Paso Marine's experience—using American officers and crews on one trio of carriers and foreign personnel on the other trio—has demonstrated that when both pay and efficiency of operation are considered, American officers and crews came out well ahead," Calhoon asserted.

Exposing the Consultants

MASSIVE AND GROWING employer hostility toward unions is being guided and implemented by so-called "labor-management consultants" whose mission is to destroy existing unions and forestall the organization of new ones. In order to protect the right of workers to form unions, the labor movement must find new ways to neutralize unfair tactics, intensify organizing programs and strengthen mutual support through inter-union coordinated organizing techniques.

Taking the lead in such efforts is the National Organizing Coordinating Committee, made up of the organizing directors of affiliated unions.

Besides developing and implementing creative and effective new organizing strategies, the committee is pursuing programs to disseminate information about anti-union consultants, National Labor Relations Board procedures, training and communications programs.

We commend the committee for its work and urge participating affiliates to continue their efforts. We call upon all other affiliates to join and assist the committee in every way possible.

We direct the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services to continue strengthening existing coordinated organizing programs and to develop and expand new ones wherever feasible.

We call on all affiliates to help fill the acute need for accurate, up-to-date information about the practices and activities of anti-union consultants in every state and industry. Each affiliate should establish procedures for prompt reporting on such matters by their local unions and for forwarding all available information to the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services. The department should respond promptly to all requests from union headquarters and field organizers.

ANTI-UNION CONSULTANTS, and the employers who hire them, must be made to report their activities to the U.S. Dept. of Labor, as required by law. Every legislative and administrative means should be used to stop—or at least expose—their illegal activities in order to free workers from the fear and intimidation that block their lawful attempts to organize.

To this end, training of organizers in the tactics of such consultants and in effective counter-tactics should be a major focus of the department.

No less important, the labor movement must use all its resources, including the labor press, to expose the activities of professional union-busters and the behavior of companies that deny workers their right to organize.

The facilities of tax-supported or tax-exempt public and private colleges should not be available to anti-union management consultants and anti-union management programs teaching employers how to violate the nation's labor relations laws which recognize workers' rights to organize and to bargain collectively. This is not an issue of academic freedom or censorship of curriculum. The simple issue is that tax-supported or tax-exempt institutions of higher education should not be used to teach employers how to violate the law.

—Resolution adopted by the 13th AFL-CIO convention.

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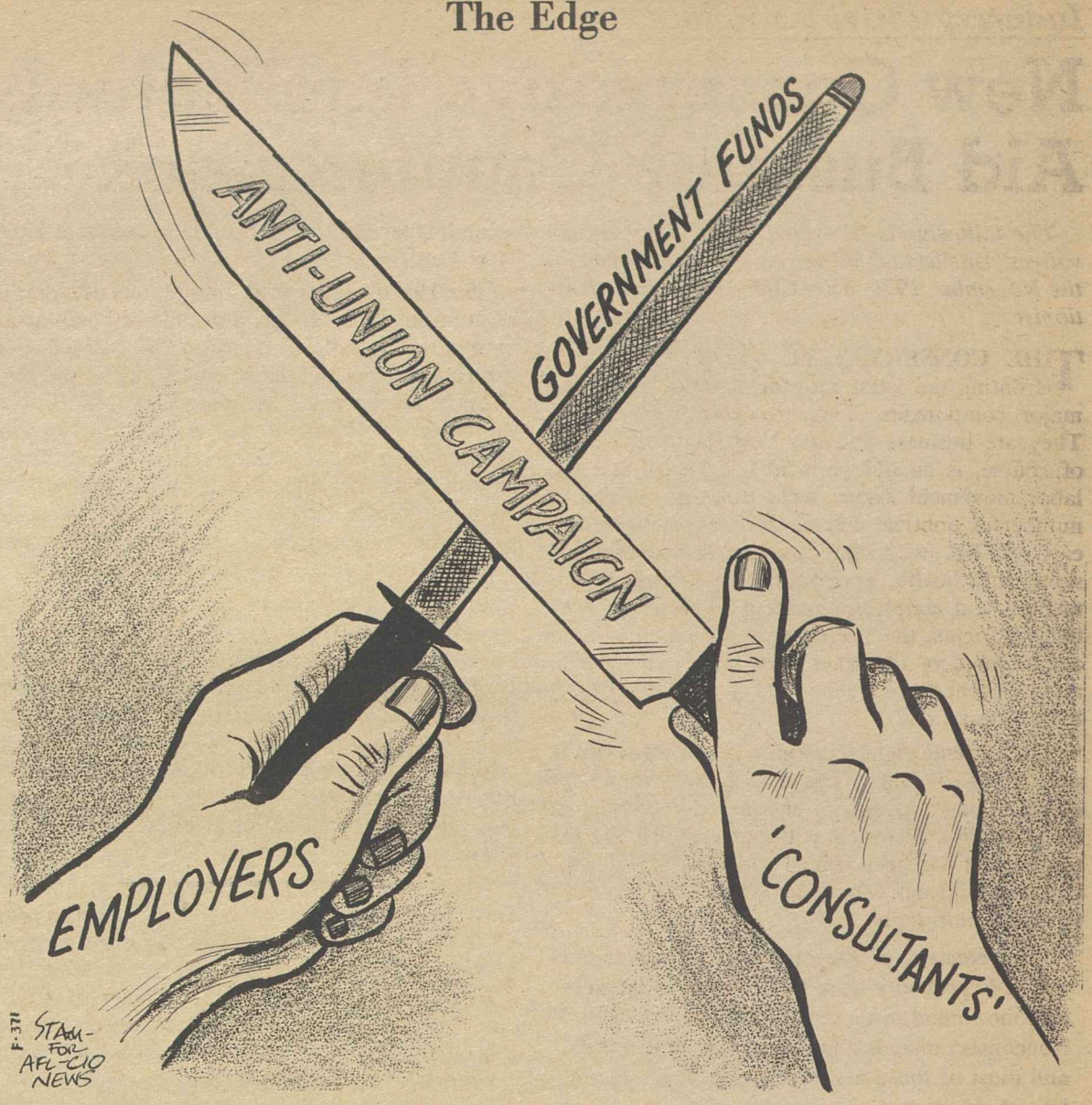
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The Edge



Irrational Ingredient of Man:

Deaths at Rock Concert Reveal Awful Power of Mass Hysteria

By Gus Tyler

ELEVEN WERE DEAD But the Band Played On.

That's the way one newspaper headlined the tragedy at the Who concert in Cincinnati. Eleven people were crushed to death by a music-mad crowd; but the scheduled performance proceeded as usual.

This is not the first time that disaster stalked its way through a rocking-rolling mass of young folk: Woodstock set the original model. Ever since, every one of the frenzied festivals has stirred fears.

But the Cincinnati event brought together the element for an almost unavoidable explosion. For hours fans froze in the winter cold; some kept themselves warm with whiskey; others fought off external numbness with the internal numbness of pot. Since they were to be seated festival style—first-come, first-served—it was inevitable that as the appointed hour drew close, the 18,000 impatient patrons would crowd and crush the gates.

As I read the account of the story, I was reminded of a lecture given by the great historian of philosophy, Will Durant—a talk I had heard when I was a teenager, about the same age as those caught in the grip of the Who magic. Durant was describing the nature of "the mob" in action:

There was a multiplication of suggestibility, so that the shared thought becomes an obsession; there was an addition of power, a sense that nothing can stop us; there was a subtraction of responsibility, with everyone doing it, nobody had to assume any personal responsibility.

In a way, the Who horror was only a mild manifestation of mob madness. People were killed without most people knowing it and most people killed others without even knowing they were doing so.

But throughout history there have been far more knowing murders committed without even a touch of guilt. The lynch mobs were that kind of thing. Hitler's hordes and Khomeini's fanatics are political-religious expressions of the same genre. The Children's Crusade of the 13th Century is another case, with tens of thousands of youngsters hardly teenagers leaving their homes in a suicidal mission to complete the still incomplete work of the Christian warriors.

While the instances of mass hysteria—for that is what it really is—are too numerous to list, science still gropes for an explanation of the outbursts: just what mechanism sets off and steers this human stampede.

Whatever the chemical or psychic device, however, the recurrence of mass hysteria is a reminder of man's irrational ingredient, especially when he (or she) is caught up in the frenzy of "friends," in the passions of peers. At root, man is still the herd creature, driven by the instinctive impulses that tie him to other men in unconscious and subconscious ways he never suspects.

Maybe mass hysteria is man's way of reasserting his sense of belonging, his identification with the human race. Maybe collective irrationality, exploding in some shared act, is our unconscious revolt and revenge against the anomy, the alienation, and the loneliness that recurrently descend upon man. If man can not relate historically as homo sapiens, he tends to relate hysterically as homo insapiens.

Wholesale Violations Undercut Labor Law

The National Labor Relations Act established a democratic process for choosing collective bargaining representation, complete with sanctions and an NLRB to enforce that right.

Like any system of democracy, voluntary compliance with both the spirit and letter of the law is the watchword for success. But that voluntary compliance does not exist today, and the NLRB has not been able to cope with the wholesale violations of workers' rights.

The NLRB election process has been turned into a showcase for the legal and illegal manipulations of professional experts.

Eliminating government subsidies won't bring voluntarism back to industrial relations elections . . . but it will assuredly put a damper on the unbounded growth of the labor consultant industry.

—Charles McDonald, Dept. of Organization & Field Services, at House hearings.

Industry Provides Funds:

New Conservative Intellectuals Aid Business Counterattack

The following is excerpted from "The Conservatives' Intellectual Wing" by Steven Kelman in the November 1979 AFL-CIO American Federationist.

THE CONSERVATIVE MOVEMENT confronting the labor movement today has three major components. Two are relatively familiar. They are business and the New Right. Business, of course, is an old political antagonist that the labor movement knows well. Business suffered a number of political defeats during the 1960s and early 1970s, with the passage of occupational safety and health, environmental, consumer protection, and equal employment opportunity laws that restricted the prerogatives of companies to act in some of the ways they had been used to acting. Hence the strength of the counterattack by business now.

The extreme right (currently in the form of the so-called New Right) has also been with us for a long time. Operating on the very fringes of respectability, historically the message of the extreme right has been tinged with anti-black, anti-Catholic, and anti-semitic prejudice and has been virulently anti-labor.

The element of the conservative movement which is probably least familiar is the intellectual movement often called "neoconservatism." Neoconservatism is a movement of intellectuals, and most of those associated with it are hardly household names. Neoconservatism's message is more subtle than that of the New Right and more well-reasoned than the demands for special privilege made by business.

Many of the themes first introduced by neoconservatives—such as the view that government attempts to alleviate poverty merely represent "throwing money at problems" or that safety and health rules constitute "overregulation" that is sapping our society—have been taken over from them to become important parts of the conservative artillery. And big business, realizing that its own credibility is not the best either in Washington or in the rest of the country, has begun pouring lots of money into financing the work of neoconservative intellectuals through think tanks like the Washington-based American Enterprise Institute.

Many neoconservative intellectuals are people who once regarded themselves as being ideologically and spiritually close to organized labor and who even today express a residual sympathy for the labor movement.

It should be noted that it is hard to draw generalizations about the intellectuals and publications often designated as neoconservative. Some consider themselves to be basically friendly to the labor movement, while others affirm hostility. Some are merely passive about the labor-liberal agenda for domestic social reform, while others are openly critical.

What is clear is that the neoconservatism of the 1970s represents a reaction on the part of some intellectuals to the traumatic events of 1960s New Leftism.

The 1960s were a wild, tumultuous decade, full of contradictions. It was a decade of black awakening and of civil rights advances—as well as of destructive riots and the re-emergence of the blind alley of black separatism and flirtations with totalitarian ideologies. It was a decade of student idealism—as well as student violence and elitism. It was a decade embellished by the many social advances of the New Frontier and the Great Society—but also marred by the tragedy of Vietnam and by the reactions to Vietnam here at home.

In a period when most of the political extremism came from the left, relatively few were the liberals who were courageous enough to dissent from the left fashions of the time. These fashions dictated that one hail the Ho Chi Minhs and the Fidel Castros as "liberators," that one adopt an attitude of contempt and disdain for American institutions and the American people, and that one dismiss the American labor movement as "reactionary" or "irrelevant."

Many of those who in the 1970s became neoconservatives were in the late 1960s among those writers and intellectuals willing to dissent courageously from the fashion of that time and to defend the humane, democratic values of American liberalism. At the time those writers and intellectuals won praise from organized labor and from honest liberals. That some of the same writers and intellectuals were so pounded by the tumult of the 1960s that they lost their bearings in the 1970s should occasion genuine and sincere regret and not diminish the recognition and honor due them for their efforts in an earlier decade.

BUT LOSE THEIR BEARINGS some did. Three factors precipitated the change. One was the reaction to the foreign policy attitudes of anti-Vietnam protesters. The second was the reaction to demands by civil rights groups for affirmative action measures that sometimes either bordered on or actually became racial quotas. The third was the social science research suggesting that many Great Society programs had not worked as well as had been hoped.

As the business and New Right offensive has built, some of the same people who in the 1960s were brave voices for decency and reason now seem to have become more part of the cheering section for an assault on decency. Indeed, in a recent issue of a publication of the American Enterprise Institute, one neoconservative wrote of his attraction for conservatism based on the fact that today it is conservatives, not liberals, who appear to be the "wave of the future," bursting with enthusiasm and new ideas.

Because many of them were friends of the labor movement and some, in a residual way, would still consider themselves to be so, one writes of the neoconservatives more in sorrow than in anger. But most seem more at home with the American Enterprise Institute at this point.

Consumer Interests Ignored:

Senate Sides With Oil Firms In Slashing Windfall Tax Bill

UNLESS THE MOOD of the Senate shifts from misplaced sympathy for oil companies and toward hard-pressed consumers, the windfall profits tax it shapes will fall far short of the just and reasonable level at which it should be pegged.

That warning was issued in a network radio interview by AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Stephen Koplan, who pointed out that before the measure ever got to the Senate floor the Finance Committee slashed the House-passed windfall bill in half, and that further cuts have been made with amendments. Koplan said the threat of filibuster looms over every attempt "to toughen the bill."

Koplan declared that if the Senate and the conference committee fail to restore the cuts and send a substantially improved bill to the White House, the President should veto the measure.

Questioned by reporters on Labor News Conference, Koplan said that while "the Senate seems bent on watering down" every area of the windfall profits tax bill, it has been especially receptive to the pleas of the independent oil companies and their claim that they are only "Mom and Pop" operations and need special relief.

"The truth is, they are very successful, sizable companies . . . the billionaires of the oil companies, rather than the trillionaires, as the majors are," he asserted.

Noting that a recent survey of 71 independent oil companies showed that their profits were up 84 percent with some individual companies registering increases in the 300 percent range, Koplan said that doesn't square with their claim that they need more revenues for exploration and development of sources.

Washington Window

By Press Associates, Inc.

THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION was born in the progressive era in response to the rampant exploitation of consumers and working people.

Justice Louis Brandeis, who founded and practiced public interest law for decades, inspired the creation of the FTC in 1914 and helped draft its charter. It was to be an agency which would end monopoly and cut-throat practices that kept wages down, prices up and products shoddy.

Over the years, the FTC failed to match its promise as organized business made sure it was kept weak and toothless.

But with the resurgence of the consumer movement in recent years and strong leadership at the FTC, the agency not only grew strong teeth but used them.

Now the powerful business and corporate counterattack against government "overregulation" is sweeping through Congress and threatens to cripple the agency designed to protect the consumer.

In the name of "deregulation," Congress is preparing to do the following to the Federal Trade Commission:

- Bar it from regulating the funeral industry. To have the FTC insist that funeral home operators disclose burial costs to grieving relatives was seen as "overregulation."
- Prohibit the FTC from investigating or prosecuting antitrust cases against such billion-dollar-a-year agricultural "cooperatives" as Sunkist and Land O'Lakes.
- Forbid the FTC from investigating the insurance industry, where it had found some companies guilty of selling millions of dollars worth of virtually worthless policies—often to the poor and elderly.
- Bar the commission from adopting industry-wide trade rules against unfair commercial advertisements, like those aimed at young children.
- Prevent the commission from adopting a rule that would give consumers information about major mechanical and safety defects in used cars.
- Strip the FTC of its power to regulate mergers.
- Kill the FTC rule on product "standards and certification," a plan to ensure fairness in the procedures of private standard-setting groups. Such groups, like Underwriters Laboratory (UL), establish standards for about 20,000 items ranging from fire fighters' respirators to mechanics' tools.

Those are just for starters. An especially crippling proposal would enable either house of Congress to veto any FTC regulatory action. Still another move would slash the funding that enables "private intervenors" to testify in the public interest.

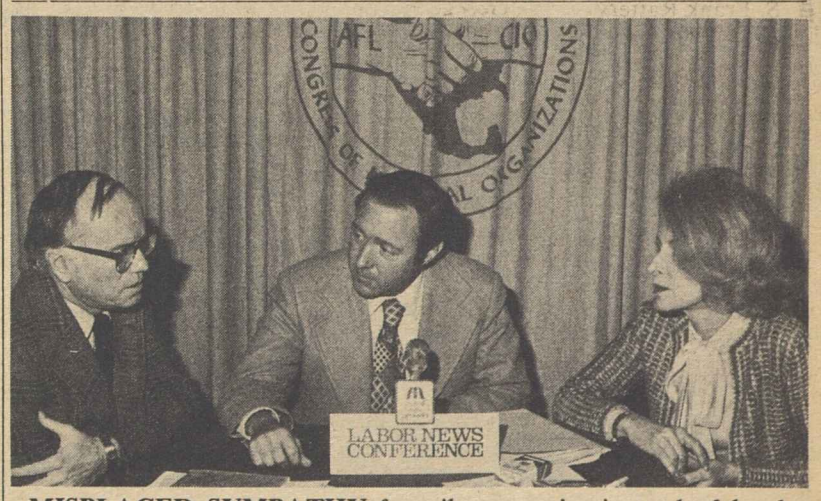
THE FTC HAS BEEN in operation since 1914, but only in recent years has it begun to exercise fully its broad mandate to ferret out "unfair or deceptive acts or practices" in the business world. That would appear to be a reasonable and even desirable assignment, but it doesn't sit well with much of the nation's business community and its friends in Congress.

FTC investigations into a multitude of business abuses, such as the funeral and insurance scandals, have aroused the business community. Conservative victories in Capitol Hill fights over the consumer protection agency helped convince business forces the time was ripe to cut down this pro-consumer agency.

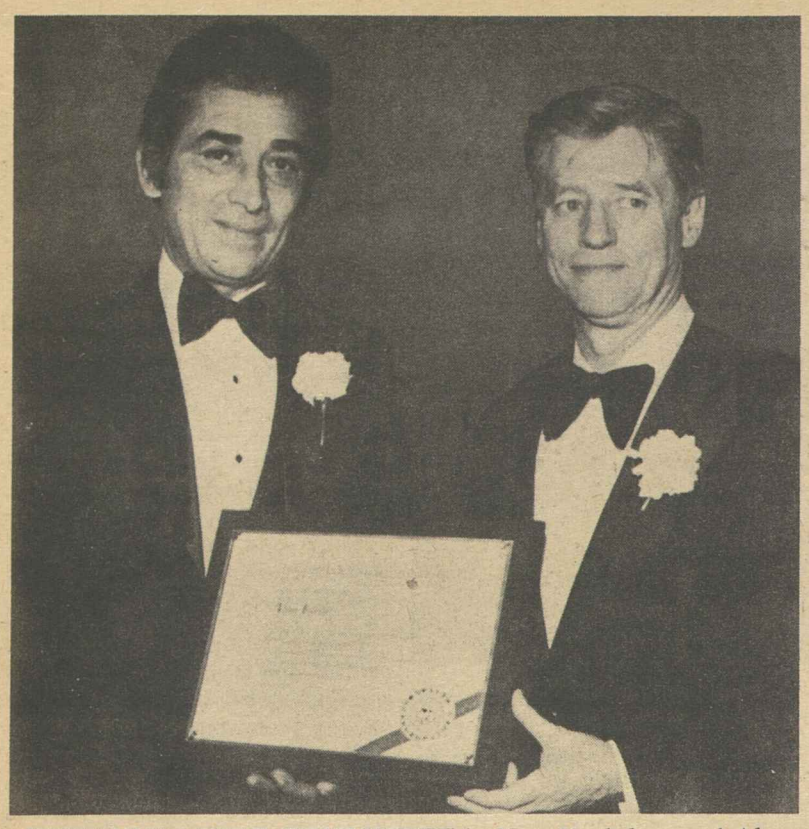
Unions, consumer groups, senior citizens' organizations and other "people-oriented" forces see the attacks on the FTC as little more than another business effort to remain as freewheeling as possible.

Those on the other side of the fence, however, see their anti-FTC efforts as blows against "big government" and "overregulation." "We are seeing an end to government by bureaucratic fiat," declared one House member.

The House already has done its work on the FTC and it remains to be seen whether the Senate will reject the most destructive changes and salvage some authority for the agency.



MISPLACED SYMPATHY for oil companies instead of hard-pressed consumers may produce a Senate version of a windfall profits tax that is even weaker than the measure approved by the House, AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. Stephen Koplan, center, warned on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Roberta Hornig of the Washington Star and Jerome Cahill of the New York Daily News. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs program is aired weekly on Mutual radio.



HISPANIC LABOR COMMITTEE in New York honored Alan Kistler, director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services as one of its annual award winners. Jose Lopez, left, made the presentation.

Wildcat Strike Liability Lifted for Parent Unions

(*Continued from Page 1*)

dicts of $722,000 in damages against the three locals, as well as judgments of $206,000 against the international and $242,000 against the local unions' district council.

The appellate court overturned the judgments against the international and the district, but kept intact the verdict against the locals.

In writing the decision for the high court, Justice William J. Brennan said that pertinent provisions of the UMW contract with the Bituminous Coal Operatiors Association called on the parties to "maintain the integrity" of the contract.

That clause replaced a provision in an earlier UMW contract that required the union to use its "best efforts through available disciplinary measures" to get wildcat strikers to call off their walkout.

"The inescapable conclusion to be drawn from their bargaining history," Brennan said, "is that, whatever the integrity clause may mean, the parties purposely decided not to impose on the union an obligation to take disciplinary or other actions to get unauthorized strikers back to work.

"It would do violence to the bargaining process and the national policy furthering collective bargaining to impose by judicial implication a duty upon UMW and District 17 that the parties in arms-length bargaining first included and then purposely deleted," Brennan observed.

The high court also rejected Carbon Fuel's argument that it was the intent of Congress in federal labor law to impose an obligation on international unions to use reasonable means to control the conduct of locals.

Citing 1947 labor law amendments, Brennan said "Congress gave careful attention to the problem of strikes during the term of a collective bargaining agreement, but stopped short of imposing liability on a union for strikes not authorized, participated in, or ratified by it."

Brennan added that "such a rule would pierce the shield that Congress took such care to construct."

That was one of the points made in the AFL-CIO brief.

15-Percent Boost Won By Recording Musicians

New York—Recording musicians overwhelmingly ratified a 25-month agreement with the record industry providing two across-the-board wage scale increases totaling 15 percent.

Musicians President Victor W. Fuentealba reported that the contract was approved by a vote of 1,550 to 240 in a mail referendum. Some 6,200 AFM members who earned at least $1,000 from phonograph recordings during 1978 were eligible to vote on the contract.

The wage scale was increased 8 percent in the first year of the agreement retroactive to Nov. 1 and will be raised an additional 7 percent for the remaining 13 months.

For a basic three-hour commercial session, musicians' fees were raised to $137.21 from $127.05 and will rise to $146.81 in the second year. For a one and one-half hour session, the fee was increased to $90.56 from $83.85 and will go to $96.90 in the second year.

Similar increases are provided for symphonic sessions, rising to $145.44 for a three-hour period as of Nov. 1 and to $155.62 as of Nov. 1, 1980. A four-hour symphonic session brings AFM members $193.92 this year and will rise to $207.49 in the second year of the agreement.

Fuentealba said the AFM also negotiated a breakthrough in the classical music field, setting terms and conditions on recording chamber music and providing a new formula for "on location" symphony and opera recordings.

Both union and management representatives feel that these provisions will improve employment opportunities for AFM members in the United States and Canada, Fuentealba said, adding that "it is our hope that the flood of foreign recordings in the classical music field will eventually be reduced to a mere trickle."

Labor's Scorecard:

Three Key Senate Rollcalls On Windfall Profits Tax Bill

These three early Senate votes on the oil windfall profits tax bill are shown in terms of the AFL-CIO's position. The symbols are: R—right; W—wrong; A—absent; PR—paired right; PW—paired wrong.

VOTE NO. 1, on Nov. 26, was the 50-32 defeat of a labor-supported attempt by Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.) to substitute the House-passed windfall tax. The House bill, although itself a compromise, would bring in $138 billion more revenue over a 10-year period than the original Senate committee bill.

Voting right were 27 Democrats and 5 Republicans; 18 Democrats and 32 Republicans were wrong.

VOTE NO. 2, on Nov. 27, was the 53-41 passage of an amendment that gave independent oil producers an additional exemption from the windfall profits tax, resulting in an estimated revenue loss of $9.9 billion over the 10 years. The AFL-CIO opposed the giveaway.

Voting right were 31 Democrats and 10 Republicans; 27 Democrats and 26 Republicans were wrong.

VOTE NO. 3, on Dec. 4, was the 58-35 approval of a labor-supported amendment by Sen. Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) that strengthened the bill by increasing the tax rate on windfall profits from oil discovered between 1973 and 1978.

Passage of this amendment adds close to $22.5 billion to the 10-year revenue estimate of the Senate bill.

Voting right were 44 Democrats and 14 Republicans; 10 Democrats and 25 Republicans voted wrong on the issue.

	1	2	3
ALABAMA			
Heflin (D)	W	W	R
Stewart (D)	R	W	R
ALASKA			
Gravel (D)	A	W	W
Stevens (R)	W	W	W
ARIZONA			
DeConcini (D)	R	W	R
Goldwater (R)	W	W	A
ARKANSAS			
Bumpers (D)	R	W	R
Pryor (D)	W	W	W
CALIFORNIA			
Cranston (D)	A	W	R
Hayakawa (R)	W	A	W
COLORADO			
Hart (D)	W	W	R
Armstrong (R)	W	A	W
CONNECTICUT			
Ribicoff (D)	R	R	R
Weicker (R)	R	R	R
DELAWARE			
Biden (D)	R	R	A
Roth (R)	A	W	R
FLORIDA			
Chiles (D)	R	R	R
Stone (D)	W	W	R
GEORGIA			
Nunn (D)	A	R	R
Talmadge (D)	A	R	A
HAWAII			
Inouye (D)	A	R	R
Matsunaga (D)	W	R	R
IDAHO			
Church (D)	R	W	A
McClure (R)	W	W	W
ILLINOIS			
Stevenson (D)	A	R	R
Percy (R)	W	R	R
INDIANA			
Bayh (D)	R	W	R
Lugar (R)	W	W	W
IOWA			
Culver (D)	R	R	R
Jepsen (R)	A	A	W
KANSAS			
Dole (R)	W	W	W
Kassebaum (R)	A	W	W
KENTUCKY			
Ford (D)	R	W	R
Huddleston (D)	R	W	R
LOUISIANA			
Johnston (D)	W	W	W
Long (D)	W	W	W
MAINE			
Muskie (D)	A	R	R
Cohen (R)	R	PR	R
MARYLAND			
Sarbanes (D)	R	R	R
Mathias (R)	R	R	R
MASSACHUSETTS			
Kennedy (D)	R	R	R
Tsongas (D)	R	R	R
MICHIGAN			
Levin (D)	A	R	R
Riegle (D)	R	W	R
MINNESOTA			
Boschwitz (R)	W	W	W
Durenberger (R)	W	R	R
MISSISSIPPI			
Stennis (D)	W	W	A
Cochran (R)	W	PW	W
MISSOURI			
Eagleton (D)	R	R	R
Danforth (R)	W	R	R
MONTANA			
Baucus (D)	W	W	R
Melcher (D)	W	W	W
NEBRASKA			
Exon (D)	R	W	R
Zorinsky (D)	W	W	W
NEVADA			
Cannon (D)	W	R	R
Laxalt (R)	W	W	W
NEW HAMPSHIRE			
Durkin (D)	A	R	R
Humphrey (R)	W	W	W
NEW JERSEY			
Bradley (D)	R	R	R
Williams (D)	A	R	R
NEW MEXICO			
Domenici (R)	W	W	W
Schmitt (R)	W	W	W
NEW YORK			
Moynihan (D)	R	R	R
Javits (R)	R	R	R
NORTH CAROLINA			
Morgan (D)	R	R	R
Helms (R)	W	W	W
NORTH DAKOTA			
Burdick (D)	W	W	R
Young (R)	W	W	W
OHIO			
Glenn (D)	W	R	W
Metzenbaum (D)	R	R	R
OKLAHOMA			
Boren (D)	W	W	W
Bellmon (R)	W	W	W
OREGON			
Hatfield (R)	W	R	R
Packwood (R)	R	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA			
Heinz (R)	W	W	R
Schweiker (R)	W	W	R
RHODE ISLAND			
Pell (D)	A	R	R
Chafee (R)	W	R	R
SOUTH CAROLINA			
Hollings (D)	A	W	R
Thurmond (R)	W	W	W
SOUTH DAKOTA			
McGovern (D)	R	W	A
Pressler (R)	W	W	W
TENNESSEE			
Sasser (D)	A	R	R
Baker (R)	A	W	A
TEXAS			
Bentsen (D)	W	W	W
Tower (R)	W	W	W
UTAH			
Garn (R)	W	W	W
Hatch (R)	W	W	W
VERMONT			
Leahy (D)	R	R	R
Stafford (R)	W	R	R
VIRGINIA			
Byrd, H. (D)	A	A	W
Warner (R)	W	W	W
WASHINGTON			
Jackson (D)	R	R	R
Magnuson (D)	R	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA			
Byrd, R. (D)	W	R	R
Randolph (D)	W	W	R
WISCONSIN			
Nelson (D)	R	R	R
Proxmire (D)	R	R	R
WYOMING			
Simpson (R)	W	W	W
Wallop (R)	W	W	W

Major Expansion:

Child Health Plan Approved by House

The House approved an important, labor-supported bill that would entitle many more needy children and pregnant women to full health services.

Under the proposed Child Health Assurance Program, referred to as CHAP, state Medicaid programs would be required to provide full coverage for all children under 18 in households with incomes below two-thirds of the urban poverty level set by the federal government, even though the income may exceed the state's requirements for its Medicaid program.

An existing, more limited program of child medical screening covers only children without a father present. The House bill would cover children from low-income two-parent families as well.

It would also cover pregnancy and childbirth care for low-income women, who in many states now cannot get care unless they already have a dependent child.

In all, an estimated 5 million children and more than 200,000 pregnant women would be helped by the bill.

A key vote was the defeat of a labor-opposed amendment that would have made federal payments for the medical services dependent on congressional appropriations.

The vote had been expected to be close. But by a strong 226-152 margin, the House maintained the program as an "entitlement" that the government is obligated to honor. The bill's chief sponsor is Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.), who is also House sponsor of the labor-supported national health care legislation.

As with other bills this year, the House added a rigid anti-abortion amendment that goes beyond what the Senate has been willing to accept. A new provision in the amendment specifies that the federal Medicaid law can not be construed to require states to fund "medically necessary" abortions.

In other congresional action, an anti-recession program that the Senate approved by a 69-23 vote last August overcame a big hurdle by winning endorsement from the House Government Operations Committee, whose senior members switched from opposition to support.

The Administration-urged measure would authorize up to $1 billion in federal payments to help local and state governments cope with a recession.

An initial phase of "targeted fiscal assistance" would go immediately to cities with high unemployment. When various indicators—the national unemployment rate in the Senate bill and decline in the gross national product and real wages in the House version—signal a full recession, a broader program of assistance would be triggered.

House leaders have scheduled an early vote on the countercyclical legislation and the AFL-CIO is urging passage of the bill without any damaging amendments.

Union Upheld On Voting at Stevens Plant

High Point, N.C.—A regional director of the National Labor Relations Board recommended certification of the Clothing & Textile Workers as bargaining representative at the J. P. Steven & Co. plant here after dismissing protests by the company.

ACTWU won the NLRB election Oct. 4 for a 126-worker bargaining unit by a vote of 68 to 48. But Stevens filed 11 objections to the election, which Regional Director Reed Johnston subsequently found were "without merit."

Stevens charged that ACTWU distributed handbills misrepresenting wage rates 48 hours before the election, held captive audience meetings, threatened employees and misrepresented facts on other issues.

In rejecting the company's claims, Johnston found that Stevens had time to respond to the handbilling and that there was no evidence to substantiate its other charges.

Stevens said it would appeal Johnston's decision to the full NLRB.

Responding to similar complaints involving a Nov. 1 and 2 election at a Stevens plant in Allendale, S.C., Johnston granted a hearing for Jan. 3 to consider employer objections and several challenged ballots. ACTWU won that election by a vote of 57 to 54.



NEW PRESIDENT of the National Capital Area Trade Union Retirees Club, Jim Hill, is sworn in by Hunter P. Wharton, right, president emeritus of the Operating Engineers. Hill, retired secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Transit Union, fills the post held by the late Nicholas Zonarich.



JOINT CONFERENCE on organizing women workers was announced at a news conference by Industrial Union Dept. President Howard D. Samuel and Joyce Miller, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women. It will be held in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 24.

Long Island Rail Road Struck in Wage Dispute

New York—Negotiations have resumed between the Long Island Rail Road and 17 unions under the auspices of the National Mediation Board in efforts to resolve a year-long dispute that resulted in a strike and shutdown of the country's largest commuter line.

The railroad's 6,200 employees have been working without contracts since Dec. 31, 1978.

Talks between the United Transportation Union and the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which operates the LIRR, had been stalled for several months.

The UTU, which represents 1,300 LIRR conductors, trainmen and track supervisors, called the strike after last-minute negotiations broke down in Washington. Sixteen other unions representing the remainder of the line's employees joined in the walkout by observing the UTU picket lines.

As negotiations resumed, the Carter Administration resisted pressures to appoint a presidential emergency board which could order an immediate halt of the strike for 60 days.

New York Gov. Hugh Carey and MTA Chairman Richard Ravitch had urged the President to create the emergency panel. But the Administration held that a national emergency justifying the creation of the board did not exist, and stressed that the dispute should be settled through collective bargaining.

The unions are seeking a new three-year agreement retroactive to Jan. 1, 1979, that would provide for key improvements in wages, pensions and benefits, as well as updated work rules.

The MTA had made improvements from its original offer of 2 percent annual wage increases in each year of a three-year contract, but the proposal still was far below union contract goals.

Shortly after the strike began the Mediation Board relayed a new MTA offer for a two-year agreement. It would provide a 7 percent wage increase retroactive to Jan. 1, 1979; 6.5 percent more as of Jan. 1, 1980, and a cost-of-living adjustment of 18 cents an hour on Jan. 1, 1981.

Four of the 16 unions observing the UTU picket lines have since announced strike action. They are the Railroad Signalmen, Yardmasters, Carmen and Teamsters.

Pilots' Age Ceiling To Remain at 60

The House voted to keep the mandatory retirement age for airline pilots at 60, but to authorize a study to consider whether the age limit should be raised in the future.

That was the course advocated by the Air Line Pilots and supported by the AFL-CIO in a letter to House members.

The original bill would have raised the retirement age to 61½ immediately, but would have dropped it back to 60 if a study by the National Institutes of Health so determined. Apart from the uncertainty of such a move, the ALPA noted that it would require renegotiation of retirement and benefit packages that now are keyed to a 60-year retirement age.

CLUW, IUD Slate Parley On Organizing

A conference designed to aid in organizing the nation's growing female workforce has been scheduled by the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. and the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

The Jan. 24, 1980, meeting in Washington was announced by IUD President Howard D. Samuel and CLUW President Joyce Miller. Elmer Chatak, IUD secretary-treasurer and formerly director of organizing for the Steelworkers, will head the IUD group at the meeting.

In their joint announcement, Samuel and Miller said, "It is increasingly obvious that with each passing year women are becoming a more important factor in the national workforce. Yet, few unions have devoted enough serious thought to designing appeals aimed at attracting these millions of wage earners into union ranks. . . .

"We believe that the exchange of ideas, experience and plans at this 'first of its kind' CLUW-IUD conference will help pave the way to much greater union membership among women in the future, as well as increasing participation in the leadership of their union organizations."

Railway Carmen Name Clementi Vice President

Kansas City—John C. Clementi, assistant to the president of the AFL-CIO Railway Employes' Dept. since 1976, has been named vice president of the Railway Carmen to succeed H. J. Kintzele, who retired.

Clementi, 59, has been a member of the Carmen since 1946 and served as a local chairman and system chairman before being appointed to the union's executive board in 1972.

Unions Form Bridge To Jobs for Navajos

Crownpoint, N.M.—Union training programs are bridging what had been the missing link in the Navajo youths' transition to good jobs, Chairman Peter J. MacDonald of the Navajo Nation declared at recent ceremonies marking the completion of courses by 23 Navajo trainees.

They are the first group of students to finish pre-apprenticeship courses at the Crownpoint Skill Center for the Navajo Construction Industry Manpower Program (NCIMP), which is administered by the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute.

MacDonald said that although Navajos have been operating their own training programs for years, unions have helped insure through their involvement in NCIMP that the training efforts are linked to good employment.

Unions became involved in the Navajo project under a 1975 agreement between the AFL-CIO Building & Construction Trades Dept. and the tribe.

Since that time, reported HRDI Assistant Director Rod DuChemin, 634 Navajos have been enrolled in the NCIMP program. Of these, 411 have completed the pre-apprenticeship training and about 85 percent of the graduates have been placed in construction jobs paying wages of $7 an hour.

All future training classes will be conducted at the Crownpoint Skill Center, which was dedicated a year ago. NCIMP's former training facilities at Mexican Hat, N.M., have been phased out in favor of the larger and better-equipped Crownpoint center.

The first graduating class at Crownpoint was made up of 10 millwrights and 13 carpenter trainees, who were provided instruction under the Carpenters' training program. Current classes at the center are being conducted in cooperation with the Painters, Bricklayers and Plasterers. Additional classes scheduled to begin early in 1980 will involve the efforts of the Operating Engineers and Laborers.

Training Grant Renewed For Graphic Arts Union

The Graphic Arts Union has been given a $198,550 contract renewal to train and upgrade 75 women in non-traditional jobs in the printing industry, Assistant Sec. of Labor Ernest G. Green announced.

The union will carry out the program through its locals around the country and the printing firms with which they have contracts. It will include both advancing women already in jobs requiring skills to higher-level positions previously considered "men's jobs" and providing apprentice opportunities to women in unskilled jobs.

Byrd Threatens Controls:

Windfall Tax Battle Heats Up in Senate

(Continued from Page 1)

high world price set by the OPEC countries.

The AFL-CIO strongly opposed the decontrol decision but supported the strongest possible windfall tax when Congress failed to block decontrol. The Administration has proposed that windfall revenues be used for developing new energy sources, assisting mass transit, and helping low-income households meet higher fuel costs.

After four weeks of debate, the Senate had modestly improved the committee bill, raising its revenue estimates over 10 years from the original $138 billion to about $155 billion—still far short of the House-passed $277 billion bill.

The crunch came as the Senate took up a key minimum tax amendment that would impose a 20 percent tax on windfall profits from three categories of oil that the Senate bill would exempt completely from the tax.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Russell B. Long (D-La.) and Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.), the two oil industry stalwarts, first sought to kill the minimum tax by a tabling motion. They were beaten on a 53-44 vote, a certain indication that the Senate was prepared to pass that amendment.

Anticipating the filibuster that then began, Byrd had filed a petition for cloture, to end all debate on the bill after 100 more hours of debate and voting on amendments.

Under the Senate rules, it takes 60 votes to impose cloture. The 53-45 majority for cloture was seven short. But on a second cloture vote a day later the gap narrowed to 56-40.

The majority leader told senators to be prepared to stay in session continuously if necessary. Byrd did, in fact, keep the Senate in session until 3:40 a.m., and he warned that their Christmas holiday might be no more than a single day if Congress had not by then completed final action on both the windfall profits tax and aid to Chrysler.

In addition to the minmum tax, an amendment that would make profits from state-owned oil properties subject to the windfall levy aroused the ire of Long. The Louisiana senator filed close to 300 amendments to that proposal, most of which would merely change a word or two but each a potential filibuster weapon.

Even under the most optimistic scenario, the Senate tax bill is bound to fall substantially short of the House-passed measure. The Senate started off the debate by rejecting a labor-supported substitute that would have adopted the House revenue figures.

Ironically, the bill the House passed last June was seen then as a victory for the oil companies. It was considered a compromise measure when it came out of the Ways & Means Committee, and the House reduced the tax through several amendments adopted when the bill came to the floor. Meanwhile, estimates of the amount oil companies stand to gain have increased in expectation of even steeper OPEC price rises.

Regardless of the amount of the tax, consumers are expected to pay more than one trillion dollars in higher prices over the next 10 years because of oil price decontrol.

Chemical Union Interns Research Job Hazards

Akron, O.—The Chemical Workers have established an intern program intended to make workers and medical care students more aware of workplace hazards.

Students, including prospective doctors and nurses, are assigned to work with local unions in five states, researching job hazards and reporting to local union representatives.



UNION WITNESSES defended the Longshoremen's & Harbor Workers Act against weakening amendments and said employer claims of excessive cost should be directed to insurance companies, not the law. AFL-CIO Legislative Rep. F. Howard McGuigan, center, termed it a model workers' compensation law that states should emulate. At the witness table, from left: President Paul J. Burnsky of the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept.; Edward L. Lowe, president of the Pascagoula, Miss., Metal Trades Council; McGuigan; AFL-CIO Assistant Social Security Director Barrett Seeley, and Page Groton, legislative director of the Boilermakers.

Congress Urged to Reject Cuts In Model Job Injury Benefit Law

The AFL-CIO defended the Longshoremen's & Harbor Workers' Compensation Act against employer criticism and strongly urged Congress to reject attempts to reduce coverage or limit benefits.

Legislative Rep. F. Howard McGuigan said 1972 amendments had made the program close to a model for state workers' compensation laws. He told a House Labor subcommittee headed by Rep. Edward P. Beard (D-R.I.) that the AFL-CIO views "with consternation" the proposals to roll the program back towards "shamefully inadequate" levels.

The law was broadened in 1972 to cover workers on docks, in related cargo transfer areas and in shipyards, as well as those working on board vessels. It also covers most non-government workers in the District of Columbia. Injured workers are entitled to two-thirds of lost wages, up to a ceiling tied to twice the national average weekly wage.

President Thomas W. Gleason of the Longshoremen told the committee in a statement that employers and insurance companies that now want to retrench had agreed to the terms of the bill in 1972.

As part of the package, Gleason noted, "the employers gained some very significant advantages by the elimination of third-party suits for unseaworthiness" and other legal changes.

The employers just want to roll back some of the improvements affecting workers, Gleason pointed out, and "not one employer" has suggested changing the concessions that had been granted in exchange.

McGuigan told the committee that it was acknowledged from the start that the law "would be somewhat more costly in terms of insurance premiums" than the inadequate state laws, especially in view of the industry's "appallingly high accident and injury rate."

But he suggested that in at least some areas, employers are being overcharged by insurance companies.

In the District of Columbia last year, McGuigan testified, employers paid $91 million in compensation premiums but insurers paid out only $50 million in claims.

That gave the insurers "a huge profit, an extremely high retention rate," McGuigan said. "Yet all we hear is that benefits under the act are too liberal."

Testimony on behalf of the AFL-CIO Metal Trades Dept. was presented by Edward L. Lowe, president of the Pascagoula, Miss., Metal Trades Council, which represents more than 11,000 workers at the Ingalls Shipyard there.

Lowe told the panel that the maximum weekly benefit for an injured worker of $98 a week under Mississippi's state law just isn't enough for a disabled worker who may have children dependent on his earnings. And the state law, unlike the federal law, allows the employer and not the worker to choose a doctor.

As for coverage, he cited an example of the unreasonable stringency of the previous law as it affected the shipyard where he works.

Lowe said an apprentice pipefitter was working on a door of a landing craft under construction. The craft was afloat but docked. The worker fell from the door onto the pier. If he had fallen a few feet in another direction into the water, he would have been covered by the federal law. But since he fell "on land," he was limited to state benefits.

That's the sort of arbitrary distinction the 1972 amendments were intended to correct, Lowe said.

Betty Murphy Resigns From Labor Board Post

A vacancy on the National Labor Relations Board has been created with the resignation of Betty Southard Murphy a few days before the expiration of her term on the board.

Murphy, a Republican, wrote the President that she had "decided not to accept the offer of an interim appointment conveyed to me on your behalf by the Dept. of Labor, or renomination for a second term" even though "urged by both organized labor and the business community to remain."

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland said that "Mrs. Murphy has done an outstanding job as chairman and as a member of the National Labor Relations Board and we regret her resignation. We know, however, that she will continue to make a real contribution to the improvement of labor-management relations in the United States."

The heads of the National Association of Manufacturers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce joined in expressing regret at the resignation.

Murphy served as chairman of the NLRB from 1975 to 1977 on the appointment of President Ford and has continued as a member of the board. Her term expires Dec. 16, 1979.

Murphy, a labor lawyer, was administrator of the Wage-Hour Division of the Labor Dept. before her appointment to the board. Prior to that appointment she was a partner in a Washington, D.C., law firm with both union and employer clients.

She submitted her resignation also from the council of the Administrative Conference of the United States, but will continue her work with the International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes.

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Correspondence about address corrections should be sent with attached mailing label to: Subscriptions, Room 209, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Puzzle Fits Pieces Into Political Action

Boston—For Council 93 of the State, County & Municipal Employees, raising contributions for union political action funds is a matter of getting all the pieces to fit.

And the technique is in the sale of a 304-piece jigsaw puzzle illustrating Boston's Beacon Hill and the everyday jobs of public employees. The council is offering the puzzle to the 50,000 AFSCME members throughout Massachusetts with proceeds going into the political action fund.

Last year the council raised $5,000 for political action efforts through the sale of T-shirts, noted Communication & Education Director John J. Harvey, who said that the puzzles "are selling like hotcakes."

6-Member Price Panel Designated by Carter

A six-member Price Advisory Committee was appointed by President Carter as part the Administration's anti-inflation program and began deliberations after meeting with the President.

The White House announcement on the appointment of the panel, which is composed solely of public members, said the action is designed "to broaden public participation in the design and implementation of the voluntary price standard."

Members of the committee are Robert Atwood, a partner in a Washington accounting firm; Barbara Bergmann, economics professor at the University of Maryland; Carol Schwartz Greenwald, visiting associate professor at the Harvard Business School and former Massachusetts banking commissioner; Stanley Ruttenberg, head of a Washington consulting firm and former assistant secretary of labor; John Sheahan, economics professor at Williams College, and Albert T. Sommers, chairman and chief economist of the Conference Board, a business-supported research organization.

Sommers was elected chairman at the committee's first meeting.

The price panel parallels the 18-member Pay Advisory Committee designated by Carter on Oct. 16 with equal representation from business, labor and the public.

The White House said the price committee will advise the Council on Wage & Price Stability on the development of policies "to encourage anti-inflationary price behavior" and may make recommendations for changes in existing guidelines and interpretations.

The second year of the Administration's wage-price restraint program began on Oct. 1. On that date COWPS put into effect revised price guidelines that generally call on businesses to limit their total price increases for the first two years of the program to the same percentage of increase in the 1976-77-period.

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Iran Petition Drive Gains As Unions Spur Campaign

'Lie' Test Misuse By Coors Cited

Denver—Applicants for employment at the Adolph Coors Co. were routinely subjected to questions about their sexual activities and preferences while taking "lie detector" tests, a congressional subcommittee was told.

Three former employees of the company, which includes Coors beer among its products, testified before the House subcommittee on labor-management relations at field hearings on polygraph testing in the workplace.

The Coors company for years has used the polygraph in pre-employment testing and in the settlement of employee grievances. The use of the polygraph was one of the issues in the bitter strike that eventually resulted in the decertification of Brewery Workers Local 366. A boycott backed by the AFL-CIO against Coors beer is still in effect.

Presenting testimony were Irene B. Temple, Emery Jay Haze, Jr., and David Sickler. All three told essentially the same story.

They related how the polygraph examiner asked the most personal of questions in pre-employment testing, including those about their sexual behavior. The polygraph also was used to intimidate workers into settling grievances rather than going through lengthy arbitration, they said.

Temple said she worked at Coors from 1974 until the strike in 1977. Before she was hired, she was given a lie detector test. She said that when she answered that she was not married and that she had a boy friend, she was asked, "Do you ever have sex?" "How often?"

"If I didn't answer the questions, they told me I would not get the job," she said. "I hesitated when they got to my personal life. but I had no choice. I never did anything I was ashamed of, but I don't believe my personal life is any of their business."

Temple said the test took about an hour and she was required to sit with her feet on the floor the entire time.

(Continued on Page 2)

$5.35 Guide Set on Pay Exemption

Low-wage units of the nation's workforce would be exempt from the Carter Administration's evolving second-year wage standard under a recommendation of the President's Pay Advisory Committee.

The 18-member tripartite wage panel, which includes labor, business and public representatives, voted unanimously to exempt low-paid units in which straight-time hourly earnings average less than $5.35.

The individual worker exemption will remain unchanged for the present with workers earning below $4 an hour in October 1978 remaining excluded from the program.

The wage panel also agreed to a proposal exempting both longevity and "qualification" pay increases from whatever standard is ultimately adopted by the Administration.

As for the standard itself, the committee moved toward replacing the current voluntary 7 percent wage guideline with a "numerical range," but postponed a decision

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AFL-CIO PETITIONS demanding the immediate release of American hostages in Iran are signed by Iron Workers during their lunch break at a construction site in Arlington, Va.

Wide Range Of Actions Launched

AFL-CIO affiliates are picking up on a nationwide petition campaign launched by Federation President Lane Kirkland to press for the release of the 50 American hostages Iranian terrorists are holding at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

The petition drive is being reinforced by rallies, vigils, letter-writing appeals and other activities unions are promoting at national, regional, state and local levels.

The AFL-CIO petitions are directed to the Iranian embassy in Washington, stating, "We the undersigned demand the immediate and unconditional release of each and every American held hostage in Tehran. Americans of all opinions are united behind our government's refusal to surrender to terrorist blackmail."

That message was made clear by members of Iron Workers Local 5 who gave up their lunch break at an Arlington, Va., construction site to sign the petitions. The local's effort was tied in with the Dec. 17

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Coordinated Union Effort:

Chrysler Aid Clears Hurdles in Congress

A united labor lobbying effort neared success in the closing hours before the Christmas recess as Congress put the finishing touches on a bill designed to prevent the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs at Chrysler Corp. plants.

Both the House and Senate approved legislation on a federal loan guarantee for Chrysler that would enable the nation's third largest auto maker to stay in business. The legislation spells out specific contributions that must be pledged by Chrysler's bankers, state and local governments, suppliers and dealers, as well as from the Auto Workers in terms of giving up wage and fringe benefits.

The key action came in the House on an amendment proposed by Rep. Dan Quayle (R-Ind.) that would have required contributions by union workers valued at $900 million over the next three years. The House defeated the Quayle amendment 296 to 107. The bill finally approved called for a $400 million contribution by Chrysler workers, $200 million more than in the bill reported out of the House Banking Committee.

The House also rejected an attempt to send the bill back to committee to add a wage freeze. Final passage came on a 271 to 136 vote.

UAW President Douglas Fraser said he believed Chrysler workers would approve the additional $200 million required of them in the House bill. The union and company had earlier negotiated a new contract that would have the effect of delaying $200 million in wage and fringe benefit payments.

A version of the House bill was adopted by the Senate the following day but with a $525 million sacrifice by Chrysler workers. Fraser said the Senate wage concession was too high and urged a figure closer to the House bill.

As the AFL-CIO News went to press, House and Senate conferees had reached agreement on a measure setting the wage concession at $462.5 million. Final passage by both Houses was virtually assured.

The key vote in the Senate came on an amendment sponsored by Senators Thomas Eagleton (D-Mo.), Joseph Biden (D-Del.) and William Roth (R-Del.) to wipe out a three-year wage freeze provision written into the Senate Banking Committee bill and strongly op-

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Windfall Profit Bills Differ by $100 Billion

A House-Senate conference committee sought to resolve $100 billion worth of differences and reach agreement on a windfall profits tax bill that would recapture part of the immense sums oil companies will gain from the lifting of price controls.

The conferees began work after the Senate overcame a filibuster and strengthened the windfall profits bill that its industry-allied Finance Committee had drawn up. But it will probably be late January, the start of the second session of Congress, before action is completed.

A month-long debate, and eventually the threat that the President might reimpose the oil price controls he lifted last June, led to passage of a compromise Senate bill that would bring in an estimated $178 billion in revenues over the next 10 years.

That's $40 billion more than the Senate Finance Committee had proposed. But it remains far below the $277 billion tax bill the House voted last June. And even the House version is less than the Administration and the AFL-CIO had sought.

Apart from differences in tax revenues, the House-Senate conference faced other hurdles in its effort to reach final agreement.

Thus, the Senate bill was cluttered with an assortment of tax credits that would mean less reve-

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Granite Union, Tile Workers Set to Merge

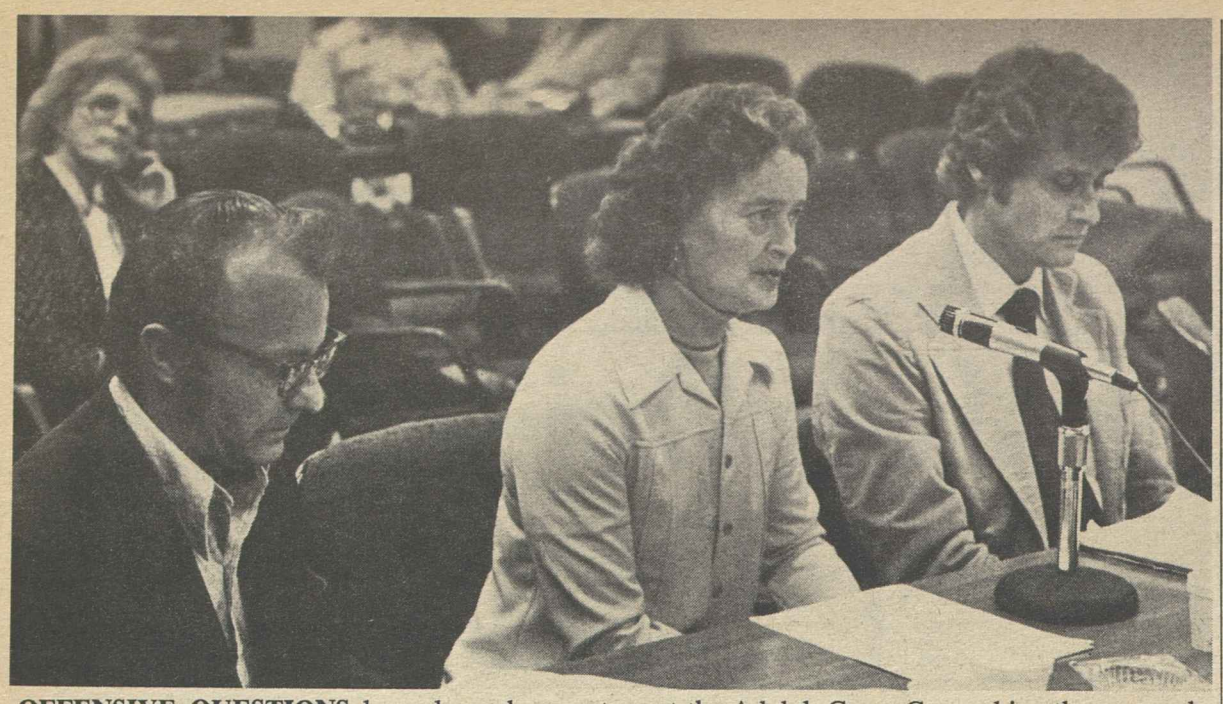
Members of the 102-year-old Granite Cutters have voted in a referendum to affiliate with the Tile, Marble, Terrazo, Finishers & Shopmen, it was announced by President Joseph P. Ricciarelli of the Granite Cutters and President Pascal DiJames of the Tile & Marble Workers.

The Granite Cutters, composed of cutters, carvers, surface machine operators and similar skills in the granite cutting industry, were organized in March 1877 and currently number about 2,000 members. The union's headquarters is in Quincy, Mass.

In affiliating with the 7,000-member Tile & Marble Workers, which represents comparable workers within the limestone and mar-

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Season's Greetings from the AFL-CIO News Staff



OFFENSIVE QUESTIONS by polygraph operators at the Adolph Coors Co. probing the personal lives of job-seekers are described at House subcommittee hearings in Denver exploring employer abuses of "lie detector" tests. The testimony was presented by three former Coors employees, Emery Jay Haze, Jr., left, Irene B. Temple and David Sickler, now an AFL-CIO field representative.

Anti-Union Tactic:

'Lie' Test Misuse By Coors Assailed

(Continued from Page 1)

"I'd go to move my legs because they were getting tired, but he'd say, 'I told you, don't move, keep your feet on the floor.' I was afraid to even move my eyes. When I finished the test, I was exhausted. I felt dirty."

Haze worked at the brewery from March 1966 until the strike began in April 1977. He said it was made clear that submitting to the lie detector test was a pre-employment requirement.

"He asked me personal questions," Haze said. "For example, I was asked if I had sex with my wife the night before. I told him it was none of his business. He said, 'Just answer yes or no.'

"Then he asked if I had a girl friend and if I believed in extramarital sex. Again, I said it was none of his business. He said, like he had before, 'Just answer yes or no.' I said, 'No, if you really have to know.' I felt degraded, disgusted and mad."

Sickler, former financial secretary of the local and now an AFL-CIO field representative, said he was "shocked" at the requirement to take a polygraph test as a condition of employment.

Sickler testified that among questions asked him were, "What are your sexual practices?" Have you had sex with more than one person?" "How often do you have sex?" What is your religion?" "What are your political beliefs?"

He described how Coors also uses the lie detector on employees after discipline or discharge has been imposed, explaining that management states: "If you can pass the polygraph, we will rescind the action."

"The lie detector was used as a threat on many occasions when there was a disagreement between management and the workers regarding absenteeism, lateness, illness, on-the-job accidents and work rules," Sickler said.

The lie detector also was used in conjunction with "search and seizure" raids, he said. "The raids were held under the guise of drug searches, so-called theft investigations and bomb threats. During the raids, employees' lockers, lunch pails, personal possessions and vehicles would be confiscated and searched. Locks would be cut with bolt cutters.

Sickler said that in 1974 the company negotiating team admitted that the lie detector was used to screen employees to determine if they were homosexuals.

"However, the major reason for its use is to intimidate, and to prevent collective activity," he continued. "Otherwise, there would be no need for its use after initial employment."

Sickler also told about other employment practices of the Coors company.

Noting that Coors's discrimination against minorities "is a matter of record," he said "their discrimination against women even surpasses their discrimination against male minorities.

"I personally witnessed outrageous acts of discrimination, such as placing small, frail women on the clean-up crew, graveyard shift. . . . Small women were required to lift heavy, 55-gallon drums filled with broken glass.

"They were required to swing heavy, industrial mops which weighed 30 to 35 pounds wet, for entire shifts. This requirement caused severe strain on many women."

Coors refused to build restroom facilities for women until 1973, he said.

"Whether the polygraph test is valid or not, it is used as a club to threaten and intimidate employees," Sickler said. "The question about an applicant's sexual activity only serves the prurient interest of the polygraph operator.

"As a former employee in the brewery, it's hard for me to transmit to you the intimidation I felt," Sickler told the congressmen. "Supervisors used stop watches to time your breaks, then would laugh about it when fear was instilled in the worker."

Following the testimony, Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.) chairman of the subcommittee, asserted, "I have a feeling of absolute horror and disgust."

Rep. Ray Kogovsek (D-Colo.) said he was "outraged" by the testimony. "The people of the Congress and the people of the United States have to know what the Adolph Coors Co. is all about. It is personally degrading to sit here and listen to this type of testimony."

Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.) described Coors's use of the polygraph as "similar to what I have observed in a country with a strong and repressive dictatorship."

"What concerns me is that young people submitting to these tests will grow up expecting that as normal procedure in this country," he said. "To perpetrate these activities on people who want nothing more than a job, is what I would call corporate Nazism."

Rep. Ken Kramer, a conservative Republican from Colorado, defended the use of the lie detector. He accused Miller of "denying Coors due process."

Court Affirms Coverage for Dock Injuries

A unanimous Supreme Court agreed that a worker who is injured while helping to move cargo between ship and land transportation is entitled to benefits under the Longshoremen's & Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

The ruling, which interpreted the intent of Congress in enacting 1972 amendments to the law, was important because some employer groups have been trying to push back the boundaries of the law. The legislation is close to a model workers' compensation law, providing benefits generally higher than the various state laws allow.

Before 1972, it applied only to injuries sustained over water. But Congress expanded it to cover docks, terminals and other facilities involved in maritime operations. It also covers private employment in the District of Columbia and at overseas military bases.

In the case that reached the court, Texas employers challenged compensation awards to two employees whose job titles were warehouseman.

The court held that the work they did and not the job title is the determining factor. "Persons moving cargo directly from ship to land transportation are engaged in maritime employment" under the terms of the law, Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., wrote for the court.

Board Studies Dispute As LIRR Runs Again

New York—Striking Long Island Rail Road workers returned to their jobs after President Carter signed an executive order creating a three-member emergency board to investigate the dispute that had shut down the huge commuter line.

The panel, headed by former Under Sec. of Labor James Reynolds, was appointed at the request of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which oversees the railroad. Carter acted under provisions of the Railway Labor Act.

Meanwhile, MTA negotiators reached agreement with 10 of the 17 striking unions on new three-year contracts providing a total of 24.4 percent in wage increases and cost-of-living adjustments. The agreements are subject to ratification.

The seven unions that rejected the settlement as inadequate are the United Transportation Union, Locomotive Engineers, Carmen, Yardmasters, Signalmen, Police Benevolent Association, and Teamsters. The factfinding board met with their representatives Dec. 18 and with MTA officials Dec. 19 in Washington.

Following a recess for the holidays, the emergency board will continue its investigation, submitting a report to the President by Jan. 15, 1980. Under the law, the two parties in the dispute must refrain from taking any self-help action for another 30 days. At the end of the 60 days, the unions could resume their strike.

Other board members are Ida Klaus, a New York City arbitrator and mediator, and Nicholas Zumas, a Washington mediator.

The railroad's 6,200 employees have been working without a contract since Dec. 31, 1978. The seven unions that rejected the new package represent 4,500 workers. The dispute centered on money, and the strike started on Dec. 8.

The settlement with the 10 unions would raise average hourly wages from $9.47 to $11.78 at the end of three years. It also provides for increases in company contributions for dental and optical benefits, and no layoffs for workers hired before Jan. 1, 1976.

The unions that settled are the Firemen & Oilers, Sheet Metal Workers, Boilermakers & Blacksmiths, Machinists, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Railway & Airline Clerks and the Railway Supervisors.

On another bargaining front, two Chicago locals of the Amalgamated Transit Union neared the end of the first week of their strike against the Chicago Transit Authority. The transit strike, the first in Chicago since 1922, began on Dec. 17.

The larger local represents about 8,000 bus drivers, repairmen and central office employees. The second represents about 3,000 rapid-rail motormen. Both unions' contracts expired Dec. 1.

ATU President Dan V. Maroney said that the Chicago locals had not requested and had not received sanction for the strike from the national union. The locals charged CTA with trying to roll back cost-of-living benefits dating from the 1950s.

Howard Kleeb Dies, Disputes Plan Umpire

Vienna, Va.—Howard W. Kleeb, an impartial umpire for the AFL-CIO who handled numerous internal disputes among affiliates, died Dec. 14 following a stroke. He was 66.

Kleeb became a labor arbitrator after retiring in 1968 as deputy executive secretary of the National Labor Relations Board. He was a member of the National Academy of Arbitrators.

In a message to his wife, Kathryn, Federation President Lane Kirkland and Sec.-Treas. Thomas R. Donahue said that Kleeb had made a major contribution to the AFL-CIO in the settlement of internal disputes.

"No matter how bitter the debate between unions . . . both sides knew Howard would be a fair, impartial and impeccably honest judge—and they believed in and relied on his integrity. We know George Meany joins us in mourning a valued friend," Kirkland and Donahue said.

Kleeb began his career with the NLRB in 1938 as a field examiner and served as a regional director before joining the board's general counsel staff in Washington in 1951. He became deputy secretary of the NLRB in 1967.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, include six children and 10 grandchildren.

Kirkland Names Young As Executive Assistant

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland has appointed Legislative Director Kenneth Young as his executive assistant.

Young, 52, has headed the Dept. of Legislation for the past year after serving as assistant director since 1971 and as a legislative representative for the federation since 1965.

He will be succeeded as legislative director by Ray Denison who has served as associate director of the department for the past year. Denison has been an AFL-CIO legislative representative since 1967.

Young is a graduate of Antioch College, a World War II veteran, a former reporter and long-time member of the Newspaper Guild.

He has had a key role over the years in working with the civil rights coalition on Capitol Hill and with other legislative alliances that the labor movement participates in for common goals.

After six years with the Insurance Workers as an organizer, editor and director of research and education, he joined the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. as assistant publications and public relations director and moved on to the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers as publicity director and editor before joining the AFL-CIO staff.

Denison, 55, was on the AFL-CIO public relations staff from 1963 to 1967 and earlier held posts with the Seafarers and Auto Workers.

After World War II service he became managing editor of the Seafarers Log and received a journalism degree from New York University. He served as a regional editor of Solidarity, the UAW newspaper, and before joining the AFL-CIO staff was an official of the Great Lakes District of the Seafarers.

Pamphlet Memorializes Late Val Wertheimer

New York—A pamphlet has been issued in the memory of Val Wertheimer, a vice president of the Clothing & Textile Workers, who died Nov. 18, 1978.

The 36-page booklet contains a series of tributes written by associates, friends and family members. Copies are available on request from Barbara M. Wertheimer at Cornell University, 3 East 43rd St., New York, N.Y., 10017.

USWA Goals Outlined:

Steel Talks to Focus On Pensioner Needs

Pittsburgh—Pension improvements for 150,000 retired members head the Steelworkers' bargaining agenda in the basic steel industry next year.

USWA President Lloyd McBride said that protecting retired workers from inflation was the major demand of the 400 local union leaders who attended a two-day Basic Steel Conference here. Improvements for pensioners will constitute "a substantial part" of the 1980 negotiations, which open in Pittsburgh on Feb. 5, McBride said.

A bargaining statement adopted by the conference called for uncapped cost-of-living adjustments for both existing and future retirement benefits.

The statement also called for improving retirement benefit levels "so that pension benefits equal approximately the employee's actual average earnings during the years of employment preceding retirement," and for a union voice in the investment of pension funds.

Also high on the union's list of goals in its bargaining with the country's nine major steel firms is an end to "contracting out," improvements in cost-of-living protection for active members, and expansion of job and income security benefits to aid workers threatened by plant shutdowns.

In calling for improved pension benefits, the conference said pension formulas "must be increased substantially." It proposed inclusion of COL allowances and compensation for time lost due to strikes, layoffs, disability, and union business in the calculation of benefits.

Service requirements for all types of early retirement must be reduced and monthly supplements for early retirees must be increased, the conference said. Full pensions should be provided after 20 years of service for workers "whose life expectancy is seriously affected by their work environment," it added.

The union also will seek elimination of "inequitable and arbitrary loopholes" that permit employers to reduce or offset pension benefits. Among these are deductions of workers' compensation and other statutory benefits from earned pensions and loss of pension credits because of breaks in service or employment by more than one company.

A voice in pension-fund investments is needed because "it is our own pension money that is financing the flight of industry from the northern unionized states to non-union plants in the Sun Belt and overseas," McBride said.

Regarding cost-of-living protection for active members, the union wants to revise the formula for calculating COL increases to boost salaries one cent an hour for every rise of two-tenths of a point in the government's consumer price index. The current formula provides a one-cent-an-hour increase for every rise of three-tenths of a point in the CPI.

The "contracting-out" issue arises from the industry's practice of bringing contractors into the steel plants to do maintenance or repair work. The USWA contends that those jobs should go to its members.

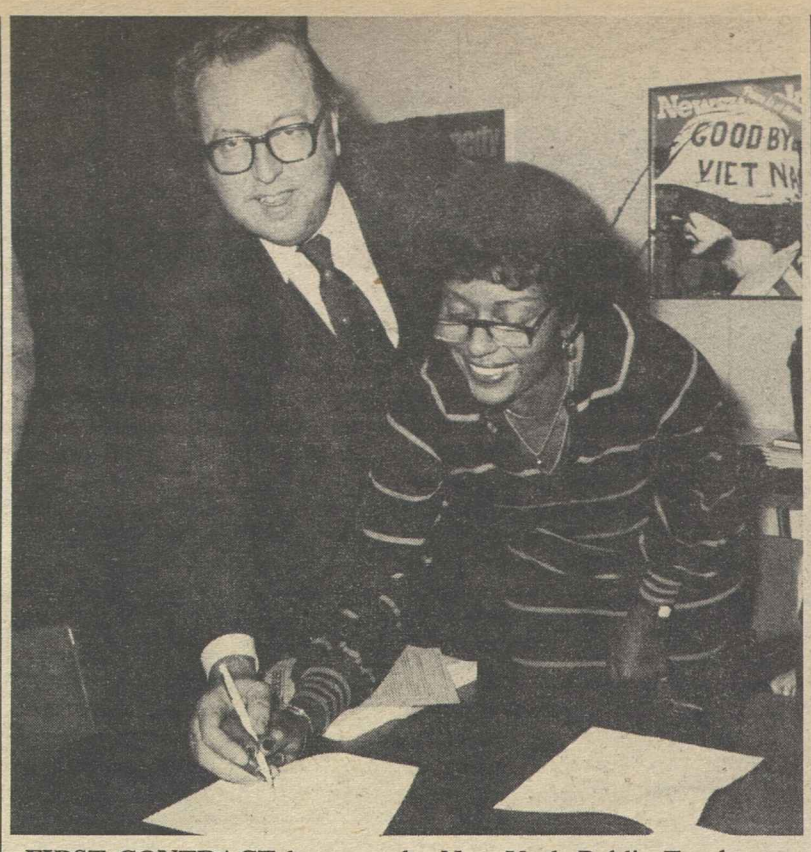
Responding to concern over recent steel industry shutdowns and the probability of further layoffs, the union called for expansion of job and income security programs to provide greater benefits and to "embrace younger employees." The union also would require employers to give advance notice of shutdowns, consider union proposals to avert shutdowns, and undertake efforts to find new employment for laid-off workers.

Inspections Plan Set for New Mines

The Mine Safety & Health Administration has begun a new program of non-penalty inspections of certain mine facilities, other than coal mines.

Inspections will cover new mines prior to reopening, and installation of equipment in an operating mine. Any safety defects will be noted and must be corrected, but penalties will not be assessed.

The no-penalty policy will not, however, apply to ongoing construction or other work being performed. Violations found in such inspections remain subject to fines.



FIRST CONTRACT between the New York Public Employees Federation and New York State is signed by PEF President John J. Kraemer and Sec.-Treas. Connie Cabell. The PEF represents 47,000 state professional, scientific and technical employees, who ratified the three-year pact by a 3 to 1 margin.

N.Y. Public Employees Approve First Contract

Albany, N.Y.—Members of the New York State Public Employees Federation overwhelmingly ratified their first contract by a secret ballot vote of 14,299 to 5,807.

The Public Employees Federation—an affiliate of two AFL-CIO unions, the Teachers and the Service Employees—represents 47,000 scientific, professional and technical employees of the State of New York, the largest single bargaining unit of its kind.

The agreement was finally achieved after eight months of intensive negotiations following certification of the bargaining unit by the State Public Employment Relations Board last March.

PEF President John J. Kraemer, expressing satisfaction over the membership's solid approval of the three-year contract, pointed to a number of significant gains:

- Average wage increases of 33.1 percent during the contract.
- Establishment of a joint committee on Professional Development and Quality of Working Life, funded by the state, to "assist employees in developing their full professional potential," which will include educational opportunities at the State University of New York.
- Establishment of a "prevailing wage" concept for registered nurses under which their salaries are to be linked to those in private industry in the area.
- Lifting of the moratorium on reallocation and reclassification of civil service titles, which could result in further wage increases.
- Improvements in hospital, medical, optical and prescription benefits.

The agreement between PEF and the state also includes provision for a study of "deferred compensation" for employees in the professional, scientific and technical unit.

This is the first contract negotiated by PEF since it won collective bargaining rights over an unaffiliated civil service association in a 1978 election. PEF was founded and supported by the American Federation of Teachers, together with the New York State United Teachers, and the Service Employees.

The contract, which is retroactive to Apr. 1, 1979, and extends to Mar. 31, 1982, provides for three annual raises of 7 percent each, salary increases for employees at maximum, adjustments of up to 9 percent for employees hired after last Apr. 1, and maintenance of increments.

COPE Slates Conferences For 10 Areas

COPE Director Al Barkan has announced the scheduling of 10 area COPE conferences for 1980, beginning Jan. 18-19 in New Orleans.

The conferences will focus on the theme "Fight for Your Union," Barkan said. They will deal in detail with the political assault against workers and their unions by the fast-proliferating corporate, trade association and right-wing political committees, which, among them, are expected to have a $100 million campaign war chest for anti-worker, anti-union candidates.

A new COPE film on check-off of voluntary political contributions by members will be shown, and COPE's registration, education and get-out-the-vote programs will be discussed. Members of Congress will address each of the conferences.

The schedule of conferences and the states represented:

New Orleans, Jan. 18-19 — Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas.

Atlanta, Feb. 12-13—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee.

Washington, D.C., Feb. 29-Mar. 1—Delaware, Maryland-D.C., Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia.

Portland, Ore., Mar. 11-12 — Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington.

Los Angeles, Mar. 14-15—Arizona, California, Nevada.

Denver, Mar. 18-19—Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming.

Dearborn, Mich., Mar. 24-25—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio.

Minneapolis, Mar. 28-29—Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

New York, Apr. 12—New Jersey, New York.

Boston, May 12-13—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Oklahoma Delegates Vote Per Capita Rise

Tulsa, Okla.—Delegates to the Oklahoma AFL-CIO's 12th biennial convention approved a 5-cent per capita tax increase, making monthly payments a total of 35 cents.

The increase, which goes into effect next Jan. 1 to provide additional revenues for the state federation's general fund, supplants a 5-cent assessment voted two years ago.

In other bylaw revisions, the 400 convention delegates approved successorship provisions for top officers and changed the name of the Women's Activities Dept. to the Volunteers in Politics Dept.

President Joe F. Johnson was re-elected to a new two-year term in a three-way contest over outgoing Sec.-Treas. Ben Hutchinson and Tom Riddle of the Fire Fighters. Johnson defeated Hutchinson in a runoff election, 26,127 to 21,988.

Ross J. Williams of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers was elected secretary-treasurer and Vice President Lloyd Martin was returned to office for a new two-year term. Williams, 47, has been a member of IBEW Local 2021 for the past 21 years and has served as financial secretary of the local and secretary-treasurer of the Central Oklahoma Labor Council.

Delegates also re-elected 16 of the 22 incumbent executive board members to new two-year terms. The six new board members are J. W. Shatswell, Transport Workers; Jerry Sawyer, Plumbers & Pipe Fitters; Joe Chicoine, Food & Commercial Workers; Kenneth Paxton, Laborers; Gerald Newton, Carpenters, and Claude Davidson, Woodworkers.

In outlining labor's agenda for the next session of the state legislature, the convention called for measures to provide full collective bargaining rights for state and local government employees, the right of all workers to refuse overtime forced on them by employers and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Anthony Weinlein Dies, Served SEIU 40 Years

Anthony G. Weinlein, secretary-treasurer of the Service Employees since 1976, died Dec. 18 after a heart attack.

Weinlein, who was 66, had been a member of the SEIU since the early 1940s and served as vice president and president of SEIU Local 150 in Milwaukee before joining the international's staff. He was research and education director from 1943 to 1967 when he became assistant to the president of the union.

Weinlein was appointed executive secretary of the SEIU in 1972 and held that post until he was elected to a four-year term as secretary-treasurer at the union's 1976 convention.

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland and Sec.-Treas. Thomas R. Donahue said in a message to Weinlein's wife, Mary, that they were saddened by the news of his death.

"He was a fine man, a sincere and dedicated trade unionist and colleague we admired and whose friendship we cherished," Kirkland and Donahue said. "George Meany and all of us at the AFL-CIO headquarters extend our deepest sympathies to you and your children."

Weinlein served on a number of government committees, including the Advisory Council on Health Insurance for the Disabled, the Task Force on Occupational Training and a White House Conference on Aging.

He was graduated with honors from the University of Wisconsin and earned a master's degree and a doctorate from the University of Chicago while serving as the union's research director.

In addition to his wife, survivors include one daughter and three sons. Services were held Dec. 20 at the Cedar Lane Unitarian Church in Bethesda, Md.

Steel Training Grant Issued

The Labor Dept. has made a $500,000 grant available for pre-apprenticeship training at four locations in the basic steel industry and one in the aluminum industry. The grant had been requested jointly by the Steelworkers and the Coordinating Committee Steel Companies.

Steelworkers Vice President Leon Lynch said the program will be coordinated by Recruitment Training Program, Inc. (RTP), which completed a similar program last year at an Inland Steel plant. The program is designed to help long-service employees qualify for craft training.

Christmas 1979

ON THIS CHRISTMAS 1979 the quest for peace continues in Southern Africa, Northern Ireland, Southeast Asia, the Middle East—wherever the whine of gunfire and the boom of bombs are taking lives and bringing death, fear and despair.

In the 35 years since the holocaust of World War II, the striving for peace has continued unabated with but limited success. For there are nations to whom power and control are more important than peace—the nations that have refused to condemn terrorism or torture as political weapons.

Nevertheless, the struggle to establish peace and freedom on a lasting basis must continue without letup. For it is as clear as it was in 1945 that there is no alternative to peace in this age of missiles and satellites; peace today is a condition of survival.

The Free World has the resources, the manpower and the ability to rid the world of hunger and disease and to provide the basis of social justice so that all men can taste of bread and freedom.

Yet as we move into the 1980s, repression and dictatorship are still prevalent for most of the world's peoples, and the battle against hunger and disease and want goes slowly.

But the struggle goes on because there is the eternal hope for a better tomorrow, another opportunity to try to bring to fruition the ancient message of peace and goodwill.

IN OUR OWN COUNTRY there is a sense of unease and frustration as the problems of unemployment and inflation, poverty and discrimination and injustice persist, albeit in small measure when compared to the problems elsewhere in the world.

It is time, perhaps, to shed the self-indulgence, the hedonistic lifestyles, and turn with vigor and determination to solving the ills still besetting us, the problems still unsolved.

As we make the turn into 1980 the trade union movement, operating as it has always as the people's lobby, will take up anew the battle to bring a sense of dignity and worth and well-being, a fair share of the wealth they produce, to America's workers and to the nation as a whole.

The issues change little: a good job, decent housing, proper health care, quality education, assistance against the hazards of unemployment, injury, old age, and above all an atmosphere in which freedom —civil rights, civil liberties—and peace can flourish.

Peace and goodwill, bread and freedom—these are the goals that express the essence of the trade union movement and for which it will expend all its efforts and resources.

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Now There's A 'UPEC':

Uranium Price-Fixing Case Exposes Activities of Cartel

By Gus Tyler

IN THE JUSTICE DEPT., the people who knew what was going on called for prosecution of a uranium cartel involving the Gulf Oil Corp. and eight other companies, mainly foreign. The recommendation to pursue felony charges came from attorneys by unanimous decision. But the proposed course of action was abandoned.

The Justice Dept. was persuaded not to proceed along these hard lines through the intervention of the State Dept., which felt that prosecution would offend the sensibilities of other countries. The governments of Canada and Australia clearly showed their displeasure at any U.S. move to go after the cartel. In the end, the Justice Dept. gave up the big exposé and suit, and settled for a token plea.

The case could have been gigantic, involving fines of up to $1 million for a corporation and individual penalties running up to $100,000 or three years in jail. Instead, an arrangement was worked out that included Gulf Oil only, exempted all the others and settled for $40,000 in fines.

The recent disclosure of what happened in this case has opened up the question of whether or not the Justice Dept. should have been so easy on offenders and on foreign countries or companies. Some say that diplomatically this was the best course; others feel that the delinquents invoked a foreign accent to cop a plea.

In the talk about who should have been hit for how much a larger matter is getting lost: namely, the presence of an international cartel in uranium. What this means is that there is a UPEC as well as an OPEC.

OPEC controls oil; UPEC controls uranium—or is in the process of constructing the kind of worldwide cartel that can ultimately control the relatively rare and precious substance.

At a time when the price of oil was rising so was the price of uranium—and for the same reason: both were controlled by a small group that could fix or phony the price. The Justice Dept. noted that American utilities had to "pay higher prices as a direct result of the cartel." The New York Times adds that "in the misdemeanor charges that Gulf did not contest, the government said that the oil company had taken part in illegal price agreements that had influenced the cost of uranium in the United States."

Between 1972 and 1975, the price of uranium went up on seven different occasions. These were the years when the cartel was operative.

The presence of a cartel in uranium represents a real threat to any effort in the country to cope with the cost of energy. Uranium is the presently indispensable ingredient of nuclear power; if it is costly and becomes more so, then nuclear energy must become more costly.

For a cartel to control uranium is much easier than for a combine to control oil, because uranium sources are—by our present knowledge—much more limited than sources of petroleum. If it has been possible to organize a petroleum oligopoly, it should be much easier to do the same with uranium.

In a perverse kind of way, the uranium cartel may be making a point for all of us: namely, that in the long run we should seek out sources of energy that can not be easily cartelized—like wind, solar, thermal, bio-mass.

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'The Hostages Are The Only Issue . . .'

There is something Mr. Ghotbzadeh needs desperately to know: the hostages are the only issue, and there is no disposition in this country to view things otherwise.

The shah; the relationship of this country to Iran before, during and after the shah's dictatorship; the fine points of whether centuries-long practices of cruelty within Iran were better, worse or no different under the shah (and now, under the bloody new dictatorship that has replaced him)—all these are subjects that can be discussed by the Iranians whenever and with whomever they want. They have nothing to do with the seizure and prolonged abuse of the American hostages in Iran.

The American government's purpose, for which it has near-unanimous American popular support, is simple. It is to get those hostages back alive and *now* and to avenge them if they are subjected to further acts of terror. Period.

—From an editorial in the Washington Post, Dec. 17, 1979.

Prerequisite for Gains:

Rebuilding Political Confidence Major Task for Blacks in '80s

By Bayard Rustin

THINKING BACK OVER the 1970s, I find it difficult to avoid a somewhat sour mood, at least when I consider the political situation at home as well as overseas. For most Americans, the closing decade will be remembered as a trying time, a perplexing time, and perhaps an especially depressing time. Rather than meeting new challenges, we were forced to struggle for survival. And the greatest victories achieved by black people were essentially victories which prevented the status quo from getting worse.

Richard Nixon, of course, played an enormously important role in shaping the politics of the 1970s. He kept the civil rights forces on the defensive. He pursued economic policies which deliberately increased unemployment rates. And the Watergate scandal, which he prolonged and aggravated, destroyed his own Administration while at the same time sapping the political confidence of most American voters. In sum, Richard Nixon left us with a legacy of bitter cynicism and ever increasing apathy.

On the international level, we witnessed the collapse of South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. Today, several years after those poor countries were over-run by the Communists, the suffering and tragedy have intensified. Indeed, the incredibly horrible situation in Cambodia has few parallels in the history of mankind.

As if the multiple tragedies of Indochina were not enough, we are forced to contend compassionately with the thousands of Haitian refugees who risk their lives and meager fortunes to reach the shores of Florida. We have gruesome memories of Idi Amin's bloody purges in Uganda. And we recall the body counts offered almost daily by opposing sides in the civil war in Angola, and the ongoing fighting in other parts of Africa, much of it sustained by Cuban troops sponsored by the Soviet Union.

To all this suffering and death, we must also add the situation in Iran. Here, perhaps more graphically than anywhere else, we have a terrifying glimpse of the fruits of terrorism and anarchy. The fanaticism and cruelty of Ayatollah Khomeini's regime are truly shocking, especially when one realizes that Khomeini's immensely popular movement comes at a time of supposed international enlightenment and liberation.

ALTHOUGH THE 1970s were filled with defeats, stalemates and previously unthinkable horrors, there were also some significant achievements. In the political field, many blacks won election to Congress, state legislatures and the mayors' offices in many large urban centers like Los Angeles, Detroit, Atlanta, New Orleans, and most recently Birmingham. More important, racist political figures like George Wallace and Lester Maddox have for the most part lost their once formidable power.

Some international developments also deserve note. The Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, for example, must be regarded as one of the most encouraging events of the decade. While the overall situation in the Middle East is far from promising, the Sadat-Begin accords offer at least a glimmer of hope. In addition, black majority rule and the tentative peace settlement in Zimbabwe are something which few people anticipated ten years ago.

As the 1970s come to a close I think it might be wise to identify our tasks for the new decade, the 1980s. As I see it, our most important task is to rebuild the political confidence of black Americans. If we permit ourselves to be lulled into surrender by the failures of the 1970s, I can assure you that the 1980s will be no better, and perhaps much worse. Confidence is the prerequisite of political power. And political power is the prerequisite of everything we seek to achieve in the coming years—full employment, equality, and economic justice.

Rising Unemployment, Production Cutbacks:

Plunge in Purchasing Power Points to Economic Downturn

ALTHOUGH SOME ECONOMIC figures are showing mixed signs, the sharp decline of workers' buying power is a clear warning that rising unemployment, production cutbacks and a full-blown recession may develop quickly, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald declared.

Pointing out that present economic conditions —particularly the rapid inflation rate—are much the same as those just prior to the very severe recession of 1974-75, Oswald noted that the heaviest price pressures were in such areas as oil and food. That period of rapid inflation, he noted, "triggered a big decline of workers' purchasing power," which was "a major contributing factor to the very severe recession of 1975" when unemployment shot up to 9 percent.

The threatened recession and the additional hardships it will bring could be substantially eased or averted through policies that allow flexibility and movement to offset pressures that are building in the private sector, Oswald asserted on Labor News Conference.

He said a key move would be Federal Reserve Board action to lower interest rates, which would "show a commitment to provide for expansion of the economy that would cushion rising unemployment."

Oswald renewed the call for more emphasis on targeted jobs programs aimed at areas where high levels of unemployment develop. He stressed that lower interest rates and stepped-up job creation in hard-hit areas would help mitigate some of the price-pressure increases, which would have a deflationary effect.

Inflation currently is at the highest level since the end of World War II, Oswald pointed out. The most recent figures indicate that consumer prices are running 12.4 percent higher than a year earlier, which is more than in 1974 during the nation's last recesesion, he noted.

"The figures do indicate that we're not in a recession at this moment, but there are many indications that a recession will be coming upon us quickly," he added.

"That means rising unemployment. It means declines in production in a number of industries, and it means substantial hardships for many workers."

All workers have suffered during the current inflationary period, Oswald observed. Inflation has cut deeply into workers' ability to maintain their real living standards. The most recent figures for the average non-supervisory worker show that real wages after taxes have declined by 5.1 percent in the past 12 months, he said.

"That's a substantial cut of the ability of workers to maintain the level of purchases of goods and services that they were making a year ago. That means that inflation has made a serious cut in workers' earnings."

Unionized workers who are protected by cost-of-living clauses have not suffered as severely as other workers, Oswald noted, but even they cannot keep up with soaring prices.

Oswald stressed that current inflationary pressures in the economy are not due to wage rate changes, but rather to energy price increases, food price rises, rapidly rising housing prices and interest rates, and continuing increases in medical care costs.

"These have been the leading factors in the inflationary pressures, and they are not the product of wage increases," he declared. "If anything, the wage lag has mitigated price increases."

Reporters questioning Oswald on the AFL-CIO produced public affairs program were Philip Shabecoff of the New York Times and Michael Posner of the Reuters News Agency. The program is broadcast weekly on Mutual radio.

Liberals Face Challenge:

Right Wing Mounts New Senate Drive

RECENTLY, THE AFL-CIO issued its official congressional voting record. It shows how U.S. Senate and House members voted on issues of importance to working people that have come up in 1979.

And it carries an important lesson about the years that bracket this one—1978 and 1980, one the ghost of election year past, the other the ghost of election year future.

First 1978. Three examples:

- Roger Jepsen (R) defeated COPE-endorsed Sen. Dick Clark in Iowa. Clark's voting record over the years was 88 "right" votes on the official AFL-CIO scorecard, only 12 'wrong" votes. Jepsen's record his first year as a U.S. senator is 0-18, not one "right" vote for working people, 100 percent *wrong*.

- In New Hampshire, Gordon Humphrey (R) defeated COPE-backed Sen. Tom McIntyre. McIntyre's official AFL-CIO record was 130-28. In his first year as a U.S. senator, Humphrey's is 2-17, 90 percent *wrong*.

- William Armstrong (R) defeated COPE-supported Sen. Floyd Haskell in Colorado. Haskell's voting record was 71-23. Armstrong's in his first year in the Senate is 0-17, 100 percent *wrong*. This comes as no surprise. As a House member for many years, Armstrong's record was 10-97.

So, now sitting in the Senate are three new members with an aggregate voting record of two "right" votes on the AFL-CIO scorecard and 52 "wrong" votes, more than 96 percent *wrong*.

And sitting back home are three former Senate members who had an aggregate AFL-CIO voting record of 289 "right" votes to only 63 "wrong" votes, over-all better than 82 percent *right*.

It's a big switch, going from senators who support working people on more than eight out of ten votes to replacements who oppose working people on more than nine out of ten votes. You might as well trade the Pittsburgh Steelers for the San Francisco Forty-Niners.

That was 1978. The consequences are clear from the record of 1979. What about 1980?

There are a lot more like Humphrey, Jepsen and Armstrong jockeying to make it into the Senate by beating out incumbents like McIntyre, Clark and Haskell. In 1980, progressive senators like Birch Bayh, John Culver, Frank Church, George McGovern, Alan Cranston, Pat Leahy, John Durkin and others with strong pro-worker records will be the targets, as McIntyre, Clark and Haskell were in 1978.

Backing their challengers will be a formidable phalanx of right wing, corporate and trade association political committees—the same PACs that financed the 1978 victories of Humphrey, Jepsen and Armstrong.

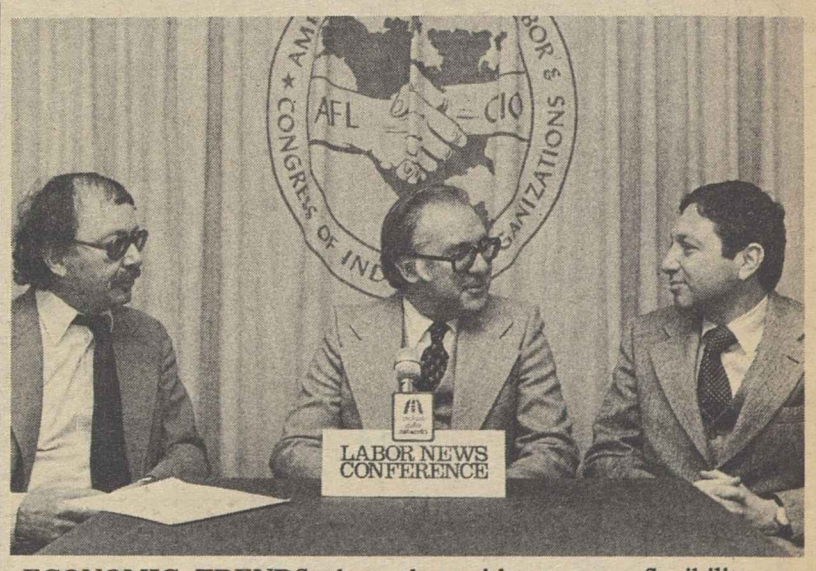
Only a full-scale effort by unions and their members toward registration, education, voter turn-out and funding will prevent this bunch from grabbing control of the Senate. And it will make possible a more satisfactory reading of the 1981 voting records than the 1979 record provides.

—Memo from COPE.

Political Proportions

AFL-CIO POLITICAL programs increase in importance in direct relationship to the burgeoning of activity by political action committees formed by corporations, trade associations and the right wing. Not only has the political funding of these groups increased alarmingly, but their organizational effectiveness has grown, as well. They can be offset only by commensurate growth in the effectiveness and funding of COPE programs.

—From a resolution by the 13th AFL-CIO convention.



ECONOMIC TRENDS show that without more flexibility, a steep downturn will develop quickly in the coming months, AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald, center, warned on Labor News Conference. Questioning him were Michael Posner, left, of Reuters News Agency and Philip Shabecoff of the New York Times. The AFL-CIO produced public affairs interview is aired weekly on the Mutual radio network.

How to Buy:

Energy-Saving Efforts Can Cut Soaring Costs of Home Heating

By Sidney Margolius

WHILE AMERICANS STEAM about the soaring costs of keeping warm as winter arrives, consumer experts say that in 90 percent of American homes, especially those in the Northeast, it is possible to save 10 to 30 cents of every dollar currently spent for home heating fuel.

Over 75 percent of the energy used in the home goes for space heating and water heating.

An energy-saving plan has been likened to following the guidelines of a good diet—a question of what you really need instead of what you deserve. On the subject of energy belt-tightening, the changes in our daily lifestyle need not be too disruptive. Just look around the house.

First conduct an energy survey of your home to determine where heat is leaking out into the atmosphere. And the bottom line is usually the attic. Start there. Estimates are that from $35 to $120 can be saved per year by installing ten inches of insulation between the attic floors of oil or gas-heated homes, and 12 inches for those houses electrically heated. Homes already protected in these areas with at least six inches of insulation should best be left alone as the cost of the additional thickness won't pay off over a reasonable length of time.

If the attic is unfloored, simply place batts of insulation between the joists. If it is floored, remove flooring and place insulation batts between and to the full depth of the joists and replace flooring. On the ceilings of unfinished attics, the batts can be secured between the supporting roof joists with a heavy-duty stapling gun. Finished attic ceilings and walls are usually insulated through small drilled openings with pellets and/or foam insulating products. This usually requires the services of a reliable contractor.

When installing cellulose-based insulation, homeowners are cautioned by the Consumer Product Safety Commission to follow directions carefully, to avert serious fire hazards.

Homeowners can also save an estimated $30 to $70 per year by caulking and weatherstripping around doors and windows; where the outside chimney or other masonry joins the house wall; where the outside water faucets and vents are located; and in the basement where the sill meets the foundation.

Caulking compounds in tube form and a gun are the tools needed for most of the caulking operations. Door and window weatherstripping can be accomplished with the use of a wide variety of materials now on the market. The foam-rubber type backed with adhesive for use against door jambs is easy to handle and inexpensive, and should hold up for a couple of years. Metal J-strips and the thin-spring metal products are most durable and effective, but more difficult to install.

Water-heater insulation can save from $5 to $45 per year just by cutting down the water temperature. Kits which wrap the heater in an outside layer of insulation are available for either electric or gas water heaters and the capital cost is worth the investment.

By upgrading the furnace via an annual maintenance check, anywhere from $25 to $65 annually can be saved. Such maintenance involves necessary filter changes (in hot air systems), air bleeding (in hot water systems), regular cleaning and adjusting, firebox baffles (if permitted by local code and installed by a qualified specialist), and periodic attention to the cyclic operation (on hot air furnaces).

Thermostat controls can possibly slice from $25 to $50 from the annual fuel bill. Basically, they are designed to automatically set back the thermostat at retirement time and set it forward at rising time in the morning. It is estimated that if everyone set the thermostat back ten degrees at normal bed time and turned it back up at about 5 a.m., some four percent of the nation's annual fuel consumption would be saved.

Clock thermostats range from $70 to $125 installed, and some resistor devices, which do basically the same job, are available for about $10 to $30.

Basement insulation is said to save from $20 to $40 a year. That encompasses treatment for heating ducts or heat pipes, crawl space, cellar door and window frames, and foundation walls. In the crawl space area, batts are run between each floor joist, down the wall and across three feet of the earth floor inside the space.



OATH OF OFFICE is taken by Dean Clowes as the deputy under secretary of labor for international affairs. Under Sec. of Labor John Gentry officiates. Clowes is the former director of international affairs for the Steelworkers.

Cornell Study:

Second Opinions Cut Surgery Frequency

RESEARCHERS HAVE FOUND that mandatory second opinions for elective surgery could reduce unnecessary surgeries and help contain rising hospital costs.

Results of a seven-year study by researchers at the New York Hospital, Cornell Medical Center, were reported at the annual educational conference here of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans.

Dr. Eugene McCarthy and researcher Madelon Finkel described the results of a second-opinion program initiated by New York Hospital in conjunction with several multi-employer welfare funds in the greater New York City area. The Cornell program involved a voluntary and a mandatory second opinion plan.

The decrease in the number of surgeries because of the mandatory program translated into a 9 percent decrease in surgical claims for the United Store Workers and a 12 percent decline for the Building Service Workers' Fund of SEIU Local 32B-32J, according to the study.

They concluded that findings to date "present strong arguments for advocating a mandatory second-opinion program. Medicine has nothing to fear from an informed patient/consumer who can actively participate in decision-making concerning his/her health care."

"We feel that second opinion programs, particularly mandatory programs, can serve to screen inappropriate surgery and contain costs," they added.

The researchers noted that, from 1965 to 1977, the percentage of some of the most frequently performed surgeries greatly increased. For example, the number of hysterectomies increased by 40 percent, cataract surgery by 146.5 percent, knee surgery by 133.8 percent and prostate surgery by 56.5 percent.

Since 1972, a total of 10,082 voluntary and mandatory second-opinion consultations were scheduled under the Cornell program. Of the total, 26 percent were not confirmed for surgery by the second-opinion consultant. Of this group, three out of four people chose not to have the surgery performed when queried six months following the consultation.

Of those in the mandatory group who were not confirmed for surgery, 62.5 percent did not have the surgery performed one year from the date of their consultation. The researchers said this group represented "potential surplus surgery." **(PAI)**

Soup to Nonsense:

Either Do Your Job, Santa, Or Pack It in for a Pension

By Jane Goodsell

DEAR SANTA CLAUS: I know you get a lot of mail, but this letter is different. I'm writing to say I think it's time for you to quit your job and retire. You've clearly lost interest in your work.

Back in the days when I was a kid (you were a lot younger then, too, I realize that) you were a true pro. You managed Christmas almost single-handed. Nobody else had to do much of anything. All through the year you worked making the toys that you delivered to children everywhere on Christmas Eve. You filled the stockings and wrapped the presents and trimmed the trees and wrote gift cards signed "Love from Santa." I never could understand how you accomplished so much. I still can't. It was a virtuoso performance.

But no more. Nowadays you can't be depended on to do anything. If it weren't for people like me who pinch-hit for you, there'd be a lot of empty stockings and sobbing kids on Christmas morning. As far as I can tell, all you're doing these days is posing for your portrait, ho-ho-hoing in recording studios, and sitting in department stores making glib promises to little kids. I resent (and so do a lot of other people) doing all the work while you get all the credit: "Hey, lookit what Santa brought me!" Santa indeed.

Yet unfair as this is, I guess we can put up with it. We want our children to be happy and if it makes them happy to believe that you wriggled down the chimney with the dollhouse we traipsed from store to store to find, and lugged home, and sat up half the night assembling—well, so be it. What upsets us more are the times when, for one reason or another, we're unable to produce the dollhouse, or the doll, or the electronic baseball game that you irresponsibly assured our tots would be under the tree on Christmas morning.

INASMUCH AS MANY toys this year cost $39.95 and up (batteries not included), there are going to be a lot of worse-than-disappointed children on Christmas morning unless (a) you quit making promises you aren't going to deliver; or (b) you pull yourself together and deliver them. It seems unlikely that you'll follow either of these alternatives. In case you're wondering why we grownups don't take matters into our own hands and (c) spread the word that there isn't any you, forget it. We've tried that, and the kids refuse to believe it. Maybe because we don't really believe it ourselves.

So the only solution is for you to make a public announcement that you're handing in your red suit, kicking off your boots, and retiring. Do it for your own sake, Santa, if not for ours. You've lost your zest and besides you're getting too old for all that traveling.

You can go back to the North Pole, put your feet up, and spend your days reading your press notices. Or maybe you'd enjoy a warm climate—say, Florida—for a change. If you've retained residual rights to those ho-ho-ho recordings, you can surely afford a nice condominium with a swimming pool. You could shave off your beard, change into mufti, go on a diet and take up jogging. How's about it, Santa?

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Winners to Redraw Lines:

Political Redistricting Stakes High in 1980 Election Races

In addition to being a presidential election year, 1980 will take on special significance because it's a census year and the 1980 winners will be redrawing the lines by which America districts itself politically.

That significance will show immediately in the House of Representatives, according to an article in the November issue of the Federationist by the magazine's associate editor, Rex Hardesty. In the longer run it will show in state legislative redistricting—which historically has been the source of some of the nation's most partisan gerrymandering.

And for 1980, the stakes are highest in those state legislative races, he says, for they select the people who do much of the reapportioning after the 1980 census results are known.

Current Census Bureau projections call for a shift of about 12 to 13 seats in the House, with New York and Pennsylvania the big losers and California, Florida and Texas the major gainers. A total of 16 states could be involved in the shuffling, Hardesty says.

He points out that the shift of seats across state lines is not drastic overall—45 seats, or a little over 10 percent since World War II, and only 75 in this century. But for some states, the change has been sizable: New York has gone from 45 seats to 35 since World War II and Pennsylvania from 33 to 23 in the same period.

Most important for labor and liberals, the article points out, is that those seats represented congressional votes from industrial, unionized areas with political traditions quite different than the newcomers from Florida, Arizona or Texas who might take their place.

The other major concern, Hardesty says, is finishing the historic job of removing partisanship from the apportionment process—once so blatant that Tennessee had 108,000 urban people with the same state senate representation that 39,000 had in a rural area.

In federal elections, that problem has largely been settled by judicial initiatives in the 1960s, so that today's House districts generally have similar populations in the 450.000 to 500,000 range, the author notes.

But the historic one-man, one-vote decisions did nothing to correct the new kind of gerrymandering, in which highly identifiable blocs of voters can be split into four or five districts so as to have little impact in any of them. Gerrymandering can be accomplished even when the districts have identical populations, Hardesty points out.

The rules he cites for correcting this require that "all districts must be geographically contiguous; no city block may be divided; all districts must be within a 2 percent variation limit; and towns, cities and counties should be divided only when necessary."

Some of the coarsest of the gerrymandering stories of U.S. history will also have a hard time being repeated, he says, now that some are limiting the authority of their legislatures in redistricting. Commissions are now appointed in 12 states; six others require a combination of legislative and commission action, and 17 have appeals procedures built into their state laws.

The political control of state legislatures is now firmly in the hands of Democrats nationwide, Hardesty notes. But he points out that Republicans staged a comeback in 1978 in which they gained a net of 275 state legislative seats. And in 1980, party control could switch on the outcome of just six races or fewer in 29 of the nation's 98 legislative bodies that are organized along two-house, partisan lines.

Besides, Hardesty emphasizes, what is called "Democratic" control is really conservative control in many of the 32 states in which Democrats hold majorities in both houses of the legislature.

The impact of the census results through the years can be easily seen in presidential elections, Hardesty points out.

When Harry Truman ran for president, a candidate who could carry New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois would have a big jump of 110 electoral votes on the needed 268. But that was when the lineup of "big states" and their electoral votes read New York 47, Pennsylvania 35, Illinois 28, Ohio, 25, California 25, Texas 23 and Michigan 19.

If projections for the 1980 census are correct, he says, that lineup would read: California 46, New York 37, Texas 28, Pennsylvania 25, Illinois 24, Ohio 23, Florida 20 and Michigan 18.

And with that lineup, Hardesty says, a presidential candidate could build a similar big edge in the quite different states of California, Texas and Florida, which would have 94 electoral votes.



NURTURING TIES between the American labor movement and the Jewish community is a vital role of the Jewish Labor Committee, outgoing JLC President Jacob Sheinkman, speaking, told delegates to the committee's 45th convention. That theme was reinforced by incoming President Donald L. Slaiman, who is deputy director of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services. Sheinkman is secretary-treasurer of the Clothing & Textile Workers.

Flight Engineers Focus On Air Safety, Security

Jerusalem—The Flight Engineers, a unique worldwide union with chapters in 15 nations, focused on air safety and security during a four-day convention here.

Both branches of the union—one representing members in the United States and the other made up of chapters elsewhere—joined in a resolution of support for the position on air terrorism taken last year by the heads of seven nations at a meeting in Bonn.

That declaration pledged the seven governments to intensify efforts to combat international terrorism and called on all nations in the world to prosecute or extradite hijackers and to return hijacked aircraft.

As sanctions against any nation harboring hijackers, the participatory governments said they would cease flights to such a country and deny landing privileges to flights from that country or by the offending nation's airline.

The convention asked all of its chapters to seek endorsement of that policy from their home nations.

Flight Engineers President William A. Gill, Jr., was re-elected to his eighth two-year term. Also re-elected without opposition were First Vice President Frank Durkin, a Briton, and Donald Thielke of American Airlines as vice president for air safety and engineering. Under the union's staggered election system, Karl F. Anderson has another year remaining in his term as executive vice president and secretary-treasurer.

Delegates approved resolutions and policy statements urging training of members in accident investigation, supporting a study by the International Transport Workers Federation on medically desirable standards for flight time and rest periods applicable for flight engineers, and endorsing licensing of all in-flight cabin attendants.

Speakers from the host nation who addressed the convention included Yerucham Meshel, general secretary of Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, and Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek.

The union alternates its annual conventions between the United States and other nations where it has chapters. The 1980 meeting will be held in Honolulu.

New Settlement Marks Farm Union Progress

Keene, Calif.—The Farm Workers settled with another key lettuce grower and turned their sights on the giant Bruce Church Co. as the union sought to conclude bargaining with Imperial Valley ranches.

Over 100 UFW members are covered under a new three-year pact with Admiral Packing Co., reached during a late-night session on Dec. 15 with assistance from the governor's office.

Bruce Church, which markets iceberg lettuce under the Red Coach label, employs about 1,200 workers, however, and stands out as the union's main target now. The company is based in Salinas, Calif.

The Admiral agreement calls for the same pay raises negotiated earlier this year by Sun Harvest Co., a large California grower. Wages will rise to $5 an hour in the first year and to $5.71 in the third year. When the union struck the company 11 months ago, Admiral workers were earning $3.70 an hour.

The agreement includes cost-of-living protection, plus increases in medical and pension benefits. Both sides agreed to drop legal action against each other.

Admiral was the first Imperial Valley grower struck by the union, which plans to intensify its boycott against other West Coast growers. Since January, the UFW has settled with 22 of the 34 California and Arizona growers involved in the bargaining dispute.

Conference to Resolve Windfall Tax Conflicts

(Continued from Page 1)

nue for such goals as development of alternative energy sources, mass transit programs and fuel subsidies for low-income households. The House bill would set up an energy trust fund, although details would be left to follow-up legislation. The Senate would rely primarily on the regular congressional appropriations process to allocate the windfall revenues.

The 10-year revenue projections for the windfall profits tax are necessarily imprecise since they are based on assumptions of future world oil prices and inflation. But since the same assumptions are used for the rival bills, the comparisons remain valid.

In the Senate, oil industry allies had first sought to block a vote on a minimum tax amendment that would reach three categories of oil that the Senate bill would otherwise have exempted completely from the windfall tax.

Two cloture votes edged close to the 60 votes needed to limit debate, and senators on both sides of the issue took part in intensive off-the-floor negotiations. Adding pressure on the oil industry bloc was the warning by Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd (W.Va.) that he would ask President Carter to reimpose controls on crude oil prices if Congress were unable to pass an effective windfall profits tax. The White House, for its part. indicated it might be receptive to such a request.

In effect, the compromise added $23.3 billion in a minimum tax to the 10-year revenue estimate, with an understanding that the leadership would not press for further strengthening amendments. The amount added was higher than an earlier compromise proposal that labor lobbvists had urged be rejected as inadequate.

The Senate formally voted 84-14 to limit further debate, although no active filibuster was then in progress. It passed the minimum tax, 78-13, and passed the bill by a 74-24 vote.

The windfall profits tax would be a form of excise tax on the difference between the controlled price of various types of oil plus allowances for higher costs and inflation and the world price, which is set and frequently increased by the oil-exporting OPEC nations.

The balance remaining after the windfall profits tax would then be subject to regular federal and state corporate income taxes.

Cushing Award Cites N.E. Regional Director

Boston—John F. O'Malley, AFL-CIO regional director for the New England states, was named a recipient of the Cardinal Cushing Award by the Labor Guild of the Archdiocese of Boston.

House Votes School Aid to Fight Asbestos

The House has passed and sent to the Senate a labor-supported program of federal grants and loans to help identify and eliminate asbestos fiber hazards in school buildings.

Asbestos fibers have been identified with cancer and serious lung ailments, and school boards and parents have been concerned that young children especially may be endangered by loose or flaking asbestos.

The bill authorizes a three-year program totaling $30 million in federal grants to inspect school facilities for asbestos hazards and up to $100 million in long-term, interest-free loans to eliminate the hazards.

Both the loans and grants would normally be limited to 50 percent of the cost involved, but full funding would be allowed if a financially strapped school couldn't otherwise participate in the program.

The key vote on the bill came on a substitute that would have eliminated any new funding and merely authorized schools to use other federal educational funds for this purpose. The AFL-CIO and the American Federation of Teachers urged House members to reject this alternative, and it was beaten, 262-133.

$5.35 Guide Set:

Wage Panel Votes Low-Pay Exemption

(*Continued from Page 1*)

on a specific range until a later meeting. Its next meeting is set for Jan. 8.

"The committee intends to propose voluntary general principles for responsible collective bargaining and responsible wage, salary, and fringe-benefit determination appropriate to the economic environment expected to prevail over the longer term ahead," the panel said in an outline of its general approach to the second-year pay standard.

Until a new standard for the second year of the program is agreed upon and implemented, the panel noted, the current pay standard administered by the Council on Wage & Price Stability remains in effect. Both the committee's recommendations on low-wage exemptions and incremental pay and its general approach to the basic standard must now be approved by COWPS Chairman Alfred Kahn.

Former Labor Sec. John T. Dunlop, who heads the Pay Advisory Committee, said that a numerical range rather than a number guideline makes more sense in view of the fact that wage settlements do not cluster around a single number, such as 7 percent, but are widely scattered.

Dunlop said there was an "enormous dispersion" in actual first-year wage increases under major collective bargaining agreements signed in 1978 and in the first nine months of 1979.

The panel's recommendation on treatment of incremental, or "step," increases was designed to clarify the application of such raises under the first-year program and will affect especially public employees, including teachers.

"The principles set forth below should aid COWPS in the resolution of particular cases affecting incremental pay," the committee said. "Refinement for administrative purposes may be required because of the great variety of incremental pay programs and because different terms are often used to describe step increases."

During the first year of the Administration's anti-inflation program, COWPS distinguished between length-of-service and qualification, or merit, raises, charging longevity increases against the standard while excluding qualification increases. This policy received sharp criticism from the public sector, where incremental pay plans are common. The panel's formal recommendation reads as follows:

"Existing incremental pay plans and practices which provide for qualification increases to the job-rate level and other incremental increases associated with defined improvements in an employee's job-related credential such as completion of educational or vocational training program and other regularly programmed incremental increases, including longevity increases in established pay plans, shall be excepted from the pay standard. . . ."

The panel, comprising six labor, six business, and six public members, was established last September. President Carter subsequently created a six-member Price Advisory Committee.

The labor members of the pay panel are AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, President William Wynn of the Food & Commercial Workers, Iron Workers President John Lyons, Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride, UAW President Douglas Fraser and Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons.

Robert Muscat Heads CWA Organizing Dept.

Robert P. Muscat has been appointed director of the Communications Workers' newly created organizing department, CWA President Glenn E. Watts announced.

Muscat comes to the CWA from the Service Employees, where he had served as public employee coordinator since 1977.

Chrysler Aid Package Moves Toward Passage

(*Continued from Page 1*)

posed by the UAW. The amendment carried 54 to 43. But opponents won reconsideration and the $525 million was substituted on a 69-28 vote.

The AFL-CIO had urged Congress to approve the federal loan guarantee to save the jobs of some 500,000 workers, many of them in supplier industries.

Representatives of all AFL-CIO unions worked in coordination with UAW representatives to secure passage and eliminate the wage freeze proposals—unions representing construction, service trades, manufacturing, maritime, public employee and other groups of organized workers.

The AFL-CIO had warned that a collapse of Chrysler would be "devastating" to an economy already sliding into recession.

The UAW represents 125,000 Chrysler workers, but the company's collapse would affect hundreds of thousands of other workers in supplier industries.

The Chrysler bill was one of the priority measures that congressional leaders hoped to complete before pre-Christmas adjournment.

Meanwhile House-Senate conference committees are working on two high-priority energy bills that both bodies passed earlier this year.

One would establish an Energy Mobilization Board that would have authority to cut red tape and speed construction on non-nuclear energy projects to which it assigns a priority label.

The other would provide federal funding and guarantees to help create a synthetic fuels industry that would relieve the nation's dependence on imported oil.

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SILENT VIGIL for Americans held hostage in Iran is conducted by 50 members and retirees of the Ladies' Garment Workers at Baltimore's Hopkins Plaza. The group distributed more than 10,000 bumper stickers carrying the number 50, symbolizing their concern for the 50 hostages.

Petition Drive Spurs Support for Hostages

(*Continued from Page 1*)

National Day of Unity proclaimed by President Carter, who called on Americans to fly the national colors as a symbol of their concern for the hostages.

Meanwhile, President William H. McClennan of the Fire Fighters called on all IAFF locals to set up petition-signing stands at fire houses and other public places to spur citizen involvement.

A similar effort is under way by the Food & Commercial Workers in cooperation with several national supermarket chains as well as some smaller food markets to make the petitions available at checkout counters.

On another front, President Albert Shanker of the Teachers, urged the union's 525,000 member to launch a letter-writting drive among their students to express their concern for the hostages by sending messages to the Iranian embassy in Washington.

Shanker asked the cooperation of school administrators and school boards to give students classroom time for the writing of the letters before the Christmas holidays.

Thousands of Letter Carriers are now wearing white arm bands on their Postal Service uniforms as a show of solidarity with the campaign to win release of the hostages. The USPS has relaxed its dress code at the urging of the NALC to allow the carriers to wear the arm bands.

A march and rally on Dec. 16 by members of NALC Branch 1071 in Miami drew more than 500 participants—all wearing the arm bands.

Typical of the show of solidarity for the hostages by unions at the local and regional level was a noontime vigil conducted by the Upper South Dept. of the Ladies' Garment Workers in Baltimore.

Participating in the one-hour silent vigil were 50 ILGWU members and retirees who distributed more than 10,000 bumper stickers bearing only the number 50 as a symbol of the hostages.

The demonstration was kept small not only to symbolize the number of embassy captives held in Iran, but also to comply with President Carter's request that expressions of support be limited so as not to excite emotions, ILGWU regional officials said.

A series of similar silent prayer vigils were held in New York by members of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees in the lobbies of eight major hotels. Hotel guests and exempted non-union employees joined in the vigils, officials of Hotel Workers Local 6 reported.

New York City bus drivers, members of Transport Workers Local 100, expressed their feelings for the hostage crisis by driving with their lights on during daylight hours on Dec. 15 and 16.

And Longshoremen continued their refusal to handle cargo coming in from or destined for Iran at all Atlantic Coast and Gulf ports. At latest count, the ILA said 15 vessels were tied up at New York docks because of the boycott. The ILA has since been joined in the boycott by the unaffiliated Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, which represents dock workers on the West Coast.

The next issue of the AFL-CIO News will be published on Jan. 5, 1980, because of holiday schedules.

The staff of the AFL-CIO News wishes all readers a Happy New Year.

Granite Union, Tile Workers Set to Merge

(*Continued from Page 1*)

ble fabrication industry, the Granite Cutters will strengthen their position in collective bargaining as well as in the granite industry, the heads of the two unions said.

This view also was expressed by President Robert A. Georgine of the Building & Construction Trades Dept., with which both the Tile & Marble Workers and Granite Cutters long have been affiliated.

Georgine complimented the officers and members of the two unions for their "recognition and acceptance of a means by which they can immeasurably strengthen their individual positions and that of the trade union movement, especially in the area of collective bargaining."

Representatives of the two unions will meet early next month to complete an agreement of affiliation, DiJames and Ricciarelli said. The Tile & Marble Workers, founded in 1902, has headquarters in Alexandria, Va.

It will be the second merger of building trades unions in a span of months—the Lathers having recently become a division of the Carpenters.

Senate Panel Approves Lubbers for NLRB Post

The Senate Labor & Human Resources Committee voted 10-4 to support the nomination of William A. Lubbers as general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, but Republicans served notice they will carry their fight against confirmation to the Senate floor.

Lubbers is a 27-year career employee of the NLRB, who formerly served as top aide to Chairman John H. Fanning. He is currently the agency's executive secretary.

Business groups, led by the National Association of Manufacturers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, are waging an all-out fight against confirmation, charging that Lubbers has been too close to Fanning to have the "objectivity" required of a NLRB general counsel.

In the Senate committee vote, Lubbers had the support of all the Democrats and Republican Jacob K. Javits (N.Y.), who urged that Lubbers be judged on the basis of his qualifications and not on whether he had the endorsement of employer groups.

At a one-day hearing, former NLRB Chairman Frank McCulloch and former General Counsel Arnold Ordman strongly endorsed Lubbers. The support of the two Democrats was countered by opposition testimony from a Republican former chairman, Edward B. Miller, and former General Counsel Peter G. Nash, now a management lawyer.

Sen. Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah), who has been leading the opposition to Lubbers, has hinted at the possibility of a filibuster. With the crowded Senate schedule, action on confirmation isn't expected until the second session of the 96th Congress in January.